



Bishop Luffa School

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

John 10:10

2024-2025



Dear friends of Bishop Luffa School,

Welcome to our Yearbook, which looks back over the 2024-25 school year. As you read through, I think you'll understand why I'm so incredibly proud to be the Head Teacher of this school.

People ask me what makes this school so special. My honest answer is that it's because we believe.

We believe that there is more to life than just existing.

We believe that you can achieve anything that you set out to achieve; that you can be whatever you want to be.

And for many of us, there is one core belief that makes it all possible. We believe that you are the most special person on this planet to God: just like everyone else is. That is why everyone matters. And that is why we owe it to ourselves to live the fullest life possible.

As you look back on a year at our school, I'm sure that you can see that Bishop Luffa students grasp every opportunity. You will need stamina to read it—the amount that our students cram into one school year is both inspiring and exhausting!

Best wishes,

Austen Hindman,
Head Teacher.

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News

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Bishop Luffa Students Overcome Adversity to Secure Top Grades

From the PRU to Bishop Luffa Sixth Form: Wiktor Lis secured four 7s, three 8s and a grade 9 – despite being permanently excluded from primary school. On Wiktor's first day at Bishop Luffa, when his new friends asked which primary school he was from, he had to admit that it was the county's pupil referral unit. The chances of students who have been excluded at such a young age achieving any grades at GCSE are slim; very few go on to get top grades and study for A-levels. Teaching Assistant Gil Horsfield had regular one-to-one sessions with Wiktor throughout his time at Bishop Luffa. Mr Horsfield said: 'it has been a pleasure to watch Wiktor grow-up and mature into an asset to our school and wider society. So many children don't get the chance: they are written-off at a young age and they start to believe that they can't change their lives. Wiktor was determined that he was going to be different.'



TOP GRADES FOR UKRAINE: When Dasha and Mariia began secondary school in 2019, life seemed very simple. They lived in Ukraine and hoped one day to go on to university. Dasha loved animals and wanted to be a vet, and Mariia enjoyed singing and hoped to study music. Five years later that dream is still alive, despite the adversity that they've suffered. Both students are celebrated an incredible set of GCSE results that means that they are now beginning their A-levels at Bishop Luffa in September. They are not the only Ukrainian students at Bishop Luffa School who are celebrating. Veronika, Lidiia, Yehor and Andrii all joined the school from Ukraine in 2022 and all secured at least six GCSEs. Lidiia and Veronika even managed to gain the top grade of 9 in some of their subjects. Susie Cooke, who oversees the school's work with students who are new to English, said: 'these students have left their homes and families and come to England as refugees. They have had to move from home to home in Britain and still live with the daily fear of bad news from Ukraine and an uncertain future here. To have managed this level of academic success, whilst taking exams in a foreign language, is a breath-taking achievement. It is humbling working with them.'

THE ARTS ARE FLOURISHING AT BISHOP LUFFA: Ben Webster and Myah Brent are looking forward to studying A-level Music at Bishop Luffa, having just secured grade 9 and 8 respectively at GCSE. Less than 5% of students in the country study Music GCSE, and the number of students going on to study A-levels in Music has dropped by nearly 50% since 2010. The Head of Arts, Jo Lawlor, said: 'Arts students like Ben and Myah give so much to the school beyond the classroom. School should be full of students, acting, dancing and playing music – when else in your life are you going to do these things if you don't do them at school? It is important to us at Bishop Luffa that students like Ben and Myah should be given the opportunity to follow their passions.'

OVERALL ACHIEVEMENT: Hannah Carr did what very few students manage: she got a top grade in every subject she took! Head Teacher Austen Hindman said: 'Getting top grades in every subject is a huge achievement. Many of us excel in one area, but the combination of talent and hard-work that Hannah has shown is incredible. Hannah's quiet confidence sums up this year group. When Covid hit they were in Year 7. They were just building new friendships when school was shut down. They missed out on watching other students go through the rites of passage that we associate with school, like sitting exams or going to the Prom. To have come through that is an achievement in itself; to have done that and still managed to build solid friendships and secure incredible GCSE results is quite remarkable. They are an inspiring group of students.'

Year 7 have a great start at Bishop Luffa School

We were delighted to welcome our new Year 7 students to Bishop Luffa School at the start of September. They spent their first day getting to know everyone in their tutor groups in form time and during all the activities they undertook. Positively YOU showed the students creative approaches to learning, combining Mind Mapping, the 'Story Technique' the 'Journey System' and multi-sensory learning. The afternoon was spent thinking creatively and participating as part of team to solve the problem of how to build the tallest tower using just marshmallows and spaghetti. There was some 'healthy' Interhouse competition too!



The Year 7 students were asked about the best part of their day and this is what they said....

Ethan 7Ridgeway – spaghetti towers

Evie 7Wilson – also spaghetti towers – her group won!

Lewis 7Burrows – free food!

Noah 7Burrows – brownies at lunch were amazing

Eloise 7Burrows – excited about tomorrow

Woody 7Sherborne – doing actions with crazy Kim from Positively YOU

Dylan 7Sherborne – everything!

**Neil Topley, Assistant Headteacher
Attendance & Systems**

Our First Assembly of the Year

Once again, as is the tradition at Bishop Luffa School, we came together for our first assembly on the school field on a bright, sunny day. The assembly started with the Prayer of St Richard read by Ms Sutton, our longest serving member of staff. Our school captains, Matilda Jeffers and Aaron Butters, then welcomed everyone to a new school year, and talked about our vision for all our students, to live 'life in all its fullness.'



Mr Hindman spoke to the students about how much he enjoys being the Head Teacher at Bishop Luffa School, and talked about our values 'always our best because everyone matters', saying:

"Lots of people focus on 'always our best', but any school will tell you that: 'do your best', 'give it your best'. The hard bit, the radical bit is that everyone matters. Do you believe it? Do you believe that everyone you meet today is just as important as you? Because if you do, you're going to act differently. You're going to look at other people and think: 'I want the best for you'.

“Think about someone who really annoys you. The anti-you! We’ve all got one! That person matters as much as you do. And if we’re giving our best because everyone matters you need to help them to be their best. You need to be their biggest cheerleader. Even if they are in the wrong House! Fortunately, you don’t have to do this on your own. There are former students living full lives, who cheer on everyone that they meet. They have created a legacy for you, a path for you to follow.



“There was a student here once, who stood on this same field, had lessons in the same classrooms, who was so successful in her job that she was made a Baroness and now sits in the House of Lords. Her name is Helena Morrissey and I have a photo of her in my office. You go to the same school as her: that’s already on your CV. And Baroness Morrissey is cheering for you. There was a student here called Joel Ward, who loved football and played on this very grass that we’re standing on. He went on to Captain Crystal Palace and is open about his love for God and the impact his faith has on his life. Joel Ward is cheering for you. There was another student called Jess Breach, who played rugby on this grass and has gone on to play rugby for England. Jess has played in a World Cup – can you imagine that? Jess is cheering for you. And there are people around you now living full lives and showing that everyone matters.



“You go to the same school as Veroniika, who came to us from Ukraine in Year 9, and would study here in the day and complete her work from her school in Ukraine in the evening. Veronika passed two sets of exams this summer: she passed her diploma from Ukraine and was one of our most successful GCSE students here. Veronika is cheering for you. You go to the same school as Indy Clark-Lyons, who achieved the highest mark in her event at a dance competition this summer. Indy is cheering for you. You go the same school as Alex Wilburn, who was awarded an Arkwright Engineering Scholarship last year. Alex is cheering for you. You go to the same school as Charlotte Hatton, who won a National Physics competition at Oxford University. Charlotte is cheering for you. You go to the same school as Thomas Francis, who is ranked fourth in the whole country in mountain biking. Thomas is cheering for you. You go the same school as Bella Wright and Emmy Lamb, who won the ‘Best Ethical Thinker’ trophy at the Teen Tech awards. Bella and Emmy are cheering for you. You go to the same school as Libby Herbert, who is part of a gymnastics team that are British Champions. Libby is cheering for you. The list goes on and on.

“Learn from them. Grasp every opportunity. When you are tested, trust God and you will find a way through. Be a cheerleader for yourself and for other people and remember how proud we are of you. Never forget that all of us at Bishop Luffa School are cheering for you.”

Record LAMDA Results

In February we commenced working with 31 students across most year groups. We had a record 17 medal (highest) examinations taken including gold medal qualifications in public speaking, gold and silver qualifications in acting and a record number in bronze verse & prose. Students accumulatively earned upward of 200 UCAS points with 13 out of 17 qualifications gaining distinctions and the remaining four achieving high merits. The students displayed incredibly high levels of commitment and character in achieving these results. The remaining 14 students completed either a verse & prose or public speaking exam, earning a mix of ten distinctions and four high merits. The group devising piece earned the Year 7 and 8's involved a high distinction for their efforts, congratulations all!



Angela Watkins, LAMDA Teacher

Year 8 visit Marwell Zoo



Year 8 students visited Marwell Zoo in September. They had a fantastic talk from an enthusiastic zoo keeper, all about the adaptations of the big cat and its habitat. This tied in well with the topic of Adaptations being taught. They got to ask questions and then touch real furs and skulls from the big cats. We then all spent time around the zoo visiting as many animals as

possible in the time we had. This included getting to see a 3-week old baby giraffe – the students had to be really quiet when meeting this new arrival.

The weather was amazing this year (no pouring rain!) and we enjoyed lunch in the sun and ice creams. At the end of the visit some students visited the shop and many were tempted by soft toys of the amazing animals they had met. A great day out for all and a huge well done to Year 8 for their enthusiasm and excellent behaviour. As part of the day the students were encouraged to take photos to enter into our Photo Competition. The winners, who all received Amazon vouchers, were: Overall winner: Lucy Green (8Otter); Runners Up: Sienna Stent (8Andrewes), Jack James (8Burrows) and Douglas Lapraik (8King).



Jane Tyler, KS3 Science Lead

Go Green Week

Once again Go Green Week took place in September. The aim of the week was to create a meaningful, memorable and fun week on environmental issues to generate awareness and an opportunity to take action to make a difference. Everyone was encouraged to get involved!



Each day there was a recycled Art Workshop and other activities during the week included:

- A Year 7 Litter Pick competition
- The lunchbox challenge (encouraging everyone to bring in a packed lunch that was plastic and meat free)
- Recycling Day where students were asked to bring in old batteries, good quality clothes for our swap shop and good quality books for a library book swap
- Car Free Day encouraging everyone to come to school in a sustainable way – cycling, walking, taking the bus or train, and car sharing.
- Go Green Bake Sale
- ‘Vinted’ came to Bishop Luffa with a clothes swap shop

Go Green Week culminated in a Upcycle Dress Up Day when students and staff was encouraged to come to school in a recycled costume or wear something from the charity shop. We hope everyone had a fantastic week ‘Going Green!’

Alison Congalton & Megs Wilburn, Eco School Leads



STEM Club News

STEM Club is one of the many Clubs that takes place at school. In the Autumn term STEM Club explored marble runs, cardboard boat making, and geodesic domes, and the students involved enjoyed the challenges.

STEM Club offers an opportunity to excite students about STEM subjects, as well as developing their practical, teamwork, and leadership skills, which support their classroom learning.

James Bonney, Head of Design & Technology

A Thought-Provoking Trip to Ypres

In October 50 students and five staff set off for the annual Year 9 History visit to the World War One Battlefields. After a trouble-free journey to Dover, we boarded our ferry to Dunkirk, with the complimentary meal being appreciated by many! Once in France we headed straight to the Passchendaele battlefields, scene of so many horrific events in 1917 in particular. A stop at Tyne Cot cemetery, where over 40,000 British and Commonwealth servicemen are remembered was an arresting sight, and we each had a small cross (thanks to Mr Bonney and Mr Burton in DT) to lay on a grave of our choosing. We also laid a wreath on behalf of the School, and had a short service of commemoration, with the wreath laid by Scarlett Baker (9Andrewes) and Ava McGarry-Knightley (9Ridgeway).



The contrast with our next stop, Langemark German cemetery was remarkable – from ‘the glorious dead’ to a much more sombre scene. A mass grave of 24,000 soldiers made many students really stop and think.

After these sobering sights it was off to our centrally located accommodation in the picturesque town of Ypres. After an evening meal, and some time to relax, a group of students and staff attended the Menin Gate wreath laying ceremony, where another wreath was laid on our behalf, by Mrs Jones, Isaac Searle (9Burrows) and Isabelle Fletcher (9Burrows). There was then some free time in the hotel (thankfully with a games room and good wifi!) before lights-out.



Saturday dawned bright and sunny as we headed to Hill 62, a museum on the edge of Ypres. The preserved trenches were a very different experience to the manicured sites seen elsewhere, and gave more of a flavour of what the trenches were like (if this is possible), including mud and tunnels! From there we journeyed to the Somme, site of the infamous assaults of 1916. First stop was the Lochnagar Crater, which was created when >20,000 kgs of explosive were detonated on 1st July. From there it was off to the monumental memorial at Thiepval, lined with the names of

the missing - A powerful statement of commemoration. We finished our tour of the Somme with a visit to the preserved trenches at Beaumont Hamel, where we walked through some of the events of 1916, and reflected on this site of Canadian commemoration. After so many sombre sites, it was back to the hotel, and then off into Ypres for chocolate shops, waffles, and ice cream as the students had some free time. A prompt and smooth departure on the Sunday morning saw us drive to the now obligatory French hypermarket stop for some last-minute purchases, and then it was back to the ferry where we were greeted as "The school with the well-behaved pupils", and then it was a tired group of students (and staff!) that arrived back at school. The students' behaviour was excellent. The trip was a chance to learn a lot about key events in our nation's history, and also just to be with friends on a trip abroad, a real learning experience in so many ways.



Justin Barnett, Head of Humanities

GreenPower International Finals

In October the Bishop Luffa Green Power F24 Team rose early to compete in the Green Power International Finals at the famous Goodwood Motor Circuit. The morning began smoothly, with the team setting up their paddock like a well-oiled machine. Impressively, our car was used as an exemplar during the scrutineering process. After a quick fix of a loose wing mirror, the team headed out for practice laps, ensuring everything was in working order. In Race 1, the team set the car's gear ratio to 5.2:1, which helped extend the battery life—critical for the 1.5-hour endurance race. We finished in 17th place out of 46 entries in our category.



Between races, the team engineers made a minor adjustment to the ratio, setting it to 5:1 to improve speed without sacrificing battery duration. In Race 2, the car steadily moved up the field, climbing the grid to an impressive 11th position. Unfortunately, a red flag paused the race for 25 minutes, cutting short our momentum. Despite the setback, it was a fantastic day for the team, and we are already preparing for the next season.

James Bonney, Bishop Luffa Green Power Team Coordinator

Learning about History with the Novium Museum



As part of their introduction to History at Bishop Luffa this year, Year 7 were able to get hands on with History. With the help of a source box from the Novium Museum, students learnt about life in Roman Chichester, handling a selection of artefacts relating to our local History. Students really enjoyed handling a range of original Roman items, including roof tiles, tesserae, mosaic fragments and even some rare wall plaster. This helped them to understand the advances that Roman conquest brought to our local area and the impact it had on the people living here. The replica items including an oil lamp, writing stylus and sheet of parchment all got them thinking about what school might have been like for their Roman predecessors. It was wonderful seeing the students being inquisitive as they handled the artefacts and tried to work out what they were and how they might have been used.

Louisa Fowles, Teacher of History

The Big Walk 2024

Our students did it! They made it to East Lavant and back and we had a number of passers-by who stopped us and said how well-behaved they were. We also had a number of passers-by who took one look at the number of children swarming towards them and ran away screaming! I think it was a real team effort from our staff, so I do want to publicly thank them for all they did on The Big Walk: I'm sure that many of them will have been thinking that this was a very silly idea at times during the day! I am also very grateful for our PFA, who were mobbed by sugar-deprived children when they arrived at the half-way point. The PFA calmly revived them with hot chocolate and other treats. We are lucky to have a community like this, and it's important that we don't take it for granted.

Austen Hindman, Head Teacher





**Visitors welcomed to our
Open Events**

We were delighted to welcome lots of visitors to
our Open Evening and Open Mornings.

We had a great time showcasing all the fantastic
activities that happen at Bishop Luffa School and
students shared all the opportunities they have
in their learning.



News from the Drama Department

Bishop Luffa GCSE Drama students travelled to Brighton in October to see the *Dear Evan Hansen* TONY award winning musical at The Theatre Royal in Brighton. It was an amazing production, with exceptional performances and design, and with a powerful and important message. Olivia Willson (11Story) said “it was brilliantly moving with a nice comical aspect” and Ella Hatch (11Sherborne) added “it made me cry!”

Bishop Luffa Year 8 and 9 Drama Club once again participated in this year’s Shakespeare School Festival with their interpretation of *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* directed by Sixth Former Elen Kirazyan (13Story). They were treated to a practical workshop with professional Coram Shakespeare theatre practitioner Kat Merrick, which enabled them to dig deeper into the characters and explore how to take the piece from page to stage in the most effective way.



Nicky Furnell, Team Leader of Drama

Year 7 have fun on the Isle of Wight

Our Year 7 students had a fantastic time getting to know each other during their residential to the Isle of Wight. They stayed at the Westbrook Centre just outside Ryde and enjoyed all the fantastic facilities on offer, including the swimming pool, 5-a-side football, volleyball, a low-ropes course, and a games room which had giant chess, Jenga, table tennis, table football and pool. Activities during their stay included a visit to Wildheart Animal Sanctuary where they had a guide tour; laser quest at Headhunters; a theatre workshop; and bowling. During their stay they built shelters and were involved in mindfulness games. We hope they all had a great time.



Bishop Luffa PFA Prom Dress Sale

October saw months of preparation come together as the Bishop Luffa PFA opened their doors for *The Annual Pre-Loved Prom Dress Sale*. Set inside the school's dance and drama studio, this event provided a selection of high quality, prestigious dresses one would normally only see in the popular boutiques, offering the biggest selection of gowns to date across a range of sizes, styles, colours and budgets.



Since the last event in February 2024, the PFA team worked hard to source a wide selection of quality gowns for the 2024/25 Year 11 students. With record levels of interest from prom dress sellers, the PFA prom team had their work cut out working late into the Friday night logging, pricing and displaying the stunning gowns up for sale. The team created a beautiful prom dress showroom with over 200 gowns on offer, ranging from £20 to £350.



The hard work paid off as there were queues waiting to get the first glimpse of the stock available. The first purchase was made just 15 minutes after the doors opened with the lucky young lady picking up a brand new gown with 50% off the original ticket price. With a qualified dressmaker on site, Lo-Lo from Chichester Tailors, who kindly donated her time and expertise, this event had everything needed to find the gown of their dreams, within the budget of their parents' dreams!

Having advertised the event across the whole of Hampshire and Sussex, families travelled from as far as Southampton, Alton and beyond. With record sales, the Bishop Luffa PFA raised three times the amount of profit compared to the sale in February 2024, with £358.50 raised for St Wilfrid's Hospice. A cheque was presented to Ryan Grist, St Wilfrid's Retail Manager, in the October half term, with Bishop Luffa Year 11 student, Bella, who played an integral part during the sale preparation and on the day of the event itself.



This year's event organisers, Anna and Naomi said, "this event was started by a former parent, Sam, a few years ago, and based on the amazing foundation of work she poured into the previous events, we have been able to grow this event into the incredible success it was in October. We are hopeful we can continue to grow this event for buyers and sellers alike, creating a fantastic value and eco-friendly option for Year 11 families in the future, and in years to come this will automatically be the place to come for prom gowns.



"We are so pleased with the success of this event, but we could not have done it without the support of the fantastic team of PFA volunteers who helped put this event together. Also, our thanks go to the sellers who put their trust in us to sell their stunning gowns, and to buyers for giving us a chance. We are delighted all the hard work has paid off and were blown away by the standard of stock we curated for this event."

Bishop Luffa falls silent for the Armistice

At 11am the whole School fell silent for 2 minutes to mark the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month.



Each year we come together as a School community to pause and reflect, and to mark Armistice Day, and this year was no different. At a few minutes before 11.00am the School met on the field for a formal service of commemoration, led by Mr Hindman. Readings were heard from our chaplain, Father Phillip Amey, still himself in the naval reserves, and from School Captains, Aaron and Matilda. Mr Bonney read the Kohima Epitaph.

The two minutes silence at 11.00am was bookended by Last Post and Reveille, superbly played by Freddie Lynas (assisted by Mrs Bowen-Melfi), on a bugle from the First World War. The sound of these notes cutting through the air gave us a solemn reminder of why we pause and reflect.

Wreathes were also laid on behalf of the School by Mr Bonney and the School Captains. A guard of honour made up of students who serve in uniformed organisations (coordinated by Year 13 student, Zoe Smyth) helped complete the picture of formal commemoration. The service also included the release of 20 white doves by members of our International Team, as a symbol of hope for the future, as well as a poem for peace read by Veronika Zavarzina (Year 12).



We finished with Aaron blowing a whistle from the First World War trenches. Along with the bugle, we had a tangible link to those who served in that terrible conflict, and heard sounds that echoed across the battlefields, a poignant way to help the School to mark this important moment of national commemoration. The students behaved extremely well, and clearly understood why this moment of coming together really mattered. Edward Knott (13Ridgeway) did an amazing job of recording the event on his drone.

Justin Barnett, Head of Humanities

A Historic Splash: Swimming Team's Unprecedented Achievement

In November Bishop Luffa School competed at the English Schools Swimming Finals at Sandwell Aquatic Centre in Birmingham, where the 2022 Commonwealth Games were held, following qualification from the county round.

Hannah Day (12Ridgeway), Florence Ingram (12Ridgeway), Eloise Joubert (11Burrows) and Libby Johnson (11Sherborne) qualified out of their medley and freestyle to qualify for the English Schools National Finals, competing against school swimming heavyweights and Olympians.



It was the third time Bishop Luffa had qualified for this competition, but the first time we had ever qualified multiple teams. During the opening of the competition, team captains Alex Wilkes and Hannah Day were warmly introduced to the crowd of over 500 people, along with captains from all schools. The National Anthem gave goose bumps for our athletes in this incredibly proud moment for them and the school. Kick starting the event for Bishop Luffa was Max Stanton (8King), Alex Wilkes (8Burrows), Derin Cowley (8Story) and Curtis Jacobs (7Sherborne) competing in the junior medley relay. The team gave every ounce of effort and finished 18th out of 30 teams, with a team personal best by more than 0.6 of a second.

In our second event of the day the senior girls were preparing for their freestyle heat. We were hoping to qualify but were not highly confident in doing so, and we felt our success may come later in the day in the medley final. We finished 4th in our heat beating schools we did not think we would come near. With two more heats to go we were unsure if we had qualified. The suspense of the wait was tantalising and when the result came through that we had qualified, jubilant celebrations broke out. The girls' knew coming into this final that we were up against the nation's best swimmers, with much greater resources than we have. We finished 9th and history was made. This was the first team from Bishop Luffa to have made an English Schools National Swimming Final.



In the boys' second event of the day, Harry Peregrin (7Andrewes) came into the freestyle team, and in a tough lane draw, competed valiantly throughout the race finishing 19th between the three heats. The team swam a 4 second personal best, this was extraordinary to save so much time! Harry, Max, Alex, Derin and Curtis swam together for the first time at the Sussex qualifier in October 2024 and have trained together once, for one hour, in the build up to these finals. For these boys to get into the final is no mean feat and, in the future, we will certainly be hearing more about this team in their bid to qualify out of their heats.

For the senior girls' medley relay, we believed they had the chance to qualify but knew they had to all swim personal bests to have a chance of doing this. The girls swam a personal best by 0.3 seconds which allowed them to squeeze into the final inscribing their names into the Bishop Luffa history books, qualifying for a second national final. In the final the team were again underdogs but fought valiantly, Eloise showed determination through illness to give us a good start with her backstroke, Florence's elegant breaststroke kept us with the pack, Libby flew through the air with her butterfly leg before handing over to Hannah to come within half a second of 8th place as she hit the finish. Even at the team's sixth race of the event the girls made a substantial personal best from their time in the heat of 2.07.57, to their time in the final 2.06.82.

A big thank you to Chichester Chiropractic Health Centre (CCHC) who have supported and sponsored the team to train before the event for the first time and bought the team memento tops of the day. Both teams did incredibly well and we are very proud of everyone's achievements. Bishop Luffa students do what Bishop Luffa students do and when the moment comes they stand up and are counted, but this time they are history makers.

Tim Godfray, Team Leader of PE

Making Lava Lamps

At STEM Club we investigated Alka-Seltzer Powered Lava Lamps and how long it took the tablet to disappear, how vigorous the bubbles were, and the differences in how the reaction happened in the colder liquid versus the hotter liquid.

The ingredients in Alka-Seltzer combine with water to form a gas called carbon dioxide. The oil and Alka-Seltzer do not combine in this way though. The Alka-Seltzer tablets sink through the vegetable oil until they reach the layer of coloured water. There the

Alka-Seltzer dissolves in the water and forms carbon dioxide. The gas is lighter than the water and oil, so it bubbles up, taking a bit of coloured water with it as it moves through the oil layer. You will see those bubbles, looking like colourful blobs, floating through the oil layer to the top of the jar. At the top the bubbles should have burst (releasing the carbon dioxide gas), and then the colourful blobs sank back to the bottom (now without carbon dioxide gas). The effect was reminiscent of a lava lamp. The chemical reaction that causes the carbon dioxide to form happens more quickly in warmer water. For this reason, the Alka-Seltzer tablet dissolved more quickly in the hot water. This resulted in lots of rapid bubbling and an energetic lava lamp display. In contrast, the Alka-Seltzer tablet in the cold water dissolved more slowly, with most of it disappearing in the first two to three minutes, resulting in a calmer and longer lasting lava lamp effect!



James Bonney, Head of Design & Technology

Debate Club Competition



Our Debate Club took part in a Debate Competition and Joel Blamire (12 Wilson) shared his thoughts on the event.

“On Monday the 11th of November our Bishop Luffa Debate Team departed from Bishop Luffa to Christ Hospital to debate on the motion “the house would ban facial recognition in public.” Our team delivered incredible speeches, and did the school proud. Our team consisted of nine students, however we had only three that were allowed to speak during the debate. These

three students were Rupert Reddington (12Otter), Ginny Yonge (12Story) and Ella Blamire (9Ridgeway).

Unfortunately, we didn’t get through to the next round, however we are massively proud of the team, and all its members, and we hope to win next year!”

Our special thanks go to Joel for his strong leadership and hard work in getting the team ready. Joel, it has been a pleasure to see all your skills come to the fore and infectious enthusiasm at work.

George Thomas, School Librarian and Fiona Langstone, Teacher of Law

Cross Country Success

On a soaking wet day in Brighton, Bishop Luffa cross country runners showed great resilience and determination to shine and four teams qualified for the regional finals. Outstanding performances from all teams, particularly from the junior boys, intermediate boys and girls, and senior boys as they march on to compete in November at The Judd School in the regional finals competing against schools from Hampshire, Surrey, Kent and Sussex.

Team and individual results are below but results that stand out are the intermediate boys where Max Gayle (9Bu), Ben Stewart (10An), Zac Robst (10Wi) and Joe Stewart (9An) all finished within the top 5 to guarantee qualification for the team, blowing the rest of the field away. Well done to Elodie Hill (10Ki) who finished third in her race against very stiff opposition to get on the podium.

English Schools Cross Country Cup - County Qualifier

Junior boys - QUALIFIED FOR REGIONAL FINAL

1st - Brighton College - 30 points

2nd - Bishop Luffa - 44 points - 7th Alex Wilkes (8Bu), 8th Isaac Page (7Sh), 12th Max Stanton (8Ki), 17th Maddox Matthews (7Sh), 22nd Seb Berger (7An).

3rd Hurstpierpoint College - 53 points

Junior girls

1st - Dorothy Stringer - 30 points

2nd - Mayfield - 36 points

3rd - Hurstpierpoint College - 71 points

9th - Bishop Luffa - 138 points - 25th Rebecca Jolly (8St), 26th Erin Brooks (8Bu), 42nd Annabelle Papathanassi (7St), 44th Sophie Platt (8Bu), 59th Rebekah Bishop (7Sh).



Intermediate boys - QUALIFIED FOR REGIONAL FINAL

1st - Bishop Luffa - 14 points - 2nd Max Gayle (9Bu), 3rd Ben Stewart (10An), 4th Zac Robst (10Wi), 5th Joe Stewart (9An), 28th Reuben Shewan (9Wi).

2nd - Brighton College - 53 points

3rd - Christ's Hospital - 70 points

Intermediate girls - QUALIFIED FOR REGIONAL FINAL

1st - Brighton College - 24 points

2nd - Bishop Luffa - 30 points - 3rd Elodie Hill (10Ki), 4th Isabella Lendrum (9Bu), 7th Isla Hill (9Ot), 16th Lily Keates (9Wi), 19th Amber Haig (10Sh), 43rd Kitty Goodband (10An).

3rd - St Oscar Romero - 71 points

Senior boys - QUALIFIED FOR REGIONAL FINAL

1st - Hazelwick - 31 points

2nd - Bishop Luffa - 37 points - 7th Sam Wyatt (12Ot), 9th Noah Collins (12Bu), 10th Ethan Hill (13Ot), 11th Kai Lendrum (11Bu).

3rd - Brighton College - 47 points

Tim Brown, Toby Buck and Tim Godfray, PE Department

Thea creates stunning artwork to support The Nest

Thea Roberts (8Wilson) is involved with the Chichester Festival Theatre Nest fundraising and her artwork was selected to be displayed as part of a fundraising exhibition in aid of the Nest Appeal, which aims to build a space to nurture arts and creativity for young people.

Thea has written this about her piece, which she has called 'Turtle's Dreamscape'.
"I sought to blend elements of nature with the serene essence of dreams. The Turtle, a symbol of wisdom, represents the journey of life, moving slowly yet purposely through its environment. I chose to depict it in a Dreamscape to highlight the beauty of imagination and the importance of taking time to reflect."



"I really wanted to take part in this competition as I love art and also because it would be helping create The Nest which, of course, will be an extension of our theatre. By participating in this competition for The Nest I aim to raise funds that support local arts, fostering creativity and community spirit. Supporting The Nest means investing in a space that inspires and entertains, enriching lives through artistic expression."

One hundred artists created their own individual, decorative egg. From Gavin Turk to Philip Jackson CVO, along with competition winners from Youth Theatre members and local artists - the range was stunning. The Nest Eggs were on display in various galleries and Chichester Festival Theatre, before being auctioned off to raise money for The Nest.

Year 8 get a glimpse into a Tudor World!

In the Autumn term Year 8 visited the Mary Rose Museum in Portsmouth as part of their History studies. This visit slotted in perfectly to the work they were doing on Tudor England, and more specifically, the reign of Henry VIII. As well as seeing the ship itself, students were able to study many of the artefacts 'up close', marvelling at the superb state of preservation of everything from combs and shoes, through to the remains of the ship's dog!

The students also got the chance to experience what it was like to dive down to the Mary Rose through the '4D' cinema experience, and undertook a workshop, where they either planned out Tudor military strategy and acted out the role of a Tudor gun crew, or got a gory insight into Tudor medicine.



This was a superb opportunity to visit a world-class museum right on our doorstep, bringing local (and national) history alive, and supporting our learning in the classroom. It also helped shed some light on the lives of ordinary people in Tudor times, something that helps to give a richer view of what the past was really like.

Justin Barnett, Head of Humanities

Year 11s inspired by St John's College, Oxford

Our students had the opportunity to visit St John's College, University of Oxford and this is what they thought of the day.....

"We were recently given the chance to visit St John's College at the University of Oxford. It was a great experience and gave us the opportunity to learn about life at university and at Oxford specifically, for example the collegiate system. We spoke to students currently studying at the university and got to ask questions about the application process, and their first year at Oxford. It was a really informative day and gave us all much more insight on our possible post-16 options. We had a tour around the college and got to have lunch in the dining hall and look around the Laudian Library and the Old Library. We also went to the Natural History Museum and were given a presentation on insects - and got the chance to hold live Madagascan cockroaches. We all had an amazing day and really enjoyed the experience." *Eva Herilhy (11Otter)*

"My favourite part of the day was the Q&A with current Oxford students because I got to ask any questions that I had about the university and the application process in a way that I wouldn't have had without this trip." *Maria Coutinho (11Otter)*

"I found the day very insightful because we got to learn not only about current life at Oxford but also about the vast history of the university." *Maria Hawkes (11 Sherborne)*

"The day made me consider Oxford as being one of my possibly options for the future, especially learning about the increasing number of state school students attending the university, but also because I really loved the atmosphere." *Tom Vosper (11 King)*

Jamie Saunders, Head of Sixth Form



Hollywood beckons for Gracie

Gracie Huxtable (7Ridgeway) had the excitement of filming for a series called *Witches – The Truth Behind the Trials* which is now available on National Geographic.

It is the story of the infamous Salem Witch Trials from the 17th Century in Massachusetts, USA. Gracie is pictured in her outfit and in some stills from the filming.

Bishop Luffa Careers Fair 2024



The Bishop Luffa Careers Fair was a great success, bringing together students, employers, colleges, and universities under one roof. The event aimed to inspire and inform students about a variety of career paths, further/higher education opportunities, and vocational training options. With a buzzing atmosphere and a variety of engaging activities and equipment for the students to handle, the fair gave students the opportunity to envision their future with confidence.



A diverse range of industries was represented by employers such as Lockheed Martin, NHS, Pallant Chambers, Market House Dental Surgery, Creations Hair and Beauty, Taylor Wimpey, the Armed Forces and many more. These employers showcased their organisations, providing insights into job roles, work experience and apprenticeships. West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service joined us for the first time, bringing along equipment and uniform for the students to try out and midwives from NHS Portsmouth University Hospital encouraged students to try on a 7-month fake pregnancy bump, with students commenting on how heavy and uncomfortable it was! Representatives from colleges and universities including Cardiff, Sussex, Bath and Sparsholt offered detailed information about courses, entry requirements and student life. Students across all year groups actively engaged with the exhibits, with exhibitors commenting on how polite they were and how insightful their questions.



One highlight was catching up with Freddie Laing, Zak Leahy and Sebastian Cunningham who were representing Rolls Royce. Having joined Rolls Royce after GCSEs at Bishop Luffa, they are months into their apprenticeships, having enjoyed team building, college lectures and time at the plant in their individual departments. They advised students about recruitment processes and progression within Rolls Royce and were all thoroughly enjoying their apprenticeships.

Angie Hopp, Careers Coordinator

Luffa Students take part in Stonepillow Fashion Show

Ivy Revell (8Andrewes), Reuben Revill (8Burrows) and Indigo Clark-Lyons (8King) took part in the Stonepillow Fashion Show. It was a great night raising money for the charity and our students created their own costumes in an after-school club *Sleeping Bags to Glad Rags*. Congratulations on all your hard work.

Melissa Witherow, Team Leader of Textiles



The End of a Busy Term!

Christmas is always a special time at Bishop Luffa School. The service of Lessons and Carols at Chichester Cathedral is one of the highlights of the school year and in the setting of the Cathedral always has a special atmosphere. The choir and musicians, who had rehearsed tirelessly in the weeks leading up to the event, made it a truly magical evening.



We also had three days of Christmas dinners: every year group came together, prayed, ate and sung their hearts out. It was definitely hard work: our catering team, for instance, served over 1,200 meals and there were so many people involved, working flat out to make it a success. Our reward was seeing young people enjoying spending time together, regardless of their backgrounds, beliefs and opinions.

In the lead up to the end of term we also had a Christmas Card Competition, with the winning entries sent to the local community. We had some fantastic entries and the winners were:

1st Prize: Bella Page (9King)

2nd Prize: Grace Wallis (7King)

Runners up: Jonah Kus (7King) and
Alexander Petrov (9King)

At the end of term whole school assembly, Head Teacher Awards were presented to a student from each House for their work in the local and school community. Awards went to:

Andrewes: Alfie Acquah (10Andrewes)

Burrows: Kai Lendrum (11Burrows)

King: Alex Hickey (9King)

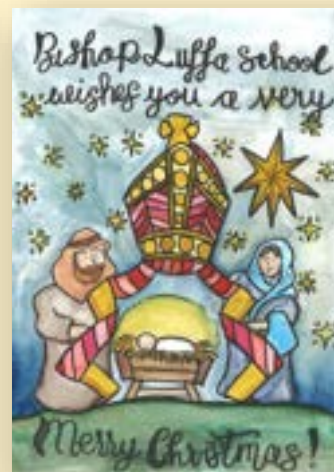
Otter: Freddie Hollingworth (9Otter)

Ridgeway: Charlie Duncan (8Ridgeway)

Sherborne: Juniper Palmer-Bullock (7Sherborne)

Story: Jennifer Fitzgerald (11Story)

Wilson: Thea Roberts (8Wilson)





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



Wow! This year has flown past - so much going on in so little time. Back in September we had our new Year 7 tutor group at the Isle of Wight where we nailed a solid victory yet again at 'Laser Tag'. Burrows tried valiantly, but they were no match for our cunning and skill. Year 7 has been crazily busy this year with so many activities and opportunities.

Year 8 has also been busy this year. We have a lot of International team members and many of our Year 8s

were also in the House Drama and supported the tech team. Year 9 have all chosen their options now and will be mostly starting their GCSE courses in September, although some have already started this term! Emma L and Eva C were standout actors in the House Drama, being Wendy and Smee! Henry worked hard on the sound and light desk for our performance.

Year 10 have developed lots of new skills and are starting to buckle down to some hard GCSE work. George and Harry were excellent in the Peter Pan House Drama which was ably directed by Jeasmine Idris and Isla Donaldson (Y12). It was an uplifting performance with many cheeky moments and some excellent acting. We made it to the final, but unfortunately didn't win - we woz robbed!

Jeasmine Idris and Kirsten Bekker have been fantastic House Captains this year and have spearheaded our charity events including the Odd Sock Day in March.

We also feature strongly in the La Diva Choir with many Andrewes students taking part, where the Fletcher sisters made a massive impact in their last performance.



I am quite sure I have missed lots of stuff out as there have been so many opportunities and massive involvement from Andrewes students, including a fantastic up and coming Cheerleading team!

I am sorry if I have missed you out. It has been a busy and exhausting year in Andrewes House.

Thank you to all our tutors; Mrs Williams Year 13, Mr Barnett Year 12, Mrs Machado Year 11, Mrs Wells Year 10, Mr Bonney Year 9, Sra Lopez Year 8 and Mrs Topley and Mrs Pilgrim Year 7. They have all worked very hard to support our Andrewes students throughout the year.

It just leaves me to say a very warm thank-you to all of our parents and carers for the support you have given to the school over the last 12 months.

Rob Goldsmith, Head of Andrewes House

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

Head of House: Mr Goldsmith

Burrows House

If you believe, you can achieve!



Welcome to Burrows House

This year, Burrows House has truly lived up to its motto: *"We never stop believing, because if you believe, you can achieve."*

Across every year group, we've seen determination, kindness, leadership, and a powerful sense of community shine through.

Our newest members in 7 Burrows, together with their tutor Mr Mudd, have burst onto the scene with energy and enthusiasm—taking part in everything from House Drama to caring for the school chickens. They've already shown what it means to be part of the Burrows family.

8 Burrows with Mr Owen have continued their journey with heart and determination, excelling in inter-house competitions like netball and tennis, and lighting up the stage in dance and drama. Their unity and support for each other, especially in welcoming new members, show just how strong this group has become.

In 9 Burrows together with Mr Hunter, it's been another year of growth and achievement, both in school and beyond. With stand-out contributions in the arts, sports, and wildlife care (including our famous fish and bird care team), this group has shown how diverse talents make Burrows stronger.

10 Burrows with Mr Bravo impressed everyone with their community spirit—raising nearly £300 for charity, helping younger students, and excelling in work experience placements. Their initiative, generosity, and leadership have made a lasting impact across the school. We're also thrilled to announce that new Burrows leaders have been elected from 10 Burrows—congratulations to **Bella Wright, Lily Robinson, George Nicholson, Daisy Dearing, Ben Thompson and Bonnie Brewster**, who have each been awarded House colours in recognition of their outstanding academic effort, extra-curricular activities, service to the school, House and community, attitude and conduct, leadership and initiative.



Finally, 11 Burrows with Mr Blewitt have been a model of maturity, warmth, and support. From peer mentoring to volunteering and inter-house events, they've truly embodied *"life in all its fullness."* As they move on, they leave behind a legacy of compassion, joy and excellence.

We are proud of every single member of Burrows House. Together, we've faced challenges, celebrated victories, and grown stronger—as individuals and as a family. Here's to another unforgettable year of believing and achieving.

A final message from Mrs Bagdoniene, Head of Burrows House:

"I am incredibly grateful to Burrows House students, form tutors, and parents for this fulfilling experience and for the opportunity to lead this wonderful House. I feel truly blessed for another year with the Burrows family. May God bless you, Burrows House."

Rasa Bagdoniene, Head of Burrows House

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

Head of House: Mrs Bagdoniene



King House

Success Through Practice

What a year it's been for 11 King! Miss Bracher said, "They've worked incredibly hard in preparation for their GCSEs, showing real dedication and determination throughout. It's been an absolute pleasure to be their tutor – they've been a fantastic group, full of personality, resilience, and support for one another. I'm truly going to miss seeing them each day, but I'm also excited to see where the next chapter takes them and look forward to welcoming some back into the Sixth Form. I wish each and every one of them the success they've worked so hard for."

10 King have had another busy year, working hard on their KS4 courses and building for future success, undertaking mock exams and careers interviews in preparation for Post-16 life! They all dipped their toe into the world of work as they completed their work experience week. Enterprise day was a great way for the students to flex their entrepreneurship skills, and build experience and interest in the wider world of work.

What a brilliant year it's been for 9King! From start to finish, this group has brought energy, enthusiasm and a strong sense of community to everything they've done. One of our standout achievements this year was being crowned House Drama champions, with several students stepping up to take on key roles both on stage and behind the scenes.



8 King have had a great year. Every morning begins with energy, laughter, and smiles—a great way to start our day. This year has brought challenges, and plenty of change, but 8 King has faced it all with enthusiasm and heart. They've embraced the opportunities of mixing classes with 8 Otter, making new friends and taking every opportunity to get involved.



As we come to the end of a successful Year 7, I am delighted to report that the King tutor group have settled in fabulously to secondary school life. They have quickly found their way around the school, adapted well to new routines, and built strong new friendships along the way.

It's been a marvelous start to Sixth Form life for 12King and Mr Clarke has thoroughly enjoyed his year as their tutor.

King House have been involved in lots of events during the school year with students dressing up as their House mascot, a flamingo, during Charity Week and raising money for their House charity, *Breast Cancer Care*, including a fantastic cream tea stall at Sports Day, and making the Finals of House Drama!

Well done to all the students in King House.



Kate Hurry, Head of King House

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

Head of House: Miss Hurry

Otter House

Believe, Achieve and Succeed



I am convinced that there is something about working within a school that makes the time speed past. It feels like only the other day that Mrs Teece and I took 7 Otter to the Isle of Wight for the usual residential involving no sleep and a diet of Haribos, and yet, they are now closer to being Year 8 than Year 7!



As usual, this time of year brings the thrills and frills of Year 11 Prom - such a wonderful evening with the marquee, quirky arrivals, dinner, dancing and fireworks. It was wonderful to see 11 Otter dressed in their glad rags and enjoying the occasion, having had so much fun taken away by covid.

Otter House has been brimming with activity all year. Here are our highlights:

With the help of senior Otters we raised £238.32 for Macmillan Cancer Support in the October bake sale. There were some Christmas elves in 11 Otter wrapping presents for children at local primary schools.



In February, Mrs Smerdon-Corp spread the usual love and joy with the Otter House Roses sale which, this year, matched last year's total of £450. No mean feat. A special hurrah to Lavinia D (9Ot) who has single-handedly organised the Otter fortnightly pic 'n' mix sale - a sell out every time! This brings our Otter total for Macmillan this year to a staggering £982.41.

Rupert Reddington went on the campaign trail and in May was voted School Captain for 2025/26. Congratulations! Otter have also been well-represented in the Arts and all their work at Fruition was a delight to see, hear and taste - well done Sydney (9Ot)

on the pancake press! Rebecca (9Ot) and Hope (7Ot) continue to take part in orchestra and choir and their dedication to ongoing rehearsals is magnificent. And of course, we have the wonderful House Drama team. Our performance of *Matilda*, directed by 12 Otters Ethan, Holly, Celia and Imogen was a roaring success and had the audience in stitches.



A huge thank you to the *otterly* amazing children in this wonderfully caring and generous House. And a heartfelt thank you to my team this year: Mrs Teece, Mrs Darlow, Mrs Duffell, Mrs Massey, Mr Thompson, Ms Barnett, Mrs Smerdon-Corp, Mrs Marchant and Ms Witherow. We are the dream Otter team!



Jas Stone, Head of Otter House

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

Head of House: Mrs Stone

Ridgeway House



What another busy and rewarding year it has been for all of us in Ridgeway House. We have seen our Year 7s settle well into school life through the Isle of Wight residential back in October and more recently, have celebrated our lovely Y11s through their leavers' assembly (with embarrassing photos) before climaxing in a fantastic prom in June.

Likewise, we wish all of Year 13 Ridgeway luck with their A-level results and in their next

steps as part of embracing *life in all its fullness*. They have been a credit to our House and school and will forever be a part of the Bishop Luffa alumni.



As ever, October meant the traditional Isle of Wight residential and like every year, this was a hugely enjoyable experience for our new Year 7s giving them the chance to make new friends and bond with each other; whether this was splashing in the pool, dashing through the woods or tenpin bowling.

This year I have been ably supported by Hannah Day, Lucia McGurk (House Captains) alongside Grace Zheng and Anna Stangroom (Vice Captains). They have all contributed significantly: from running charity events and assemblies, to writing and directing the House Drama and keeping the display board up-to-date. Together they have been brilliant in driving our House ethos and keeping me organised!



In December we undertook our annual Reindeer Run raising money for Chestnut Tree House. Students donned the usual red noses and antlers and completed laps of the playground. I managed to crawl/wheeze my way through approximately 6 laps ably supported (lapped) by the students and the vociferous Miss Hyland! Thanks to everyone who took part. December ended with our other 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.



As part of a 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 Bishop Luffa student. House Colour winners this year are: Fisayo Beckley, Eleanor Maxted, Ben Taylor and Yakira Inns.

Finally, I would like to say a huge thank you to the wonderful Ridgeway tutors – Miss Parr (7Ri), Mr Luff (8Ri), Miss Hyland (9Ri), Mr Godfray (10Ri), Miss Wilburn and Miss Pegg (11Ri), Mrs Williams (12Ri) and Mr

Pilgrim (13Ri) – 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.

James Vann, Head of Ridgeway House

<https://www.bishopluffa.org.uk/home/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



2024-25 marked an incredibly successful period for Sherborne House. This year Sherborne were the holders of the prestigious House Cup. Jamie Botham (8Sh), Izzy Harris (9Sh) and Razvan Hitikas (10Sh) proudly collected the award on the final day of term from Mr Hindman. They were selected to do so due to collecting the most House Points in their respective forms. This marked the first time Sherborne had won the trophy!



Continuing our heritage of success in the Performing Arts, Sherborne once again made the House Drama finals. Poppy May Pallett, Gabby Yuen and Liv Cogger (12Sh) were the talented Directors of "The Gruffalo" and were praised by the judge for their creativity, use of props costume design and set transitions.

The Sherborne House Committee for 2024/5 was comprised of House Colours recipients Ella Hatch, Libby Johnson, Harry Kemp, Riley Terry Eld, Abi Hughes (11Sh) and House Captain Hannah Carr (12Sh). Many thanks for their efforts in overseeing Sherborne student feedback and charity events over the past year.

Other highlights for Sherborne students, who exemplify the House Motto "inspire, challenge and achieve from when we start until we leave" include:

Lois Webley (8Sh) was part of the cheerleading team who competed in the *Spring Spirit* competition in Crawley and Chloe Snelling (8Sh) was awarded 3rd Prize for her effort in the School Photography competition utilising the theme of 'Spring'.

Libby Johnson (11Sh) enjoyed success at the Regional South East Swimming Championships and Daisy Paget (13Sh) won the KS5 prize in the Interhouse Art Competition on the theme of "Perspectives". Effie Watson (8Sh) performed in Carl Davis's opera *The Last Train To Tomorrow*, the story of the flight of 10,000 children from the Nazis in 1938-39 on the Kindertransport rescue trains to London and Lucy Pitts received many deserves accolades for her wonderful singing as part of La Diva and her fabulous portrayal of the lead role in Chichester Festival Theatre's production of Cinderella.



Juno Palmer-Bullock (7Sh) and Lena Satherley (7Sh) painted picture cards for an art exhibition and then sold them to raise money for the charity *Children on the Edge*, selling over 200 cards and making a profit of £130. Curtis Jacobs (7Sh) won seven gold and three silver medals at his annual swimming club championships and Maddox Matthews (7Sh) who won the T2 under 13s Hedgehog Triathlon Series.



We look forward to another exciting year ahead in Sherborne House.

Tristen George, Head of Sherborne House

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

Head of House: Mr George



Story House

As we look back on this fantastic year, it's clear that our Year 7 tutor group has had a truly memorable start to Bishop Luffa – full of achievements, new friendships, and unforgettable experiences. One of the standout moments was our incredible residential trip to the Isle of Wight. It was wonderful to see friendships blossom and everyone supporting each other through every challenge and adventure.

This year has been another very successful one for 8 Story. They continue to fulfil our school motto of living life in all its fullness. This has taken many different journeys showing yet again what a talented and diverse bunch of individuals they are, yet also a cohesive unit that I am proud to share and spend time with. As a collective they were the driving force behind the Story House donut sales and Blue Day raffle.

Year 9 has been a milestone year for 9 Story, filled with growth, creativity, and outstanding achievements. Their enthusiasm and commitment has been evident both in the classroom and beyond. What a fantastic year it has been for 10 Story! This group has impressed in so many ways—through their dedication, achievements, and contributions both in and out of school. From outstanding work experience placements to personal milestones and well-deserved recognition, every student has helped make this year one to remember. From lively discussions during form time to everyday moments of encouragement and teamwork, this group has continued to grow—not just academically, but socially and personally too.



Throughout the year 11 Story continued to dominate the team sports with fantastic results in the football and netball interhouse tournaments before they went on study leave, and Jenny Fitzgerald continued to play an important role in the school council.

Year 12 have been involved in lots of activities this year - as mentors; reading Ambassadors; running the Debating and the Scratch clubs; going to Tanzania; and there is a strong Story presence on the Committee next year. 13 Story have worked extremely hard this year as they prepare for their final A-level exams, whilst still making a considerable contribution to the wider life of the school and finding time to develop their many individual talents and interests. They have successfully navigated the UCAS process and secured offers for a diverse range of competitive courses, including Physiotherapy, Animation, Film, Economics and English Literature.



Other Story House achievements this year have included the UK Maths Challenges, Bebras Challenge, LAMDA Awards, poetry and creative writing competitions, Duke of Edinburgh Awards, Celebration of Dance and House Drama. We have been raising lots of money for Dementia UK this year through the Elf Day and our Christmas Choir, Blue Day and Donut Week, and we are very proud to announce that including all our other events and non-uniform days, we have raised over £1200 this year.

Finally, congratulations to everyone in Story House for their hard work this year and for their many acts of kindness, helping them to achieve the most House points this year and winning the House Cup.

Mrs Shona Charge, Head of Story House

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

Head of House: Mrs Charge

Wilson House

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

It has been an absolute pleasure to have been Head of Wilson House over the last academic year. Wilson House is packed full of talent, and it has been a joy to see all students flourish in different ways. I am very proud of each and every one of them, and grateful for all their contributions. Not only have they had great academic and sporting success, but along the way, we have raised over £940 for our House Charity - Friends of Mombasa Children. As I looked back over the year, it was great to reflect on the successes of all our students. They should be really proud of all they have accomplished.



It was great to welcome 7 Wilson to Bishop Luffa this year. The Isle of Wight was a brilliant trip, with students learning how to survive in the "wild", and light a fire using sticks, cotton wool, and Vaseline... yes... I know! That's what I thought! I had the privilege of teaching 7 Wilson too, and I can honestly say their imagination and creativity is fantastic, and I know they are destined for great things. I have no doubt 7 Wilson will continue to thrive, as they enter Year 8.

Year 8 have been busy this year. Many students were involved in the House drama production of "The Tiger Who Came to Tea", and it's safe to say their talent was inspiring. On Sports Day Year 8 rounded off the year with a win in the Year 8 category.

Year 9 have had another fantastic year at Bishop Luffa. They have been busy enjoying some taster lessons, and choosing their GCSE options. 9 Wilson put on a brilliant House assembly for us in the drama studio. It really was a fantastic demonstration of team work, and togetherness. Year 9 students also helped out at the Wilson Christmas fair, organising a snow man game to raise money for our House charity. It was a popular stall!

It was another great year for 10 Wilson. They put on an excellent House Assembly, getting all other year groups involved. I had the privilege of sitting with Year 10 for Enterprise Day. What talent they have! Several of the winning business ideas came from students of 10 Wilson, with some winning individual trophies for their general contribution and enthusiasm.

Finally, we move on to Year 11, who had their prom in June. Shortly before prom, we had a super leavers' House assembly, wonderfully headed up by Mrs Jackson. I don't think there was a dry eye in the room, but fear not... as it was tears of laughter. They should be really proud of themselves, as they have worked incredibly hard, and I wish them every success for the future. Year 12 and 13 have been super too, preparing and completing mocks and final A Level exams. A special mention goes to Joel Blamire and Hugo Eade, our House Captains. I was very grateful for all their help this year, particularly with House Drama, and the Christmas fair.



I couldn't end without mentioning Wilson's Sports Day success. A big "well done" to all of the Wilson students who participated, enabling us to finish joint first. What an achievement! It has been an absolute pleasure to have oversight over all the students in Wilson House, and I know they are destined for great things, and wish them all the very best for the next academic year.

Claire Duke, Head of Wilson House

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

Head of House: Mrs Duke

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- ♦ Running Success
- ♦ Bishop Luffa School celebrates International School Award
- ♦ Textiles Students visit Vogue Exhibition
- ♦ Chichester MP, Jess Brown-Fuller visits Bishop Luffa School
- ♦ Year 11 Art Students gain inspiration at London Art Galleries
- ♦ Bishop Luffa commemorates the Holocaust
- ♦ *The Last Train to Tomorrow* at the Minerva Theatre
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- ♦ Interhouse Dance Finals 2025
- ♦ Eid Celebrations
- ♦ Chicken Week
- ♦ Luffa Cheerleaders

La Diva Choir at *Pirates of Penzance*

In January the La Diva choir took part in an exciting singing and movement workshop with Marin Handley, Musical Director and the lovely cast members of *Pirates of Penzance* at Chichester Festival Theatre. La Diva learnt some musical items from the production, and were shown how the staging was used during the songs. Later, after a pizza dinner, La Diva watched the evening performance of the show. This was a great evening and the group had a good introduction to the world of operetta. Many thanks to Angela Watkins for organising this for us.



Jane Bowen-Melfi, Head of Music

Running Success



Congratulations to Elodie Hill (10King), Ben Stewart (10Andrewes), Joe Stewart (9Andrewes) and Max Gayle (9Burrows) who all qualified for the English Schools National Schools Cross Country Final taking place in Nottingham. The run took place at the familiar Brighton Waterhall fields that still possesses the same difficult hill climb that challenges the best of runners. Bishop Luffa competed against more than 200 runners from across Sussex in each of their races and Elodie, Ben, Joe and Max all finished in the top 4 which saw them automatically qualify for the Final. Well done to Isabella Lendrum (9Burrows) and Isla Hill (10Otter) who finished in the top 20, which means they had a second chance to try and qualify for the same Final.

In addition to the individual success, our Year 8 and 9 Junior Boys team was ranked the second fastest school in the county due to Max Gayle finishing 3rd, Joe Stewart 4th, Frank James (9Ridgeway) 42nd, and Reuben Shewan (9Wilson) 49th - all outstanding performances.

At the end of January Year 7 and 8 students from Bishop Luffa School took part in the West Sussex West Cross Country with the girls coming 1st and the boys in 3rd place. The start of February saw Year 7 and 8 teams competing in the West Sussex West Sports Hall Athletics Championships with various teams in each category. The Year 7 girls teams came 1st, 3rd and 5th, Year 7 boys in 1st, 3rd and 7th, Year 8 girls 1st and 7th, and Year 8 boys 1st and 7th. Congratulations to all the students who took part in these events.

Tim Godfray, Team Leader of PE

Bishop Luffa School celebrates International School Award

Bishop Luffa School has been awarded the British Council's prestigious International School Award in recognition of its work to bring the world into the classroom. This year marks the 25th anniversary of the award, which celebrates the achievements of schools that do exceptional work in global education. Bringing an international dimension into the curriculum is at the heart of the British Council's work with schools, so that young people gain the cultural understanding and skills they need for life and work in today's world.



The 2025 award ceremony took place in Westminster in January and was attended by Members of Parliament and representatives from schools around the UK. Eli López-Gamero, International Team Lead and Team Leader of Spanish, and Susie Cooke, EAL Coordinator, represented Bishop Luffa School at the event.

Bishop Luffa School's international work impacts every student in the school, from whole-school assemblies to internationally-focused projects and programmes involving students in Years 7 to 13. In just the last year, students in the

International Team have visited primary schools, welcomed delegations from the Korean Ministry of Education, fundraised, run an International Week and worked closely with partner schools in Germany, France, Tanzania, Spain, Ukraine, South Korea and other countries. They also help celebrate and support multicultural members of the school family with languages and cultures from around the world.

On hearing the news that Bishop Luffa School had received the award, Eli López-Gamero said, "We are very proud that we were invited to the Houses of Parliament to collect our British Council International School Award for the second time. Huge congratulations to all the fantastic students in our International Team – and indeed to all the teachers, staff, parents and carers who have been involved in our international projects over the past three years!"

Scott McDonald, Chief Executive of the British Council, said: "The school has earned this prestigious award through its inspirational international work and links with schools abroad.

"The International School Award is a chance for schools to be recognised for their important work bringing the world into their classrooms. The desire to build on their international work shines through and it is with upmost pride that we celebrate their achievements. By embedding an international dimension in children's education, these schools are preparing their students for successful lives in the UK or further afield, empowering them to be global citizens, and are creating vital opportunities in an increasingly global economy."

Over 6,000 International School Awards have been presented to successful schools in the UK since the scheme began in 1999. The International School Award encourages and supports schools to develop:

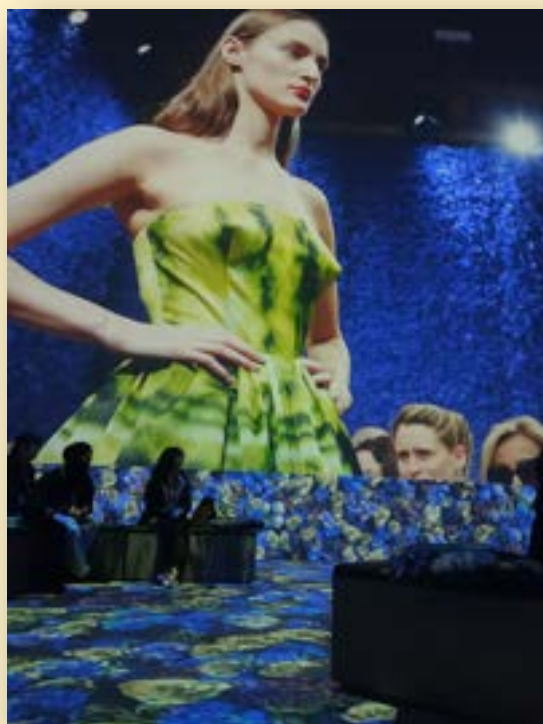
- An international ethos embedded throughout the school
- A whole school approach to international work
- Collaborative curriculum-based work with several partner schools
- Year-round international activity, and
- Involvement of the wider community.

Textiles Students visit Vogue Exhibition

As part of the Design and Technology GCSE programme, we organised a trip to The Lightroom, London to see the new VOGUE: Inventing the Runway exhibition. This was a spectacular new immersive exhibition exploring the history of the fashion runway show, from the intimate couture salons of the early 20th century to the unforgettable pop-culture events of the present.

The show utilised Vogue's remarkable archive and contributor network to create an experience that brought together the industry's leading voices from the past, present, and future. The trip provided our students with a valuable experience of this important component, working from primary sources.

Melissa Witherow, Team Leader of Textiles



Chichester MP, Jess Brown-Fuller visits Bishop Luffa School



We were delighted to welcome Jess Brown-Fuller MP to Bishop Luffa School. After a tour around the school with some of our Sixth Form students visiting various classrooms, Ms Brown-Fuller met with members of our Student Council and talked about how parliament works, and careers in politics.

She also met some of our Ukrainian students and spoke about the challenges facing a lot of our families and staff from Ukraine. Mr Hindman was very happy to share progress on Bishop Luffa Launchpad and the exciting developments there.

Year 11 Art Students gain inspiration at London Art Galleries

Year 11 students travelled to London to kick start their art exam with some inspiration at Tate Modern and Tate Britain. A highlight for students was



The Turner Prize, which featured a diverse range of artworks from portrait paintings to installations. Students took advantage of both galleries, completing sketches and formulating ideas for their projects.

Laurelly Thorpe, Team Leader of Art



Bishop Luffa commemorates the Holocaust



On the 80th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, Bishop Luffa commemorated the Holocaust. The commemoration was preceded by a week of assemblies that explained why we remember the horrific events of the Holocaust (and subsequent genocides). These assemblies included moving accounts by Maisie Osmend and Harriet Crow (both Year 13) of their visit to Auschwitz with the Holocaust Educational Trust.

A number of Year 9 students also participated in a visit to New Park Cinema to see a special screening of *One Life*, and a group of music and history students were involved in a special performance of *The Last Train to Tomorrow* at Chichester Festival Theatre.



On the 27th January a Star of David was made up of tealights in the Bartlett Hall, which all students visited. The tealights had words of hope written on the side by members of the School community, to fit in with this year's Holocaust Memorial Day theme of *A Better Future*. On leaving the Hall, students could collect a prayer card to help them reflect still further on the events we were remembering.

By marking these events, and keeping the memory of the horrific actions of the past alive, we hope that, together, we can work towards a better future, free from discrimination and prejudice.

Justin Barnett, Head of Humanities

The Last Train to Tomorrow at the Minerva Theatre

On the day the world marked the 80th Anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, students from Bishop Luffa and Prebendal School performed Carl Davis's opera *The Last Train To Tomorrow* (words by Hiawyn Ormam). The opera is the story of the flight of 10,000 children from the Nazis in 1938-39 on the Kindertransport rescue trains to London. The story is harrowingly told from the children's perspective.

Oscar Stephens (7Story), Isla Holl (7Andrewes), Sam Hayes (7Andrewes), Scarlet Hackett (7Story), Ayla Tran (7Ridgeway), Kitty-Primrose Alden (8Otter), Effie Watson (8Sherborne), Rebecca King (9Otter), Erin Selves (9Wilson), Jonathan Pun (7Story), Summer Morace (7Burrows) and Harriet Nichols (7Story), performed brilliantly and we were very proud of them all.

The students were accompanied by a professional orchestra conducted by Howard Moody. The production was organised by Jill Hoskins (Chichester Marks Holocaust Memorial Day charity) and directed by Elizabeth Pow.

Jane Bowen-Melfi, Head of Music



Students raise money for *Children on the Edge*

Four of our students – Juno Palmer-Bullock (7Sherborne), Lena Satherley (7Sherborne), Rosa Hamilton (7Otter) and Rebekah Jolly (8Story) – have been part of an Art Club for nearly three years, and they painted pictures for an exhibition and had some printed onto cards. They then sold them to raise money for the charity *Children on the Edge*, selling over 200 cards, and making a profit of £130. *Children on the Edge* works with marginalised children in Bangladesh, India, Uganda, Myanmar and Lebanon. The money raised will provide a safe school place for a child for a whole year!



School receives Democracy Award at the Houses of Parliament



In January Bishop Luffa was invited to the Houses of Parliament to collect a Democracy Award, which was linked to the voting that students had been involved in at school for the West Sussex Youth Parliament back in early 2024. The award was delayed due to the General Election last year.

Isaac McDonald (11Wilson), Mary-Jane Zwinkels (11Ridgeway) and Emily Burt (11Burrows) went up to London to represent the school and receive the Award. They were given a fantastic tour of the Houses and Westminster Hall by Edmund Legrave, who is the Parliamentary Assistant for Jess Brown- Fuller MP, before

going to the Atlee Suite in Portcullis House to receive the Award from Tom Rutland, the MP for East Worthing and Shoreham.

After receiving the Award, we all went back to the Houses of Parliament to watch the Speakers procession, which included our Alumni Ugbana Oyet, the Serjeant at Arms of the House of Commons, before going in to see both Houses sitting and debating.

Andy Jackson, Assistant Headteacher



Bishop Luffa strikes Gold at Chichester Festival of Music & Speech

In February students took part in the 2025 Chichester Festival for Music, Dance & Speech, and performed extremely well.

- Ralph L'Amie (Year 7) received a Gold medal, commended, for his clarinet solo.
- Ben Taylor (Year 10) received a Silver Medal with honours for his saxophone solo and a Gold medal with honours for his duet performance.
- Rebecca King (Year 9) not only was awarded the Paton Clarinet Cup receiving a Gold medal with outstanding for her clarinet solo, she was also awarded the Helen Maltby Cup, Gold medal with honours for her clarinet duet.
- Ben Webb (Year 7) received a Gold medal with honours for his flute duet.
- Alexander Solly (11Ridgeway) won a cup for his Shakespeare monologue.



Congratulations to all our students! We continue to be very proud of their musical achievements.

Jane Bowen-Melfi, Head of Music

Our Spanish Exchange

What a fantastic and unforgettable week we had in the Spring term with our Spanish friends! This is the third year that we have run an exchange programme with our partner school (Nuryana School) in Tenerife, Spain. This year we hosted 25 students from Year 9, 10 and 12, and welcomed three fantastic and dedicated Spanish teachers.

It was lovely to see the Spanish students in our school, attending lessons, eating at the canteen and making new friendships at break time. We have been very impressed with their level of English and their confidence and resilience. They participated actively in lessons and contributing with ideas and opinions. During the week we went to Brighton, where we visited the Royal Pavilion, and enjoyed the beach, pier and lanes. All students loved the city and want to come back again soon! We also explored Chichester together, although the best part for our students was playing football, rounders and eating cake in the park. A great opportunity to bond together as a group!

On Saturday we visited HMS Victory and the Mary Rose museum in Old Portsmouth. We finished the day with a delicious fish and chips lunch in a traditional English pub. A lot of students got together in the evening to watch "el clásico", Real Madrid - Atlético de Madrid football match. Sunday was a relaxing day with the families. Most students went to the beach, ate a traditional English roast and also went bowling together.

Saying goodbye on the last day was quite emotional but the majority of students were organising their own future trips to see each other again. Some of the Spanish students did not want to leave! They said they have had a wonderful time here and wanted to stay a bit longer.



We would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all the parents who sent us lovely emails thanking us for organising the exchange, and for being such great hosts. All the Spanish students left with a smile on their faces and incredible experiences to remember.

Elizabeth López Gamero
Team Leader of Spanish & International School Coordinator



Harry Potter Night 2025

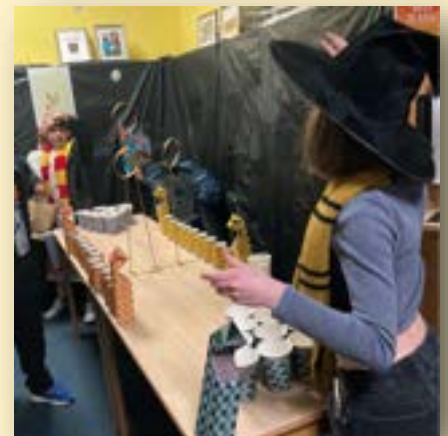


In February the Librarians transformed Bishop Luffa Library for one night only into our very own Hogwarts as part of National Storytelling week celebrations in school. Year 7 and 8 students came to take part in Potions, Care of Magical Creatures and look at the History of Hogwarts museum, plus a very lively Quidditch practice.

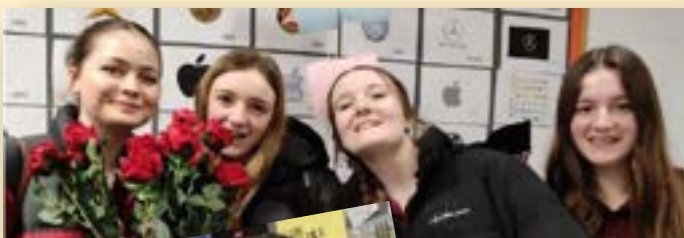
Students could also relax in the Owlery and shop at Honeydukes for magical treats like pumpkin pasties, Fizzing Whizzbees, and of course Every-Flavour Beans. The young witches and wizards were sorted into Hogwarts houses and for each activity had the chance to earn points for their house, including for a particularly fiendish quiz. On the night Hufflepuff were victorious as winners of the quiz and overall champions of the night.

Each Hufflepuff student received a small prize. Prizes were also presented for the best costumes. "Harry Potter Night is on the surface about bringing students together to have some fun," said the Librarians, "but it's also about nurturing a love of stories and literature in our pupils that will last their whole lives, and it's obvious when you look at some of our guests tonight just how magical and life-changing that can be."

Veronica Shuttleworth & George Thomas, Librarians



Otter House Roses



Bishop Luffa was teeming with love and joy in the week before half term, with the sale of roses for the Otter House charity event to raise money for *Macmillan Cancer Support*. Thank you to everyone who bought a rose (or three) or donated to this amazing charity. We matched our total of £450 from last year – this is in addition to the £240 raised from the Coffee Morning in November.

A huge thank you to 11Otter and the wonderful Mrs Smerdon-Corp who did a phenomenal job behind the scenes so that the roses could be delivered to the correct people – no mean feat to get hundreds of roses delivered around the school in one tutor time.

Jas Stone, Head of Otter House

Year 10 enjoy the World of Work

As part of their career journey approximately 240 Year 10 students returned from their work experience placements and the results have been overwhelmingly positive. A valuable part of the students' careers education throughout their time at Bishop Luffa, this experience has not only given them a glimpse into the world of work, but also allowed them to develop a wide range of essential skills that will benefit them in both their future studies and careers.

Students developed communication skills, time management, teamwork, problem solving, professionalism and most notably confidence, becoming more comfortable in their abilities and interactions with others. Employers commented on how keen students were to get involved and their willingness to learn, commenting: 'very attentive', 'brilliant at taking instructions', 'amazed me with his questions', 'extremely helpful', 'an excellent team player', 'polite, punctual', 'a credit to the school', 'we want to keep him!'.



Students successfully organised work placements with a whole range of employers including: Airbus, Barnardo's Retail Store, Brinsbury College, Chichester College, Collaborate Global, Crimsham Farm, Goodwood, Heirlooms, Hills Plants, Jam Café, John Lewis, Mary Rose Museum, Noviun Architects, Portsmouth University, Rolls Royce, Royal Navy, SGN and many more.

Many students returned to their old primary schools and nurseries to find out more about working in education and childcare. Some of the highlights identified by students during their placements included: designing a house, developing social skills, applying physics to real world problems, observing vet operations, welding, designing posters, web design, teaching English and Maths, building bikes, creating a massive display, bricklaying, and how to health check snakes! We are very proud of all the Year 10 students for making the most of their work experience. The positive feedback about their work ethic and attitudes reinforces the importance of providing such real-world experience.

Reflections from Hari (10Sherborne):

"I just wanted to share my incredible experience during my work placement at Kamson Pharmacy. It was truly an eye-opening and rewarding journey that gave me valuable insights into the industry that helped me grow personally and professionally. I highly recommend applying for opportunities like this. It's a great way to build confidence and gain valuable insight on what work is like."

Reflections from Evie (10Sherborne):

"For my work experience, I worked for a company called Invyte. Invyte is a boutique event agency specialising in end-to-end event management, guest registration, venue finding and event technology. My mum's company Liberty Global uses Invyte to help with some of their larger business opportunities. My favourite part of this experience was going out into the field, which was London. I chose this particular placement because this is the type of job that I will be doing in the future. The skills that I have learned from this job is how to manage money, bargain, analyse venues and to not be afraid during meetings. I would recommend this placement to other students if this is the profession that they would like to go forward with—it is phenomenal and one of the best experiences I've ever done."



Angie Hopp, Careers Coordinator

A Fun Filled Ski Trip

This year's ski trip to Passo Tonale was an unforgettable experience, packed with adventure, laughter, and some of the best food we've ever had on a school trip!

From the slopes to the hotels, every aspect of the trip exceeded expectations—especially the amazing food that kept everyone fuelled for the adventure!

Passo Tonale provided the perfect mix of slopes for all abilities. Whether it was beginners mastering their first turns or experienced skiers taking on the legendary black runs, everyone made fantastic progress. We were blessed with great instructors, who were patient and encouraging, making sure every student had the best experience.



Our stay at Hotel Mirella in nearby Ponte di Legno provided the perfect place to relax after long days on the slopes. The staff were incredibly welcoming, always ensuring we had everything we needed for a great stay. The hotel's warm and inviting atmosphere made it feel like a home away from home.

To finish, we will leave you with the thoughts of Lucia, Anna, Florence and Mary, about this year's trip...

'The food and hospitality was lovely, the staff that came on the ski trip were really helpful and the ski resort and ski instructors made the trip amazing. It was a fantastic experience and we would definitely recommend the trip.'

Neil Topley, Assistant Headteacher

Year 7 Castle Project

As part of their History studies, Year 7 had the opportunity to produce a castle project. This year students were able to choose from Motte and Bailey, Stone Keep and Concentric Castles to show development and change over time. The quality of the work was outstanding and varied. Students put their talents to excellent use producing a wide range of castles using a variety of methods, ranging from beautiful paintings, fantastic models and delicious and detailed cakes.

Technology was preferred by some students whilst others chose Lego or trusty paper mâché, loo-rolls and cereal boxes. It was a wonderful showcase of the current Year 7s skills and knowledge.

Louisa Fowles, Teacher of History



English Schools' Cross Country Cup National Finals

Bishop Luffa School's Cross Country team earned a prestigious 6th place finish at the English Schools Cross Country Cup National Final in Leeds in March, competing against some of the toughest opponents from across the nation. This impressive result was made possible thanks to the generous sponsorship of Barfoots Foods, whose support allowed the team to cover vital expenses such as running vests, entry fees, accommodation and travel costs.

The National Final, held at the Leeds course, brought together the best school cross country athletes from all over England for a fierce and highly competitive race. Despite facing off against schools with strong cross-country traditions, Bishop Luffa's runners demonstrated incredible grit and determination, securing a spot among the nation's top 10 teams.

The race was challenging in both its terrain and conditions, but every athlete contributed to the team's outstanding performance, which saw them finish in 6th place overall—an achievement made even more remarkable by the calibre of the competition. Ben Stewart (10Andrewes) 18th, Max Gayle (9Burrows) 19th, Joe Stewart (9Andrewes) 49th, Zac Robst (10Wilson) 56th, Freddie Gay (9Ridgeway) 100th, Reuben Shewan (9Wilson) 133rd.

Tim Godfray, Team Leader of PE



STEMFest 2025—Inspiring the Next Generation

Twenty of our enthusiastic Year 7 and 8 students attended STEMFest at Chichester College, where they explored the exciting world of science, technology, engineering, and maths. From 3D air drawing and virtual reality, to F1 race challenges and hologram experiences, our students had a fantastic time engaging with cutting-edge technology. The event was a great opportunity to spark curiosity and inspire future innovators!

Helen Williams, Team Leader of Computer Science



Talk the Talk with the Debate Club

Bishop Luffa students took part in a Debate Day Workshop at Seaford College. There were three teams – one from Seaford College, one from St Philip Howard and our team.

Talk the Talk, Confident Communication for Life was a confident communication workshop geared towards secondary school students – with a focus on 'group talk' – those real situations in life where we find ourselves in meetings or group discussions. Within this workshop each student spoke, in front of their peers and in groups on a minimum of three occasions, while revising core components around visual, verbal and vocal communication. In addition, these sessions provided students with the skills needed for group talk, and gave practical opportunities to explore and develop these skills. The workshop was geared towards Debating competitions, with a broader goal of developing a series of events across the academic year through inter-school relationships for our debate teams.



Ari Hayman in 8Andrewes who attended had these thoughts on the day "the trip to Seaford College was really enjoyable. Talk the Talk was an amazing workshop, and it really helped me grow my confidence with public speaking and speaking in Debate Club. It taught me how to be more confident; from posture to tone of voice, I learned so much and had lots of fun."

Ivy Revill (8Andrewes) was on the team(s) who won in two of the games during the event – well done Ivy! The other students who attended were Isla Hayman (7Andrewes), Grace Bragaglia (7Otter), Anna Rattray (7Ridgeway), Ayla Tran (7Ridgeway), Eesa Salah (8Wilson), Eva Callaghan (9Andrewes), Amy Marshall (9Otter), Ella Blamire (9Ridgeway), Samuel Pegg (12Story) and Joel Blamire (12Wilson).

Fiona Langstone, Teacher of Law

Students have fun at the Six Nations



In March fourteen students travelled to the Allianz Stadium, Twickenham, in the hope of seeing England win against a strong Italian opposition. The stadium was packed with over 81,000 supporters hoping to see some tries, tackles and tantalising rugby. The game did not disappoint with both teams scoring early and playing expansive rugby in the sunshine. However, as the game progressed England took a foothold and did not look backwards. The final score was 47-24 to England who went into the final week of the competition with a chance of lifting the

trophy. The students represented the school immaculately and enjoyed an incredible view of the game from some fabulous seats.

Tom Blewitt, Teacher of PE

Interhouse Art Competition

A huge congratulations to all the students who took part in our Interhouse Art Competition. Over 150 students submitted work for the competition on the theme of *Perspectives*. The whole school was given the opportunity to vote for their favourite piece in three different categories, Years 7-9, GCSE and A'Level. The work was incredibly impressive, with a huge breadth of subjects and media used in different ways. Over 1,400 votes were made, well done to the winning artists who are celebrated by their peers.

Laurelly Thorpe, Team Leader of Art

Years 7—9

1st Ellie Fletcher (9Andrewes)

2nd Izzy Harris (9Sherborne)

Amelie Christie (8Ridgeway)

GCSE

1st Harry Newman (11King)

2nd Tom Peregrin (11Andrewes)

3rd Karina Kurovska (11Ridgeway)

A-Level

Daisy Paget (13Sherborne)

Ella Harley (13Andrewes)

Judith Purchase (13Wilson)



LAMDA at Luffa

The most recent cohort of students taking LAMDA examinations at Bishop Luffa School achieved a 100% pass rate, with 90% of students achieving a distinction, and all students achieving a London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA) qualification. Students taking the higher grades were awarded medals and a combined total of 126 UCAS points. There was amazing work from:

Matilda De Bathe (11Andrewes) - Gold Medal, Grade 8 (Public Speaking)
Niall Cook (11Story) - Gold Medal, Grade 8 (Acting)
Orla Jones (9Story) - Silver Medal, Grade 7 (Acting)
Bea Barton (9Burrows) - Silver Medal, Grade 7 (Acting)
Richard Popovich (10Story) - Bronze Medal, Grade 6 (Public Speaking)
Molly Stanhope (8Wilson) - Bronze Medal, Grade 6 (Verse & Prose)
Megan Siddle (9King) - Bronze Medal, Grade 6 (Verse & Prose)

Congratulations to all students who took an exam, a truly brilliant effort all round. A few students also went on to compete in the Chichester Festival for Music, Dance and Speech at Oakwood School. Awards for 'Prose Speaking' went to Florence Cullen (9King) 1st place, Emily Farnell (9Burrows) 2nd place, and Megan Siddle (9King) and Matilda Brown (8Andrewes) joint 3rd place. A special mention must also go to Lucia Clark (7Wilson) and Jacob Isaacs (7Burrows) for a wonderful performance of their dramatic duologue. Congratulations to Alex Solly (11Ridgeway) who took 1st place for his Shakespeare solo, winning the Audrey Bryant Challenge Cup. Alex is also the recipient of the Hilda Jackman Memorial Trophy for 'Best performance in the Speech & Drama section' for the 70th anniversary Chichester Festival for Music, Dance & Speech. Alex was presented his trophy at the Gala Concert held in the Minerva Theatre, Chichester Festival Theatre.



Angela Watkins & Luke Osborne, LAMDA Tutors

A Sense of Place



On a foggy day in March the Year 10 art students went on a trip to Bognor beach to take part in an art workshop and explore the theme for their new art project 'A Sense of Place'. They embraced working in an experimental way, using their surroundings to explore mark making and experiment

with abstract ideas. They all worked enthusiastically on a very cold day and will use a lot of what they drew and collected to develop their ideas back in the classroom. Well done Year 10!

Laurelly Thorpe, Team Leader of Art

A Weekend of National Success for Bishop Luffa Athletes



During the Spring term Frederick Cullen (7King) represented Bishop Luffa at the British Schools National Trampoline final in Derby. Frederick came into the Final having qualified out of the County and Regional round, and finishing first in last year's competition within Britain. Frederick was competing in the Year 7-9 elite competition. Whilst he was the youngest in this age category he finished in 8th place overall with a score of 79.5. This is an incredible achievement for Frederick and Bishop Luffa and we look forward to see his progress in the

coming years in this competition. Thank you to Chichester Chiropractic Health who kindly sponsored Frederick to enable him to compete in this Final.

Elodie Hill (10King), Isabella Lendrum (9Burrows), Joe Stewart (9Andrewes), Max Gayle (9Burrows) and Ben Stewart (10Andrewes) represented Sussex at the English Schools Cross Country Championships National Final at Ardingly. This was a proud day for Bishop Luffa as we were the most represented school within the Sussex team. Isabella (79th) was a part of the junior girls' team who came 3rd, Elodie (41st) was a part of the intermediate girls' team who came 3rd, Max Gayle (35th) and Joe Stewart (45th) were a part of the junior boys' team who came 2nd, and a recovering Ben Stewart (142nd) was a part of the intermediate boys' team who came 10th out of all the 48 counties in England. This was an outstanding achievement by all of the five Bishop Luffa students, in a fiercely contested race and the runners have had to qualify out of previous rounds to get to this stage. This was an amazing end to what has been an outstanding cross-country season for the Bishop Luffa runners.

Tim Godfray, Team Leader of PE

Literacy Quizzers

Twenty of our students took part in two exciting reading competitions that showcased both their literary knowledge and their incredible teamwork. Three teams of four represented the school at the Chichester Literacy Quiz, where students competed against other schools and were quizzed on a range of books, authors, and general knowledge. Each student took responsibility for specific titles and authors, demonstrating preparation and collaboration.

Not stopping there, two more teams of four (with one alternate) competed in the National Reading Champions Quiz, an online nationwide event designed to celebrate and challenge students' general book knowledge on a national stage. Both teams won awards for Most Enthusiastic—or, as the presenter Mr Dilly put it, the award for "bringing happiness to the world."

All 20 students have shown commitment, determination, and team spirit in preparing for these quizzes. I am proud not only of their achievements, but of their conduct on the day and the way they embody the values of our school. I want to say a huge well done to all of our participating students. You made us proud!



Veronica Shuttleworth, School Librarian

Year 7 & 8 and their Spanish Friends

We did it again! We hosted 135 students and 15 teachers from Spain! Our partner school from Tenerife paid us a visit and spent the day with us in the school. They brought their whole Year 7 cohort so we decided to mix them with our lovely Year 7 group. We have 370 students together involved in languages activities, playing games in the field and having lunch in the canteen.



The weather was fantastic so we learnt how to play "pañuelo" a traditional Spanish game to help students to develop their receptive and coordination skills. Our members of the International Team played an important role making sure that everything ran smoothly and keeping everyone happy. Well done! We have been doing this for four years now, so this is now a Bishop Luffa tradition! We would like to thank everyone who helped during the day. A special thank you goes to the staff from the canteen and site management team whose amazing contribution made this day possible.



We then had some fun with Year 8 with a Spanish Day at Hampton Court. With our lovely Spanish friends visiting we thought this was a great opportunity to spend the day together. We decided to go to Hampton Court with them, so that we could show them around and talk to them about English culture and heritage. Our students had a lovely time making new friends and practising their Spanish.

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

Worship Leaders

Our Worship Leaders have had a fantastic time delivering worship assemblies to our Academy Primary schools and more.

They put together some wonderful presentations on Lent, Psalm Sunday and Easter, whilst teaching the children a new Easter song. It is wonderful to see so many Worship Leaders becoming mentors, inspiring younger children, growing in confidence and using so many skill sets. We also have many new Year 7s that have joined the Worship team. Lots of new friendships and lots of fun!



Clare Lancaster, Worship Coordinator

Bugsy Malone—An Absolute Triumph



This year's school production of *Bugsy Malone* was an absolute triumph, showcasing the immense talent, creativity, and enthusiasm of our students. Set in a whimsical 1920s-inspired world of gangsters and showgirls, the entire cast and crew delivered an unforgettable performance that left the audience buzzing with excitement.

From the moment the show opened, it was clear that the energy was electric. The audience were a part of

the play, all seated in Fat Sam's Grand Slam with the actors mingling among them. The costumes and props beautifully captured the feel of the era, with vibrant colours, sleek props, and a charmingly retro aesthetic, bringing the world of *Bugsy Malone* to life in full swing. The standout performances came from the leads, each bringing something unique to their roles, full of heart and humour. The iconic musical numbers, such as "*Fat Sam's Grand Slam*" and "*You Give a Little Love*," were delivered with energy and passion, showcasing the vocal talents of the cast. It was a true joy to watch the students sing, dance, and embody their characters so fully.

But it wasn't just the leads who shone; the ensemble cast was equally impressive. From the hilarious antics of the gangsters to the zany antics of the showgirls, every cast member shone, making sure that there was never a dull moment. The choreography was lively and well-rehearsed, with some moments of slapstick comedy that had the audience in stitches. The live music was astonishingly good with musicians from across all year groups. The clever use of the "splurge guns"—the squirt guns that create the slapstick "splurge" effect—was a favourite, adding a fun and light-hearted element that had everyone laughing along with the action. The whole production was a perfect blend of musical comedy, action, and heart.

A huge round of applause must go to the production team, and all the behind-the-scenes crew. The level of dedication and hard work was evident in every scene, from the smooth scene transitions to the impeccable lighting and sound design that ensured the performance ran seamlessly.

Bugsy Malone wasn't just a musical—it was a celebration of creativity, teamwork, and the incredible talent within our school. It was a show full of laughter, joy, and fantastic performances, and it's clear that this production will be remembered for years to come.

Thank you to Ilai Servant (11Sherborne) for all the fantastic photography taken during the rehearsals and the show and congratulations to everyone involved in making this show a roaring success!

Nicky Furnell , Team Leader of Drama



Interhouse Dance Finals 2025

This year's Interhouse Dance Finals took place in April. 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 (studying Teaching Musical Theatre at the University of Chichester). The audience also had the ability to vote as the fourth judge and the collated results including scores from the heats are below.



This year the House cup for the most participants across all Year groups were **Burrows House!** Mr Hindman also had the pleasure of announcing the overall Interhouse Dance winners for 2025 - **Burrows House!** The competition event had a great atmosphere with friends, family and staff rallying behind the dancers.

Year Group Winners– Finalists

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	KS4
1 st – Wilson 2 nd – Ridgeway & Sherborne (<i>joint</i>) 3 rd – Andrewes	1 st – King 2 nd – Sherborne 3 rd – Ridgeway 4 th – Burrows	1 st – Burrows 2 nd – Wilson 3 rd – Sherborne 4 th – Otter	1 st – Burrows

Overall standings

	Andrewes	Burrows	King	Otter	Ridgeway	Sherborne	Story	Wilson
Final Totals	9	29	14	5	13	21	3	18
Position	6th	1st	4th	7th	5th	2nd	8th	3rd

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. 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. Well done to all those involved!

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

Eid Celebrations



Tutor Time saw a special celebration when 10Ridgeway hosted a party to celebrate Eid, led by Mr Godfray, Ghalia Tomeh (11Burrows) and Sahar Al Kadri (10Ridgeway). The party featured Eid music, flags and bunting. There were traditional pastries and cakes served on Eid plates, as well as a short film about the meaning of Ramadan and Eid. Fifteen of our students observed Ramadan, which culminated with the sighting of the moon and Eid ul-Fitr on Sunday 30th March. Everyone enjoyed the chance to try a selection of delicious Eid treats, very kindly baked by Sahar and Ghalia and their mums. Eid Mubarak!

Susie Cooke, EAL Coordinator

Chicken Week

In the last week of term before Easter we held Bishop Luffa School's first ever 'Chicken Week'. We started the week with an Easter bake sale and were joined at lunchtime by the Rev Celia Woodruff for our Chicken Blessing. Father Phill also joined in and the hens and their run were blessed with Holy Water sprinkled on them with sprigs of rosemary by the students. We expressed our gratitude for the joy the hens bring to students and prayed that they may continue to stay safe and healthy.

We held a Scavenger Hunt around school which was enjoyed by everyone who took part. The week finished with 'Dress as a Chicken (or wear something yellow) Day'. There were some fabulous outfits, including Alfie Acquah (10Andrewes), Karina Bovkun (8Sherborne), Fern Carter (7Story) and Harry Edwards (10Ridgeway), together with numerous members of staff. Throughout the week there was a competition to name our newest rescue hens. The winning names are Peggy, PomPom, Deardry and Clucks, chosen by Indigo Clark-Lyons (8King), Dasha Pohrebetska (7Story), Jack Byrne (8Otter) and Mrs Stone.



Thank you to everyone who helped out, contributed, bought Raffle tickets or dressed up on Dress as a Chicken Day to make it a memorable week. We raised a total of £705.28 over the week which means we have now raised enough money to get running water to the Chickens and to the Chicken HQ out-building.

Louisa Fowles, Teacher of History

Luffa Cheerleaders

Congratulations to the Bishop Luffa Year 7 and 8 Cheerleading Team who competed in the *Spring Spirit* competition at the K2 in Crawley. Greta Davis (7Andrewes) was 'Cheer Captain' and the other team members were Rose Ockwell (8Andrewes), Florence Symonds (7Andrewes), Marni Haigh (7Wilson), Summer-Jade Fish (7Ridgeway), Daisy Sparshatt (7Otter), Hannah Coles (8Sherborne), Lois Webley (8Sherborne), Sasha McDonald (7Ridgeway) and Ayla Tran (7Ridgeway).



The atmosphere at the event was electric! The professional teams were awe-inspiring, and the Bishop Luffa Cheerleaders came out confidently giving it their all. The trainers, parents and carers were so proud of them. After just a couple of terms, for one hour a week after school, they secured 4th place in the Schools Category. What an amazing achievement.

Tim Godfray, Team Leader of PE

Students' Sporting Achievements

Isabelle Fletcher (9Burrows) took part in the Sussex Regional Gymnastics Championships competition (Copper) and came first in both her age category and joint first overall for all entrants across all age groups. This means that she has now qualified for the Sussex Gymnastics squad.



Curtis Jacobs (7Sherborne) achieved great results at his annual swimming club championships with some amazing PB times, achieving PBs in all his races, coming away with seven gold and three silver medals.

Alex Sydenham (12Andrewes) was selected for the British Youth Sailing Team in the 29er class. Alex's selection for the British Sailing Team recognises his potential to succeed at the highest level in Youth and Olympic sailing. He was selected on the basis of performance at selection events and potential shown in and around training and competitions observed by selectors.



Francesca Dumitriu (8Story) competed in the South East Levels Women's Artistic Gymnastics competition. Francesca was placed second on Vault across all ages on Cooper level representing The Academy of Gym club. She was one of the youngest gymnasts out of 64 girls aged up to 16 years old.



Sam Machell (9Burrows) competed in the French Nationals Coupe Internationale d'été 2024 in Biscarrosse during the summer holidays. 400 children competed overall and Sam was one of the 170 sailors in the Main Fleet racing in light and shifty wind conditions on the lake. Sam was the first GBR sailor in the Silver Fleet and 8th boat overall in the Silver Fleet.



Noah Bulbeck (8Story), Lanz Magno (8Wilson) and Toby Hunwicke (8Sherborne), completed against 10 teams from five other schools in Boccia. The boys behaved impeccably and supported each other very well. They came 1st in their group round, and 6th overall, but very deservedly won the certificate for team work.

Rory Parrett (7Otter) and Oliver Rutter (7Story) represented Chichester Rugby Club Under 12s 1sts at the Land Rover Cup, and Premiership Rugby tournament hosted by Harlequins RFC at their training ground in Guildford. The tournament brought together the best 19 teams in the South East for a one day competition.



Elsie Huxtable (8Ridgeway) took part in the Sussex Winter County Championships and did extremely well. She is Sussex Champion with Gold in eight events (50m Freestyle, 100m Freestyle, 200m Freestyle, 100m Breaststroke, 200m Breaststroke, 50m Butterfly, 100m Individual Medley, 200m Individual Medley) and Silver in the 50m Breaststroke event.

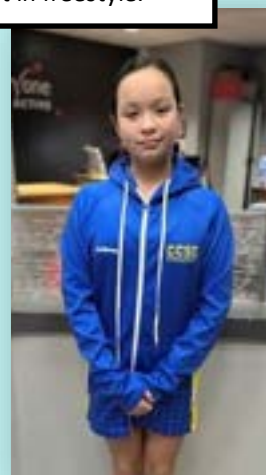
Millie Malcom (7Ridgeway) took part in the Junior Great South Run and raised over £400 for her church. She did this alongside Grace Bragaglia (7Otter) who was raising money for Portsmouth Downs Association.

Ayla Tran (7Ridgeway) took part in her first Gala with Chichester Cormorants Swim Club and set her times for butterfly, freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke and individual medley. Within her groups she came second in four races and first in freestyle.

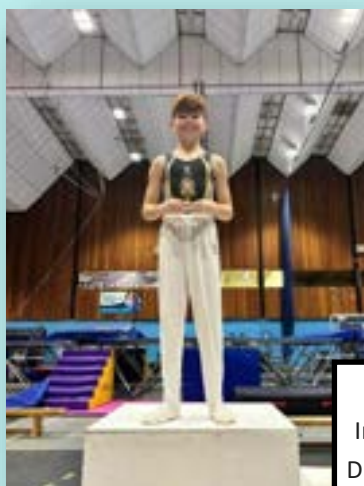
Oliver Rutter (7Story) and Rory Parrett (7Otter) represented Chichester Rugby Club as part of a team taking part in the Harlequins Defender Premiership Rugby Cup in Guildford. There were 24 teams from clubs across the South East and Chichester won the tournament!



At the awards ceremony for The South East Triathlon Series Ben Stewart (10Andrewes), Stanley Wilkes (11Burrows) and Levi Pearce (8King) came 1st, 2nd & 3rd in the overall standings for TriYouth and TriStar2 having all won or podiumed in a number of this year's events. Ben and Stanley have also been selected to train with the GB team along with Levi, who was selected earlier this year in a younger age group.



Max Gayle (9Burrows) and Joe Stewart (9Andrewes) were selected for the Southern Endurance Squad following their achievements in running and cross country.



Well done to Libby Johnson (11Sherborne) who came 96th out of 115 of the country's best swimmers in the National Winter Swimming Championships in Sheffield in the 50m freestyle.



Well done to Maddox Matthews (7Sherborne) who won the T2 under 13s Hedgehog Triathlon Series.

Frederick Cullen (7King) travelled to Telford International Centre for the English Trampoline and DMT Championships. He qualified for this event after two preliminary rounds earlier in the year, and the top 24 boys in each category made it to the English Championships. After his preliminary rounds (two jumps) he made the final, where the top eight boys jump one final time for the chance of medals. Frederick was in 3rd position going into the final and came away in Silver Medal position, meaning that he is 2nd within England for his trampolining.

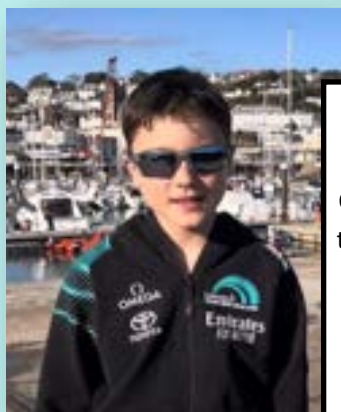
Eddie Lake (11Andrewes) competed in the British Down Syndrome Swimming Championships at K2 in Crawley in November and came 2nd in the U16 25m freestyle, and 1st in the 25m breaststroke, a great achievement in his first swimming competition.

Ollie Fillery (7Andrewes) competed in the Chichester Cormorants Swim Club championships. They had their award ceremony recently and won four silver medals in 50m Freestyle, 50m Backstroke, 50m butterfly and 100m medley.

Lana Sargent (8Andrewes) was selected to represent Chichester Hockey Club's Ladies second team in their match against Winchester.



Elsie Huxtable (8Ridgeway) who took a huge medal haul in the recent Sussex Long Course Championships. Elsie achieved six Golds (200m Individual Medley, 100m breast, 200m breast, 50m free, 50m fly) and two Silvers (100m free and 200m free). Elsie was awarded 1st place Junior (under 16) County Champion for her 200m Individual Medley, along with 3rd place for her 50m, 100m and 300m breaststroke.



Oscar Stephens (7Story) took part in the IOCA UK Spring Championships 2025 in Torbay. Oscar had a really good weekend and was selected to take part in Selections, to be able to gain a place to possibly attend the French Nationals, Garda Country Cup (Italy), European Championships (in Turkey) or the World Championships (in Slovenia) representing GBR.



Sam Machell (9Burrows) competed in the 43rd Optimist Meeting 2025 at Lake Garda. Sam had a great time and ended the event as the 7th British boat in the Silver Fleet. Sam then competed in the GBR Teams Selections Trials in Weymouth. Sam ended up 31st overall out of 78, with a 5th place in the last race.



Libby Johnson (11Sherborne) had success at the Regional South East Swimming Championships. Libby finished the 50m Freestyle in 6th place, and 3rd in the 50m Butterfly, and a bronze medal, in a tightly contested race against some tough opposition.



Jack Challen (8Ridgeway) made Bishop Luffa history by scoring an unbeaten 103 not out in a Sussex County Cup cricket match against The Regis School. Jack's batting was elegant and full of power, leading him to scoring three 6s and 11 4s. This was an incredible achievement.



AJ Lewendon (7Ridgeway) won his category at *Roots and Rain's* Worldwide 2-wheeled event at Tidworth Bike Park in May. AJ absolutely smashed it in conditions that were dusty, loose, and fast.



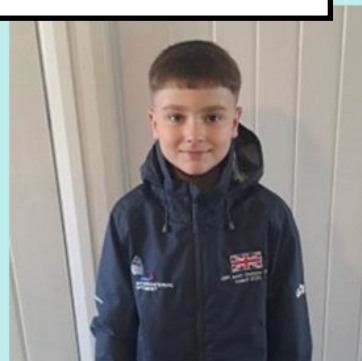
Reuben Shewan (9Wilson) competed at the Surrey & Sussex Schools Athletics Combined Event. Reuben came 1st - another gold medal to add to his collection. There were 14 U15 boys competing and it was quite close at the top. Reuben's most impressive performance was in the 800m which was the final event of the day and Reuben showed real grit and determination, taking 17 seconds off his personal best time. This meant he was invited to the ESAA Regional Combined Event Championships.



In June, the Bishop Luffa Boys' A Team, which consisted of Sebastian Berger (7Andrewes), Maddox Matthews (7Sherborne) and Sam Pitkin (7Burrows), and the Girls' A Team, which consisted of Isla Hayman (7Andrewes) and Florence Day (7Sherborne) went to Ditcham Park School for the British National Hill Climb – a time trial where contestants from all over the country cycle up a two-mile hill as fast as they possibly can. Both Bishop Luffa teams came 1st and won the U13 National Schools title for the school.



Having completed the IOCA Spring Championships and IOCA Selection Trials 2025, Oscar Stephens (7Story) was selected to represent Great Britain at the Irish Optimist National Championships in August. What a fantastic achievement – well done Oscar!



Huge congratulations to Jack Slade (8Story), who took on an incredible cycling challenge. Jack wanted another challenge having ridden his bicycle coast to coast across Devon with his Dad in July last year from Plymouth to Ilfracombe. So, in May half term Jack and his Dad rode from London to Paris in 4 days, covering a total distance of 328miles!



Congratulations to Elsie Huxtable (8Ridgeway) who has been selected to be part of the 2025/2026 Swim England Talent, South East Development Programme. This is a fantastic achievement with only 18 females and 18 males from the 13 year age category being selected each year.

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Barcelona Sports Tour 2025

Students from Bishop Luffa School had a highly successful sports tour to Barcelona, filled with football, netball, sightseeing and sunshine. The group landed safely in Barcelona to perfect spring weather, with smooth airport processes making for a calm and cheerful start. On arrival, students explored the Gothic Quarter and Parc de la Ciutadella, before heading to their hotel. The brave few even tested the icy cold pool—though not even seasoned swimmers Megan and Elsie could stay in for long!

Training began immediately on day 2, with both football and netball squads working hard in sessions led by expert coaches. The netballers focused on passing, footwork and shooting drills, while the girls' football team trained on ball control and finishing before securing a 7–5 win in their tour match against El Vendrell. Standout performances included a hat-trick from Ismay and superb goalkeeping from Sophia.

The boy footballers faced tough opposition against FC Almeda and a late return after their evening match, which unfortunately ended in defeat. Despite this, Basil and Alex impressed with strong performances. Earlier that day, their training focused on ball control and attacking plays.

Tournament day brought excitement and even more success. The Year 9 netball team won all three group games to reach the final, eventually finishing runners-up—a huge improvement from last year. Amy and Lilly were awarded players of the tournament. The Year 8 team played with relentless intensity, finishing third in their pool. Chloe was named player of the tournament by Masterclass coaches, with Percy receiving Miss Unitt's player of the tournament award.

The girls' football team performed admirably despite facing older opposition, holding their own to finish third in their group. Ismay and Jess earned player of the tournament awards for their efforts. The boys' football team bounced back brilliantly, finishing third overall, with Basil and Alex recognised for their contributions. Will also received the player of the match award from their earlier Spanish friendly. A special award was given to Isabella, in recognition of her dedication, kindness, and contributions across two tours.

Between matches, students enjoyed time relaxing by the pool, playing beach sports, and even taking part in karaoke. The tour ended with sightseeing in Valencia, including a visit to the iconic Mestalla Stadium and a walking tour of the historic city centre.



Ellen Unitt, Luke Hill, Toby Buck and Tim Godfray, Tour Team

Students shine in National TeenTech Awards Programme

At the start of the Spring term, a group of ambitious Bishop Luffa students took on the exciting challenge of entering the national TeenTech Awards programme—an initiative designed to inspire and empower the next generation of innovators.



TeenTech runs dynamic, award-supported initiatives to help teenagers develop essential skills, gain meaningful experiences, and make valuable connections for future careers. The organisation collaborates with companies, universities, and education-business partnerships to deliver imaginative programmes, particularly targeting regions of greater social need across the UK and Europe. Founded in 2008 by Maggie Philbin and Chris Dodson, TeenTech is a nationally recognised charity focused on exposing young people to the wide variety of career opportunities within science, technology, and engineering. The charity's structured interventions support students throughout their academic journey and beyond, encouraging long-term engagement with STEM-based innovation.

Bishop Luffa School submitted five inventive entries this year:

- Solomon Sutton (11Ridgeway): *Super Effective Alarm Clock*
- Bella Wright (10Burrows): *Dryline*
- Ari Hayman (8Andrewes): *Rotating Fridge*
- Harry Bonney (7Ridgeway): *Safety Steering Wheel*
- Thomas Brackenbury (7Wilson): *Plate Warmer*

Each student received detailed and encouraging feedback from industry judges, who were impressed with the creativity and practicality of their ideas. We were thrilled that Harry Bonney (7Ridgeway) was selected as a finalist with his innovative idea, the *Safety Steering Wheel* and progressed to the TeenTech Finals, where he pitched his concept to leading professionals in the Safety and Security sector.

James Bonney, Head of Design Technology



History students get 'Egg-stremely' Creative!

To encourage a creative approach to learning, and with a tenuous link to Easter, KS3 History students were encouraged to create a historical scene around the humble egg. This 'egg-stra – curricular (!)' activity encouraged some 'egg-stremely' (!) imaginative ideas, ranging from Eggeline Pankhurst to the Oval Office. It was an 'egg-cellent' (!) way for students to think about their learning in different ways and to 'think outside the (egg!) box'.



In all seriousness, any activity that helps students to think creatively, and shows that learning can be done in different ways, is a great way of developing skills and understanding. With chocolate egg prizes for the most creative, the History staff were delighted by the effort put in and the efforts are to be commended.

Justin Barnett, Head of Humanities

Bishop Luffa commemorates VE Day

Across the week leading up to the 8th May, staff and students marked the 80th anniversary of VE Day in a number of ways. Mr Hindman's online assembly on the 8th served to highlight the importance of commemoration, and involved readings in multiple languages to reflect the widespread nature of the conflict. Alongside this assembly, our 'Connect' resources for the preceding week focused on the significance of VE Day, and we were also fortunate to have a superb display created by Miss Sutton to help illustrate the event we are remembering. We also joined in the national two-minute silence at midday on the 8th. There was also music from the era at break and lunchtime in the Bartlett Hall, and the canteen added a patriotic twist to some of the food on offer. We were also involved in the VE Mail project and some of our students wrote letters to a veteran as part of this initiative.



BBC Surrey & Sussex came into school earlier in the week to talk to some of our students about their letters. As the survivors of events 80 years ago reduce in number, we can be confident that Bishop Luffa students will keep the memory of their suffering and sacrifice alive, understanding why this event mustn't be forgotten.

Justin Barnett, Head of Humanities

International Training Programme

As part of Bishop Luffa International Training Programme, we welcomed four trainees from South Korea in collaboration with the University of Chichester. They spent a week with us observing lessons and learning about the English education system. They also taught some Korean lessons to our students. We learnt about their language, traditions and schools on South Korea. During registration time our Korean friends also spent time getting to know Year 8 and Year 10.



We played some Korean games and listened to some Korean music, something our students really enjoyed! Our students' favourite activity was receiving some personalised postcards from students in South Korea and writing postcards back to them in English and Korean. Students were super excited and fully engaged in all these sessions. On their last day at Bishop Luffa we prepared a farewell session and a traditional English Pub Quiz to see how much our Korean friends have learnt about English culture. It turned out they got most of the answers right!

Elizabeth López Gamero, Team Leader of Spanish

House Photography Competition 'Spring 2025'

Thank you to everyone who took part in the House Photography Competition. Entries were of a very high standard and there were some beautifully composed shots. Jonah Kus in 7King deserves a special mention for the fantastic photos that he entered. The theme of 'Spring' was explored fully and the pictures were a joy to judge. Sadly, no-one submitted a picture of a spring roll!! The winners of the competition were:

1st place – Jonah Kus (7King)

2nd place – Libby Hall (7King)

3rd place – Chloe Snelling (8Sherborne)

Jas Stone, Head of Otter House



Wild Readers' Trip to T.S. Resolute at CYE

Books give a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, and life to everything" Plato

Wild Readers is an initiative that pairs reading with being active and outdoors. In addition to weekly paired reading in the school library, involving student mentors, student librarians, passionate readers, students who don't speak English at home and those who might need a nudge to enjoy the world of books, it incorporates an optional residential trip at Christian Youth Enterprises (CYE) in beautiful Cobnor.



This year's two-day Wild Readers trip was a whistle-stop adventure: reading "The Glorious Race of Magical Beasts"; head-torches at the ready for a spot of reading whilst tunnelling (CYE have the second longest man-made tunnel in Europe); and many tranquil moments of reading, from resting in your kayak on the water to devouring the next chapter whilst sailing a longboat in the harbour. Then, after dinner, everyone enjoyed a beach walk in the gloaming with the latest instalment of the book read aloud by students and staff to the group, culminating with a campfire and stories. Here are a few of our students' thoughts on wild reading:

"I've made new friends on this trip. Enjoyed being read to and reading to others...this trip has allowed me to open myself up to make new friends and has also made me realise how fun reading was."
"When we were taking part in the activities it was relaxing to have a little read and a check in on what's happening in the story."

This was an exceptional couple of days for all involved, leading to huge achievements, such as facing fears, making new friends, trying new activities and learning new skills, but, most importantly, igniting a spark for a new-found love of reading.

George Thomas, Librarian



Covers Timber Director inspires Year 10

During the first part of the summer term, Bishop Luffa School was delighted to welcome Neil Woods, Timber Director at COVERS Timber Merchants, to speak with our Year 10 Product Design students.

Neil generously shared his extensive knowledge and expertise, offering students a valuable insight into the properties, uses, and finishes of a wide variety of timbers. He expertly categorised different types of wood, helping students understand the practical applications and design

considerations behind material selection—an essential part of their GCSE coursework. We are extremely fortunate to have support from local industry professionals who give their time to enrich our students' learning. This visit not only brought classroom theory to life but also highlighted the important link between education and real-world industry. A huge thank you to Neil Woods and COVERS for their continued support and the growing partnership with our Design & Technology department.

James Bonney, Head of Design Technology

GreenPower Success at Tockwith Airfield, York



Bishop Luffa's F24 GreenPower team kicked off their racing season in style at Tockwith Airfield, York, with an outstanding performance at their first Heat race of the year.

The team quickly found their rhythm, finishing first in their category and second overall. "It was a long journey to York, but very rewarding," stated Lucas Barty (10King), reflecting on the team's achievements. Joe Chisnall (10King) said, "we also had the opportunity to carry out a cultural walk around York."

Over recent months the team has expanded, recruiting two promising new drivers — AJ Lewendon (7Ridgeway) and Mylo Boarer (8King) — joining Harry Bonney (7Ridgeway) behind the

wheel. All three demonstrated incredible skill and composure on the challenging course, navigating tricky bends and heavy traffic with confidence. Their momentum continued into Race Two, where they once again secured first place in their category — an incredible achievement for such a young team. Backing up the drivers was a highly experienced pit crew made up of Joe Chisnall (10King), Lucas Barty (10King), and Luke Pendry (9Ridgeway). Their efforts ensured that the team's car, 'Mercury', was in top condition for both races, playing a crucial role in the team's success. A huge well done to the entire GreenPower team for their dedication, teamwork, and excellent performance.

James Bonney, Head of Design Technology



TED Talks: Bishop Luffa Learning Partnership's *Ideas Worth Sharing*



Speak up and speak clearly. I want to hear what you have to say because it matters!" - Felicia Johnson

Year 6 pupils from our partnership schools, alongside students from Year 9 at Bishop Luffa School, came together for a very special event – a celebration of hard work in writing talks and speeches crafted to make the audience think! In our first ever shared learning experience we were treated to a selection of TED Talks from across the partnership. Our aim was to learn

that our voices truly matter. What we say has enormous power: to make people think, to spread ideas, to educate, to spread joy and ultimately make our world a better place to be! The topics were as varied as 'How Rubix Cubes became so popular', 'The Superhero of your back garden', 'The power of a smile' and 'Pineapple on pizza can change the world'! Ella Blamire in Year 9 delivered a particularly powerful talk on climate change, which really connected with the audience and encouraged everyone to reflect on this important topic. It was very special to bring our family of schools within the Bishop Luffa Learning Partnership together, and to enjoy the dance and musical performances that the students from Fishbourne and Lavant Primaries had worked so hard on.

Sally Pilgrim and Emily Husband, Teachers of English

Year 7 'Proyecto Mafalda'

Every summer term our Year 7 students take part on our "Proyecto Mafalda" as part of their Spanish lessons. Students have been learning Spanish using the "Mafalda" comics and at the end of the term they design their own "Mafaldas". "Mafalda" is a world known Spanish comic character and her comics have been used to send message of peace and love around the world for many years. Every year our students create their own posters and write down lovely messages in Spanish. We then use their artwork to decorate the Languages classroom.



This year the work produced by our students has been outstanding and their creations ranged from drawings and paintings, to decorative sculptures and clay dolls. We were very impressed by their commitment and dedication to learning Spanish!



The winner of "Proyecto Mafalda 2025" was Grace Bragaglia (7Otter) who won an original Mafalda comic in Spanish. We hope you enjoy it Grace!

Elizabeth López Gamero, Team Leader of Spanish

National Recognition for Dylan in STEM Competition

A number of Bishop Luffa students took part in the STEM On Track national competition this term, which challenged students to design a kart livery that reflects the spirit of their school and community, while celebrating innovation in STEM and motorsport. The brief encouraged students to think creatively and produce an iconic, timeless design that truly stands out on the track.

We are delighted to share that Dylan Paige (7Wilson) achieved an impressive Top 20 placement from a large field of entries submitted by schools across the country.



Dylan's design was praised for its creativity, bold concept, and the way it captured the essence of both Bishop Luffa School and modern STEM values. As a reward for his fantastic work, Dylan was offered complimentary tickets to attend the STEM On Track National Finals at Whilton Mill in June. This is a brilliant achievement and a reflection of Dylan's passion, talent, and attention to detail.

James Bonney, Head of Design Technology

CU Residential 2025

Christian Union (CU) students and staff had the great blessing of heading off on our annual weekend away in May at Christian Youth Enterprises (CYE). CYE is located within the grounds of the Cobnor Estate, 5 miles south west of Chichester. We had fantastic weather, for our second year running, which was super!



On arrival students were able to settle into their rooms, and get ready for our evening activities. We made smores, there was a super rendition of 'Father Abraham' around the campfire, and then we headed back to the boat to settle in for the evening. It was such an encouragement to see some students organise a mini Bible study to round off their evening.



Saturday morning came, and we all gathered for breakfast. Following this, the activities began! Students had the chance to go sailing, tunnelling, and have a go at an outdoor assault course. We all enjoyed a range of fantastic meals too - there was something for everyone! That evening we were joined by the fantastic 'One Youth', (from One Church Emsworth), who organised games, a series of testimonies, and praise and worship. I know what you're thinking... of course we managed to sing 'My Lighthouse' on the CYE boat! It was a fantastic evening, full of fellowship. Saturday night was rounded off with a quiz from the wonderful CYE team. On Sunday

morning, we had breakfast together, and opened the Bible. Following this, we headed off to Bosham, for a whole group row. Once we arrived, we tucked into some hot chocolate and cake. After a good row back, all the students had worked up an appetite, so it was the perfect time for a Sunday roast together. Sadly, after lunch it was time for CU to say goodbye to CYE for another year.

Some of our students shared their thoughts on their time at CYE. Fern said, *"The Christian Union CYE trip was an amazing experience and I was lucky enough to go. My favourite part was when One Church youth team came and did a service with us. There were games, worship, testimonies and a time of prayer. We got to go on the water in sailing boats and condos. My boat almost capsized, it was terrifying and funny at the same time. As well as this we did a camp fire, tunnelling, a quiz and an assault course. Me and some others did bible study before bed and that really helped me to explore my faith with people my own age. Overall CYE was the best and I would suggest it to anyone who would like to go."*



I want to say a big 'thank you' to all students who came along on the trip. They truly were a fantastic bunch. A special thanks too, to Mrs Copeland, the CYE team, and One Youth. I've already had some students ask me about next year, so God willing, we should be back next year for some more fellowship, and fun. The slogan for CYE is 'Life to the Full', which is very apt for Bishop Luffa, and a nice verse to end on: "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full". John 10:10

Claire Duke, Head of Wilson House & Teacher of RE

Story House Charity Blue Week

In May Story House went all out for an entire week to raise money for Dementia UK, and more importantly to raise awareness of this wonderful charity. Dementia UK continues to be our House charity, and is really important to us as many of us have seen the impact Dementia can have on family members. Dementia UK, provides specialist dementia support to families through its Admiral Nurse Service. When things get challenging or difficult, Dementia UK's nurses work alongside people with dementia and their families, giving them the one-to-one support, expert guidance and practical solutions, they need which can be hard to find elsewhere.



During the week we ran daily donut and cake sales each break time, at lunch we have been selling Raffle tickets for our hamper raffle of blue goodies, and then on Friday we invited the whole school to join in our Blue Day by swapping an item of uniform for an item of blue clothing for a small donation. Why Blue? Blue is the official colour of Dementia UK, symbolising memory and forget-me-nots. We are pleased to announce that we raised a total of over £533.00 for this worthwhile charity.

Shona Charge, Head of Story House



Dance News

The Spring term is the busiest time of year for the Dance department at Bishop Luffa School! We started our run of dance events with a visit from 3fall Dance company, the 3rd year degree students from the University of Chichester. One of our Dance Alumni, Lucy Keeping, is a member of 3fall Dance Company and so it was a special moment for us to watch her perform. They led an inspiring workshop with a group of students from Years 9 to 13.



As we headed towards the end of the Spring term we had the Inter-house Dance Competition which was won overall by Burrows House. The following evening, we hosted our annual dance event to showcase performances and choreographies from students in Years 7 to 13. This was a wonderful evening and we are very proud of all the students who performed dances that were produced both in lessons and in extra-curricular clubs and activities. Thank you to Ilai Servant (11Sherborne) for taking some fantastic photos.



After Easter we took the Year 10 GCSE Dance students to perform at Dance House at the Pavilion Theatre in Worthing. They performed exceptionally well and we received so many wonderful comments and compliments from audience members and the event organisers. The following evening a group of dancers from Years 9 to 12 performed the curtain raiser for MAP Dance Company in the University of Chichester's

Showroom. It was a standout performance and we are so proud of their achievement. We recently said farewell to our Year 11 BTEC Dance students. It is always a sad time for the team but we wish them well and we know that they will all go on to do great things.

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

Bishop Luffa vs MCC Cricket Match

In May Bishop Luffa School hosted the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) for their annual fixture at Chichester Priory Park. The MCC, better known as the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC), is one of the most famous and historic cricket clubs in the world. The club founded in 1787 are based at Lord's Cricket Ground in London and is renowned as the original custodian of the



Laws of Cricket. They continue to promote the game's traditions and spirit worldwide and use fixtures against schools to celebrate youth development and exemplifying the true essence of cricket. The MCC is not just a cricket club but a symbol of the game's heritage, values, and commitment to developing future generations of cricketers. The match was played in excellent spirit, with both teams showcasing skill, sportsmanship, and a shared passion for the game. Bishop Luffa's young squad demonstrated resilience and enthusiasm throughout the day. After the MCC posted a challenging total of 265, Bishop Luffa were set a tough task and struggled to get going but after a 50 partnership from Jack Challen (8Ridgeway) and Elliot Goode (9Story) the team were putting up a fight. However, despite their efforts, the team fell short of the target but showed great determination to keep going until the end. Others on the team were George Phillips (10Andrewes), Joshua Pollock (10Story), Oliver Bowman (11Ridgeway), Eli Yambo (11Ridgeway) and Finlay Rustell (12Ridgeway).

In recognition of his exemplary performance and embodiment of the game's values, Jack Challen was awarded the 'Spirit of Cricket' cap by the MCC. His ability with the ball and bat was a highlight of the day, paired with the fact that he was the youngest on the pitch whilst displaying great skill throughout the match. The day included a shared lunch provided by Turners Pies, which allowed players from both teams to exchange experiences and insights, further strengthening the camaraderie fostered by the match. Special thanks were extended to Fenwick's Café for providing refreshments and to the volunteer umpires for their invaluable contribution. This fixture continues to be a cherished tradition, promoting the values of cricket and providing a platform for young players to engage with the game's rich heritage.

Toby Buck, Teacher of PE

Music Trip to *Phantom of The Opera*



In June the Music Department visited His Majesty's Theatre in the West End, London, to see Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Phantom of The Opera". Music and drama students were treated to a fantastic musical and visual spectacle! The production has been running 38 years and has not lost any of its dramatic appeal to every age group. Students were mesmerised by the beautiful singing with some commenting on the vocal ranges of the female leads as 'insane'. All the students were impressed by the magnificent scenery and setting. It was a very successful trip showcasing musical theatre at its

best. Musical theatre is an area of study for GCSE Music and is an option at A'Level Music.

Jane Bowen-Melfi, Head of Music

Celebrating Excellence: KS3 Design & Technology Awards

In June the KS3 Design and Technology Awards were proudly presented by myself as Head of the Design and Technology Faculty, alongside Faculty teaching staff, in recognition of outstanding student achievement throughout the academic year.

Students receiving awards demonstrated excellence across a wide range of skills and attributes. All awardees consistently produced high-quality classwork, showed a confident and safe approach within the Design and Technology environment, and acted as positive role models to their peers. Many also supported other learners, willingly sharing their growing expertise.



Particularly impressive was the students' innovative approach to design, their eagerness to explore wider concepts, and their advanced skills in CAD/CAM technologies. With attention to detail and high-level finishing techniques, they truly embodied the spirit of problem-solving and creative thinking that lies at the heart of Design and Technology. Awards were presented to the following students:

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
Product Design	AJ Lewendon (7Ri) Harry Bonney (7Ri) Thomas Brackenbury (7Wi)	Mylo Boarer (8Ki) Ari Hayman (8An) Ismay Tinkley (8Ot)	Louisa Smith (9Ot) Luke Pendry (9Ri) Francis James (9Ri) Joe Stewart (9An) Charlie Johnson (9Sh) Ellie Fletcher (9An)
Food Preparation & Nutrition	Isla Hayman (7An) Meredith Edwards (7Bu)	George Mackie (8An) Soliana Timblick (8Sh) Toby Hunwicke (8Sh) Oliver Smith (8Ri) Karina Bovkun (8Sh) Effie Watson (8Sh)	Olivia Alger (9Ri) Lilly Pearce (9Bu) Jessica McGovern (9St) Emily Farnell (9Bu)
Design Textiles	Evie Thompson (7Wi) Millie Malcolm (7Ri) Lewis Morgan (7Bu)	Thomas Wren (8Sh) Ivy Revill (8An) Olivia Morgan (8Bu) Amelia Christie (8Ri) Niamh Burton (8Sh)	Beth Houston (9Wi) Ella Blamire (9Ri) Mabel Edser (9An) Emma Light (9An) Amy King (9Ki)

The evening was a wonderful occasion, celebrated alongside family, friends, and staff, marking the achievements of our talented students and their bright futures ahead.

James Bonney, Head of Design & Technology

Fruition: Arts Faculty Summer Exhibition 2025

Fruition 2025 took place on a sunny evening in June. The event was an opportunity for us all to celebrate the fruits of our creativity in the Arts over the year and we were delighted that the Design and Technology Faculty were able to join us again this year. Students made the evening a vibrant celebration of their achievements in Arts and DT subjects, and parents, carers and friends were able to:

- visit an Art exhibition presenting the work of GCSE and A'level Art students
- watch dance performances from exam groups and our extra-curricular Dance clubs
- see extracts from this year's House Drama Festival and also performances from some of the Drama clubs
- view a range of GCSE Media Studies and A'level Film & Media Studies projects
- watch a screening of the winning Interhouse Short Film Competition entry
- listen to a wide variety of musical performances from exam groups and Music clubs, including our choir La Diva
- visit the Design and Technology exhibition of products created by students across all the years
- view a display of the GreenPower Team's car *Mercury* and talk to the racing team.

Our fantastic PFA joined us and prepared a fantastic BBQ and refreshments. Fruition 2025 was a highly enjoyable and very busy evening – thank you to everyone involved.

Jo Lawlor, Head of Arts Faculty



Spanish Exchange 2025

What a fantastic time we had in Spain this June! It is the third year in a row that we went to Tenerife to visit Nuryana, our partner school there, as part of our Spanish exchange programme. Our students had the wonderful opportunity to attend Spanish lessons, learn about school life in Spain and share unforgettable memories.



We have 25 Bishop Luffa students living with their Spanish penpal families. This project has allowed our students to mature, develop their personality and experience unique moments that they will remember for many years to come. We are very proud of all our students and the way they behaved while we were abroad. We have built a beautiful friendship with our Spanish friends that will allow us to offer more opportunities like this to our students in the future.

While in Tenerife we have time to explore the Spanish school and see what Spanish lessons are like. We had a day trip to Siam Park, the biggest water park in Europe, where our students had plenty of time to practise their Spanish and get to know their Spanish friends better. We also visited "San Cristobal de La Laguna" (UNESCO World Heritage city), "Santa Cruz" (capital city) and had a "chocolate con churros" in the Spanish market.

On our last day we went to the volcano Teide and finished the day eating a "parrillada" in a typical Spanish restaurant. We were very lucky that during our time in Tenerife we were able to watch the school's fabulous choir La Diva - their singing was so beautiful that it made us all cry with happiness.

Alex Bravo, Dee Jackson and Eli López (The Spanish exchange team)



Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award

Congratulations to the 47 students who took part in the Qualifier Expedition in June. Mr Hindman's prediction of *Heavenly Fireworks* didn't quite come true but Saturday was very wet at times!

Despite the weather, the students kept their spirits up and impressed the Assessors with their navigation and teamwork skills.

It was an excellent weekend and I would like to say a special thank you to the volunteers who gave up their time to enable this to happen. Well done to all the students who took part.

Kat Wells, Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator



La Diva Tenerife Tour 2025

In June 21 members of Bishop Luffa's La Diva Choir flew to Tenerife to take part in an inspirational singing project. In conjunction with Nuryana School, our partner school in Tenerife, the choir performed at two venues.

The first performance was to a packed audience at the beautiful concert hall at Conservatoire of Music of Santa Cruz. Together with members of Nuryana School's chamber choir and the junior choristers of the Conservatoire, they performed Leonard Cohen's *Halleluiah*. The choir also performed their own interpretation of Mozart's *Ave Verum*, Coldplay's *Fix You*, and *City of Stars* from *La La Land*.



The following day the choir rehearsed and performed at Nuryana's grand end-of-year graduation, in front of hundreds of students, as well as family, friends and teaching staff. After a professional sound check in the morning, the choir sang *Ave Verum*, *City of Stars* and Mary Mary's *Shackles*. Conducted by Nuryana's Head of Music, they also sang *Halleluiah* with the school chamber choir. It was a very emotional experience, and a great honour for all to be involved. Saturday saw everyone enjoy a well-earned rest, after an incredibly busy and intense couple of days, walking many kilometres a day, rehearsing, changing in and out of costumes, and trying out local cuisine ... The choir and staff took the tram from their accommodation in La Laguna to the Lido in Santa Cruz for everyone to relax by the pool and have a well-earned ice cream. This was a fantastic taste of what it is to be a professional musician and work on tour as part of a chamber choir.

Jane Bowen-Melfi, Head of Music & Susie Cooke, EAL Coordinator

Art Students get inspired at Goodwood Art Foundation

Year 7 and 8 students from Art Club were given the honour of being among the first visitors to the Goodwood Art Foundation (on the former site of Cass Sculpture Foundation) during their press launch. Students were able to explore the beautiful natural surroundings that the new Foundation has to offer, alongside artworks by world renowned artists that sparked curiosity and discussion. The students were treated to a workshop to trial an element of the schools' program which will start next academic year. Working in groups they were given creative freedom to construct their own artworks and use embossing techniques to play with negative space.



All the students had a fantastic time and left feeling inspired and enriched. We highly recommend you pay it a visit! Watch out for the students work on their website and our instagram!

Photo credits: Rachel Whiteread, Down and Up (2024 - 2025), Courtesy Goodwood Art Foundation / Photo: Toby Adamson

Laurelly Thorpe, Team Leader of Art

House Drama Finals 2025

Bishop Luffa's House Drama Festival was a huge success again this year with a varied showcase of work achieved across all eight Houses. All students involved showed great commitment to their House to come together and put on a play. The finalists were, King House with 'Kes', Burrows House with 'Winnie the Pooh' Sherborne House with 'The Gruffalo' and Andrewes House with 'Peter Pan'.



The Festival is a celebration of performance work with Sixth Formers directing students from Years 7-10 in a short play as part of a competition judged by a professional from the theatre industry.

Our judge this year was Sophie Hobson. Sophie is the Creative Associate at Chichester Festival Theatre, having previously worked at the RSC as their Learning Programme Manager. Before this Sophie was a freelancer both as a workshop facilitator and actor, working at the National, Polka Theatre, Stephen Joseph and the Old Vic, among others. Sophie's feedback recognised the very high standard of performance work achieved by all four finalists.

The overall winner was King House with 'Kes', a play following the story of a neglected boy, who is bullied and abused but finds solace and purpose in raising a kestrel chick. Through this bond he discovers a sense of belonging and finds an escape from his bleak reality. It is a timeless story portraying the struggles of adolescence, and about the importance of focus and purpose. King House directors were Olivia Dickens and Asha Christie-Verma from 12King.



The Tech of the Year was awarded to Austin Belderson (10Wilson) and Nathan White (9Ridgeway) for their professional approach to lighting over the year.



It was a wonderful evening of Bishop Luffa Drama with a great response from the audience and tension during the judge's feedback at the end.

Nicky Furnell, Team Leader of Drama



National Schools Sailing Championships

A report from Ari Hayman (8Andrewes) from the National Schools Sailing Championships at Itchenor Sailing Club

“The School Sailing Championships were a great event that really boosted my confidence sailing a Feva in strong winds, and it was fun to be able to represent my school. We arrived at Itchenor Sailing Club on Sunday with our Fevas – the type of dinghy we were sailing – and, after putting our boats away, we went home before returning early on Monday morning. On Monday and Tuesday, we had a briefing – which explained how the event would run – and were given a free snack before heading out on the water. At first, I was quite nervous because it was gusting over 20 knots (around 23 mph), but I soon came to enjoy it, and my crew and I had lots of fun.”



“We completed six races in total – three each day – with 86 boats competing, seven of which were from Luffa. The highest-placed Luffa team came 16th: Isla Hill and Lucy Pitts. There were lots of capsizes, but overall, everyone had a great time! After sailing, we had pasta before heading home – with some of us sailing back to Bosham on Tuesday.

“The students who took part were Ollie Fillery (7Andrewes), Dylan Allen (7Andrewes), Orla Jones (9Story), Alice King (9Burrows), Tom Mealing (9Otter), Ted Probee (9King), Isla Hill (10Otter), Lucy Pitts (10Sherborne), Noah Chisnall (9King), Henry Fraser (9King), Benjy Gardner (10Otter), Zac Robst (10Wilson), Oscar Stephens (7Story), Oliver Rutter (7Story), George Phillips (10Andrewes), Ben Stewart (10Andrewes), Olaf Storton (10Ridgeway), Freddie Wakeling (10Wilson), Ollie Robst (9Wilson), Louie Faulkner (9Sherborne), Ari Hayman (8Andrewes) and Sienna Weller (8Andrewes). All in all, School’s Week was an amazing opportunity, and I think I speak for the whole Bishop Luffa Sailing Team when I say that we all had a lot of fun.”

Following the River Lavant

In June Year 10 students swapped their classroom desks for wellie boots and clipboards as they embarked on an exciting field trip following the course of the River Lavant. The visit was part of their GCSE Geography and focused on the changing river characteristics down its course. The students conducted fieldwork in and out of the river at various sites from the source at East Dean to the mouth at Chichester Harbour. They developed some good fieldwork skills and clearly enjoyed being outside in nature on a sunny day. We’re incredibly proud of how well the Year 10 Geographers conducted themselves – showing a geographer’s mindset, teamwork and plenty of enthusiasm.

Megs Wilburn, Team Leader of Geography



Bishop Luffa Intermediate Girls Shine at ESAA Track & Field Cup

In June Bishop Luffa School's Intermediate Girls Athletics Team competed in the ESAA Track and Field Cup A Final at Medway Park. Against strong competition from across the South East, the girls delivered a spirited and impressive performance to place 7th overall with 389 points, this was a 20-point improvement from their country round qualifier and a remarkable achievement at this elite level. Held under bright summer skies and warm temperatures, the girls rose to the occasion with some outstanding individual performances and a powerful team effort across all events. The event brought together top-performing schools from across the country, and our girls did not disappoint.



The team saw several individual successes, with Elodie Hill (10King) delivering the highest-scoring event of the day for Bishop Luffa with an outstanding 1500m time of 4:53.0, earning 30 points ranking 3rd on the day with Isabella Lendrum (9Burrows) closely behind in 3rd with a time of 4:56.0 scoring 29 points. In the hammer throw Anna Wyatt (9Otter) threw an excellent 30.80m to score 23 points, while Kate Horgan (10King) impressed in the 100m with a time of 13.7, adding 19 points to the tally. However, athlete of the day for Bishop Luffa was Elodie Hill as she backed up her outstanding 1500m time with 9.12m in the triple jump amassing a huge 46 points for the team! Every athlete played a crucial role in the team's success, both on the track and in the field, and the camaraderie and support among the team members was a credit to the school. Despite the pressure of the regional stage, the Bishop Luffa Intermediate Girls handled the day with determination and pride. We were thrilled with their performance and look forward to more success in the future.

Tim Godfray, Team Leader of PE and Ellen Unitt, Teacher of PE



A Fairer View of History

The School was fortunate to host a display on the little-known Chichester Suffragist, Madge Turner. Although the national campaign for votes for women is well known, local campaigners have often been overlooked. The Chichester Women's History Group organised an exhibition highlighting Madge's local links, and the wider local campaign for the vote (including an airship bound for Westminster!). After some time at the University of Chichester and Chichester College, we were the first school to host the exhibition, and

helped ensure that we shone a light onto an often-overlooked part of history. This complemented work that Year 8 and Year 9 undertook at the start of the Autumn term on women's history and 'forgotten history', creating a fuller, more inclusive picture of this nation's past.

Justin Barnett, Head of Humanities

TeenTech Finals 2025



The prestigious TeenTech Final 2025 was held at IET Savoy Place, London, where 1,458 student projects from across the country were submitted for consideration. Of these, only 148 were selected to be showcased at the national award ceremony — a remarkable achievement in itself. Bishop Luffa School submitted five entries this year, with Year 7 student Harry Bonney from 7 Ridgeway being selected as one of the finalists. Harry's innovative project featured a biometric steering wheel designed to improve road safety and to enhance the overall driving experience. His design aimed to save lives by integrating cutting-edge safety features, showing remarkable vision and creativity.

Throughout the day, Harry represented Bishop Luffa School with enthusiasm and professionalism, presenting his project to industry specialists and a panel of expert judges. He was awarded a 'Thinking Big and Bold' certificate in recognition of his innovative approach. The high-

light of the event came during the final awards ceremony, where Harry was announced as the joint winner of the 'Future of Transport' category. This is an outstanding accomplishment, especially for a young Year 7 student competing against much older students and entries from independent and private schools nationwide. A huge congratulations to Harry for his impressive achievement and for representing Bishop Luffa School with pride and excellence. Well done!

James Bonney, Head of Design & Technology

Smugglers Ahoy!

As part of their work on the swashbuckling 19th century smuggling adventure story *Moonfleet*, my Year 7 English class were transported back in time at Chichester's Novium Museum. The workshop focused on Chichester's rich history of pirates and smugglers and was both educational and entertaining, with an array of displays that brought the past to life. One of the highlights was a short video that gave a dramatic overview of how a terrifying band of local south coast smugglers operated along our coastline. The infamous Hawkhurst Gang have certainly left their mark: from a gibbet in Selsey, to the Smuggler's Stone on the Broyle Road, both serving as a reminder of the harsh punishments for smugglers.



We also took part in several interactive group tasks, including looking at authentic clothing worn by smugglers, complete with secret pockets in coats and false heels in shoes. The museum also featured a collection of silks, lace, a leather cat-o'-nine-tails and other artefacts — the most unusual being a beautiful compressed and embossed block of tea; at the time, the most efficient way to transport loose tea from China. The trip was a fascinating insight into the daring and dangerous lives of pirates and smugglers, and it made our local history feel vivid and exciting. So, next time you're in and around Brandy Hole Lane, have a think about whose footsteps you're walking in!

Jas Stone, Teacher of English

Picture This! A Snapshot of Creative Brilliance!

House Photography 2025 Highlights Creative Talent at Bishop Luffa.

This academic year students and staff were encouraged to submit entries to three photo competitions. Based loosely around the seasons, we had *The Beauty of Autumn* to start, followed by *Blossoms, Blooms and New Beginnings* for Spring, finishing with *City, Coast and Country* for Summer. All entries were printed and displayed outside the Bartlett Hall.



All eight Houses were fully represented and there were an impressive number of entries which demonstrated an outstanding level of skill and creativity. The quality of submissions was exceptional, with each photographer bringing a unique vision and interpretation to the themes.

What stood out most was the inventive use of composition and the diversity of perspectives captured—ranging from bold, dramatic imagery to subtle, thought-provoking scenes. The variety of subjects and styles made for a visually rich experience, making the judging process both inspiring and hugely challenging.

Well done to everyone who contributed!

Jas Stone, Head of Otter House

Bringing Classroom Learning to Life

Year 8 Geography Students enjoyed a day at West Wittering Beach to bring to life classroom learning on coastal landforms and coastal management.

Armed with ranging poles, clinometers, tape measures and plant identification sheets, students worked brilliantly in teams to carry out a transect across the sand dunes to see how they change with distance from the sea. Drawing on the expertise of the Chichester Harbour Conservancy staff, students also examined coastal management strategies used to protect West Wittering from erosion and flooding and students discussed the pros and cons of groynes, beach nourishment, sand dune regeneration and rip rap. After lunch students worked in teams to create some wonderful sand dune sculptures which they expertly presented to a panel of judges. The knowledge they had gained and the creativity they showed was great to see.



Throughout the day, students impressed staff with their enthusiasm, teamwork, and thoughtful questions. The weather was mostly kind, the views were beautiful, and despite some sandy shoes, everyone returned with a much deeper understanding of coastal geography!

Megs Wilburn, Team Leader of Geography

Red Arrows Rocket Over Races at Bishop Luffa

This year's Sports Day at Bishop Luffa was a truly unforgettable event, packed with record-breaking performances, vibrant House spirit, and a thrilling finale as Ridgeway and Wilson were crowned joint overall winners after ratification of the results.

From the moment the Red Arrows soared overhead in a breath-taking flyover towards the end of proceedings, there was a real sense of excitement in the air. The sun shone brightly throughout the day, adding to the energy and colour brought by students proudly wearing their House-coloured tops and face paint. Whether competing, cheering or helping to run events, every corner of the school field was filled with enthusiasm and teamwork.

In a day filled with fierce but friendly competition, eight school records were broken, a testament to the incredible talent and determination of our athletes. Record breakers included:

- Marnie Powell (8Wilson) – new record in the 150m.
- Reuben Shewan (9Wilson) – records in both the 200m and 400m.
- Elodie Hill (10King) – beat the record that had sat since 2018 by two tenths of a second in the 1500m.
- Sophia Haskins (8Otter) – set a new best in the triple jump.
- Lukas Mikolatis (10Wilson) – delivered a standout performance in the boys' multi-event within a very competitive field.

The results across year groups reflected strong performances across all Houses. Year 7 was won by Sherborne, Year 8 by Wilson, Year 9 by Otter, and Year 10 by Ridgeway. After all points were tallied, Ridgeway and Wilson emerged as joint overall winners of Sports Day 2025 – a fitting end to a day defined by close competition and House pride.

More than just a sporting event, Sports Day brought the whole school community together. The support from students, staff, and families on the side-lines created an atmosphere of unity and encouragement. Whether setting records or simply giving it their all, every student contributed to a memorable day.

Congratulations to everyone and thank you to everyone who helped make the day such a success. Here's to an even bigger and better Sports Day next year!

Tim Godfray, Team Leader of PE



Codebreakers for a Day: Year 10s Dive into Computing History!



Year 10 GCSE Computer Science students swapped the classroom for a trip to Bletchley Park, the top-secret home of WWII codebreakers.

The day started off with a "Breaking Lorenz" workshop. While many have heard of Enigma, our students learned about the even tougher Lorenz cipher, used by German High Command. They got stuck into some of the clever thinking the original codebreakers used, even applying binary and XOR logic – key parts of their GCSE course – to understand

how the fiendish code was cracked. After a quick stop for lunch, students explored the historic site, soaking up the atmosphere in the famous codebreaking huts. A real highlight was the "Age of AI" exhibition, which brilliantly connects the pioneering work of the past to the technology that's shaping our future.

The trip ended at the National Museum of Computing. It was amazing to see the world's largest collection of working historic computers. Seeing the rebuilt Colossus – the world's first electronic computer – and a functional Bombe machine in action really brought the story to life. It was a great way to see how computing has evolved from giant, secret machines into the technology we use every day.



It was a brilliant day that connected the dots between their lessons and the real world. Seeing the birthplace of modern computing has left everyone feeling inspired!

Helen Williams, Team Leader of Computer Science

Latinists visit Bignor Roman Palace



In July the Year 8 Latinists went to Bignor Roman Villa. Under threatening skies that produced the occasional shower, we had a fascinating tour of the mosaics and artefacts by a former Bishop Luffa student, then students worked through a number of activities and translated myths that related to the images in the villa.

The weather turned clement for our picnic on the grass and we enjoyed the stunning views and the sheer delight of having this extraordinary site all to ourselves.

Chloë Barnett, Teacher of Latin

Bishop Luffa Green Power F24 Team Powers to Podium Finish at Blyton Park

The Bishop Luffa Green Power F24 team hit the road once again in July for the second heat of the racing season, this time heading to the fast and technical Blyton Park circuit, just north of Lincoln. With temperatures high and competition fierce, the team proved their resilience, focus, and engineering excellence. The race event began with a lengthy but excited journey up north. The evening was spent on a cultural walk around the historic city of Lincoln, where the team soaked in the stunning sights of Lincoln Cathedral and Castle, taking time to relax and discuss race tactics ahead of race day.



Race day kicked off with an early breakfast and final car checks. The team's vehicle, *Mercury*, was race-ready thanks to the dedication and technical skills of the student engineers - Luke Pendry (9Ridgeway), Joe Chisnall (10King) and Lucas Barty (10King). With two intense races on the agenda, the team knew they needed precision, speed, and strategy. In both races, the Bishop Luffa team showed incredible teamwork and determination with drivers Mylo Boarer (8King), Harry Bonney (7Ridgeway) and AJ Lewendon (7Ridgeway) tackling the demanding corners of Blyton Park with confidence. The result? An impressive 3rd place overall finish, earning them a well-

deserved spot on the podium and valuable confidence towards the F24 finals being held at Goodwood race circuit in October. It was a long and hot day, but the team's hard work paid off. The drive home was filled with celebration and pride, knowing their efforts had secured another success in an increasingly competitive season. A huge congratulations to all involved – drivers, pit crew, engineers, and supporting staff, Mr & Mrs Bonney – for representing Bishop Luffa School with such enthusiasm and professionalism.

James Bonney, Head of Design & Technology

Inspiring our Student Leaders

A group of young leaders from across the Bishop Luffa learning Partnership had the opportunity to attend our second biennial Young Collective Worship Leaders Conference. This is an event co-designed by our students and clergy team to empower and inspire student leaders. Held at Chichester Baptist Church, the conference brought together students from schools across the partnership to share ideas and develop their leadership gifts and skills. Over the course of the day, students participated in interactive workshops led by our chaplain, clergy team, staff and student leaders. They also had the privilege of listening to our inspiring keynote speaker, the Bishop of Horsham, Ruth Bushyager who particularly challenged and guided us in exploring our theme of 'Story' and linking to our key verse from Micah 6:8.

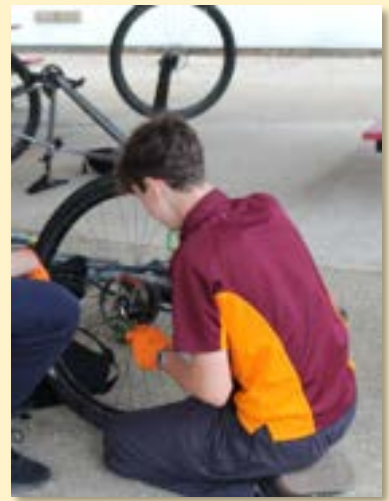


Our students returned with fresh ideas and renewed motivation to lead with confidence, compassion, and creativity. "A different experience from a normal school day that helped give me confidence to take back when leading both in school and out," said one of the students. We are proud of the students for leading and participating in their conference with enthusiasm and maturity.

Angela Smith, Assistant Head Teacher – Spiritual Direction

Enrichment & Enterprise Day

During the Summer term we held our Enrichment/Enterprise Day which ran alongside House Drama. All the students were involved in lots of activities. Year 7 and 8 had a School Games Day organised by the PE department, with the students choosing sports such as table tennis, tennis, stoolball, softball and ultimate frisbee. They competed in a mixed year group round robin style tournament, playing the other Houses. All of the points from the day were added to the overall Sports Cup. Year 9 had subject-based careers talks with a wide range of external speakers coming in to talk to students about possible career paths.



Year 10 enjoyed an Enterprise Day run by Adam Corbally, a finalist on The Apprentice in 2012. The Enterprise Day challenge inspired students to think creatively, develop teamwork, learn new listening and speaking skills, and explore the world of business. The students worked in teams to develop a business idea which they presented to a panel of judges. Students were also involved in wellbeing activities throughout the day ranging from clay modelling, playing board games, textiles, cooking, pond dipping and bike maintenance.

Cup Winners and Head Teacher Awards

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

- The Sparx Cup for Maths went to Burrows House;
- The Sports Cup, which combines all of the Interhouse competition, went to Ridgeway;
- The Sports Day Trophy had joint overall winners – Ridgeway and Wilson;
- The Alternative Sports Day Trophy went to Oliver Smith in 8Ridgeway;



And the big one..... the House Cup... went to **STORY HOUSE!!**

The Head Teacher Awards for the most House points in each year and House went to:

Andrewes – Ari Hayman	Burrows – Megan Crow
King – Ada Coates	Otter – Fatema Bhuiyan
Ridgeway – Amber Huggins	Sherborne & Year 7 – Molly Bye
Story & Year 8 – Noah Bulbeck	Wilson – Lucia Clark
Year 9 – Joshua Spencer	Year 10 – Ben Thompson

The Karen Goding Memorial Trophy for Contribution to Music went to Tilly Goodband (10Andrewes). The Sherlock Award which is awarded to the House with the most points received in the various writing competitions run by Ms Machado was won by Story House.

BISHOP LUFFA

SIXTH FORM



News

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A'Level Success for Bishop Luffa Students

Six Bishop Luffa students managed something that every Olympic athlete attempts but few manage – to get the gold medal in every event that they enter. These six students scooped a remarkable 20 A* grades between them! Gwen Sargent and Max Sydenham achieved 4 A*s each, whilst Manka Vecsei, Jess Jameson, Alice Pendry and Dougal Rattray each achieved 3 A* grades. Gwen, Max and Dougal are all now off to Bristol University, which is proving to be one of the most highly sought-after universities for Bishop Luffa students. Manka will be taking up a place at Jesus College, Cambridge; Alice will be reading Natural Sciences at Durham University and Jess will be applying to study Medicine in 2025.



Bucking Trends: Many Bishop Luffa students are bucking a national trend by studying for degrees in Arts subjects, including Spencer Dixon, who is studying Musical Theatre at Italia Conti and Caitlin Waldron and Olivia Baggott, who are studying Dance at Trinity Laban Conservatoire and Bath Spa respectively. Jamie Saunders, Bishop Luffa's Head of Sixth Form, was not surprised that students were continuing with subjects that are seeing their numbers drop nationally. "At Bishop Luffa we believe in encouraging our students to follow their passions. We have kept courses running that are in danger of dying out in school Sixth Forms, such as Music,

Dance, DT, Latin and German. Our students can choose from a broad curriculum, with 32 different courses on offer. This helps them when they are interviewing for universities and higher-level apprenticeships, as the passion they have for their subject shines through."

IT Apprentices: While these students were in Year 12, the school suffered a ransomware attack. Two Bishop Luffa students, Max Holben and Theo Lane, helped the Police investigate the attack and went on to win Chief Constable's medals, one of the highest civilian awards. Max and Theo have now completed their A-levels and will be starting apprenticeships in IT in September. Helen Williams, Head of Computing, said 'when the attack happened, Max and Theo were able to put what they had learnt into practice. This showed them that a more practical approach to learning suited them. We are starting to see more students valuing the apprenticeship route to a degree.'



Everyone Matters: Head Teacher Austen Hindman was full of praise for students whose future plans involve caring for others. 'Our school motto is "always our best because everyone matters". It is a source of deep pride to see that Manka Vecsei, Lucy Campbell and Ellie Collison will be studying Medicine, while Cassie Bailey and Bea Wason are studying Nursing and Midwifery respectively. We also have Olivia Ebbutt and Alice Roberts leaving to study Veterinary Medicine. These impressive young people already know that helping others, although tough, can be ultimately more rewarding than focusing on yourself.'



Mr Hindman went on to praise the year group as a whole: 'These students have grown up with the pressure of social media, Covid lockdowns and the cost-of-living crisis. It is hard enough to be a teenager without these extra burdens. They have shown resilience and empathy in their time at school and have been a pleasure to teach. As well as studying, they also raised over £25k for our school charities and many visited Tanzania in Year 12, where they were helping to build beds for children who had only ever slept on mud-floors. I wonder how many adults had achieved so much by the same age, and all while being told that they are "snowflakes"! We hope that they remain inquisitive and have no doubt that they will leave the world a better place than they found it.'

Amazing Results in the Senior Maths Challenge

In October 35 Bishop Luffa students took part in the 2024 edition of the UKMT Senior Maths Challenge. An annual tradition here in the Mathematics department, we offer the chance for A'Level students to take part in the Challenge; it is a 90-minute feast of high-level problem solving and application of the skills the students learn during their A-level studies. Each year candidates begin with a stock of 25 points, and there are 25 questions

carrying identical marking tariffs: 4 points for a correct answer, 0 points for a blank, and the dreaded -1 point for a wrong answer, meaning that students can score as much as $25 + (25 \times 4) = 125$ points.



The Senior Maths Challenge attracts hundreds of thousands of students, and this year the turnout was 650,000 students from across the whole of the UK, so our 35 candidates were part of a huge sea of other bright, hungry mathematicians, all champing at the bit to demonstrate their brilliant mathematics skills by doing battle with the Challenge. Incredibly, from our 35 candidates, we came away with 25 medals: 10 bronze, 10 silver, and 5 gold. Our medallists for 2024 are:

- Bronze: Theo Allport, Aaron Dunne, Isabelle Frere-Smith, Logan Morris, Anna Stangroom, Yehor Vysotskyi, Veronika Zavarzina, Nikita Barabash, Ayotola Beckley, Samuel McCallum.
- Silver: Hannah Carr, Zuki Hall, Ethan Hill, Harrison Blackmore-Squires, Joshua Cusack, Charlotte Hatton, Lily Hine, Holly Mitchell, Matthew Ritchie, Zoe Smyth.
- Gold: James Quail, Ella Stearne, Alex Wilburn, James Morrow, Grace Zheng.

On top of this, all five of our gold medallists posted strong enough scores to be invited to the next phase of the competition – the Andrew Jobbings 'Kangaroo'. Finally, and most incredibly of all, James Quail scored a remarkable 120 points from a possible 125, and qualified for the first round of the British Mathematical Olympiad. The Olympiad is the highest-level mathematics competition in the UK, success at which leads to invitation to international-level events. A wonderfully successful year at the Senior Maths Challenge!

Damien Clarke, Head of KS5 Maths and Matt Healy, Acting Head of Maths

The Shape of Things

Year 12 students went on a fantastic trip to Ochre print studios in Guildford, where they experimented with dry point etching and screen printing. This is in response to their artist residency at Pallant House Gallery where they have been investigating the work of an artist of their choice from the exhibition. They have developed their own responses to the theme '*The Shape of Things*' and the photos are some examples of their brilliant work from the day.



Laurelly Thorpe, Team Leader of Art

Sixth Form Open Evening

In October we welcomed visitors to the school to find out more about our fantastic Sixth Form and all that it has to offer. The school teaches a huge range of subjects at A'Level and the evening was a great way for us to showcase all that is available.



Year 12 Residential a Great Success

The Year 12 residential to Château Broutel in northern France was a great success. The Sixth Form team had the pleasure of taking students on a journey that encouraged new friendships and personal growth.

Each and every student truly embraced the spirit of the trip. They participated wholeheartedly in a range of team games and outdoor activities, finding joy and camaraderie in the simplest of experiences and challenges. It was inspiring to watch them support each other, laugh together, and make connections that we hope will last well into the future.



The staff at Château Broutel expressed their admiration for our students, describing them as the best group they have ever hosted. This praise is a testament to the students' enthusiasm, respectfulness, and kindness towards one another and those around them. They represented our school with pride and made us, their teachers, incredibly proud.



We are confident that this experience has had a positive impact on each student, leaving them with treasured memories and friendships that will enrich their Sixth Form journey and beyond.

Jamie Saunders, Head of Sixth Form

Economists agree that Gold is Heavy!

Our Year 13 Economists visited the Bank of England Museum in London. Such a museum is obviously highly relevant to their studies, and as well as touring the museum (and agreeing that the gold bar they were able to try and lift was indeed valuable and indeed heavy!) they were fortunate to attend a presentation by a member of the museum's staff. The talk outlined the Bank's history, and its role in the economy, including such complex topics as Quantitative Easing, and Tightening.

In an ever-changing economic situation, such a visit really helps students to visualise some of the institutions and strategies that are used to influence the economy, and which have a significant impact on everyone's lives, whether we realise it or not.



Justin Barnett, Head of Humanities

Sell-Out Sixth Form Fashion Show



The Sixth Form Fashion Show was again a sell-out success. It was amazing and the dancing was incredible. The spirit of the whole event summed up the school's ethos: you could see that everyone mattered, and that is what is wonderful about this annual tradition.

The Fashion show supports three charities: Sussex Snowdrop Trust, Sanctuary Chichester, and Grassroots and raised £15,000 for these fantastic causes. As you can see from the photos the students had great fun!!



Computer Science Students inspired by Cutting-Edge Tech

In November thirteen of our A Level Computer Science students attended the Computer Science in Action event at the Emmanuel Centre, London. This engaging and interactive day featured talks from leading academics and industry experts, offering students an exciting insight into the latest advancements in technology and computer science.

The event began with a thought-provoking session by Professor Matthew Leeke, exploring the evolution of computers and how foundational concepts taught in GCSE and A Level Computer Science underpin today's cutting-edge supercomputers. Dr. Emma Byrne then delved into the complex world of large language models (LLMs), examining how these powerful AI tools are built and the ethical challenges surrounding them.



The importance of good software design was highlighted by Paul Curzon, who shared fascinating examples of how thoughtful programming can prevent human error and save lives, particularly in healthcare. Students were also captivated by Amber Shand's inspiring talk about her unconventional path into the tech industry. With no formal computer science background, Amber learned to code and became an award-winning software engineer, proving that a successful career in tech is accessible to anyone willing to take the leap.

AI affects and relies on us, even when we don't interact with it directly. Students also enjoyed interactive polls, quizzes, and a special workshop designed to boost their exam success. This inspiring trip left our students motivated, curious, and eager to apply their knowledge as they continue their journey in computer science.

Helen Williams, Team Leader of Computer Science

Solicitors visit Year 12 Law Students

At the end of the Autumn term, we were delighted to welcome two guest speakers, Victoria Maxwell and Edward Cooke, to talk to the Year 12 Law classes about their work as Family Mediators and in Surrogacy Law.

They were able to tell us all about their area of expertise but also, what made them choose a career in Law, what they enjoyed about it, and what advice they would give to aspiring Law students. We enjoyed having them with us very much. A huge thank you to both Victoria and Edward for taking the time to come in and see us.



Fiona Langstone, Teacher of Law



Year 12 Historians walk in Henry VIII's footsteps

In January, Year 12 History students spent the day at Hampton Court Palace. As part of their course they study the early Tudors, including Henry VIII, so Hampton Court is incredibly relevant to their work. Students got the opportunity to explore the palace, helping immerse themselves in the intrigues surrounding the Tudor Court. To stand in the room where Henry VIII met his Council, and to stand in a courtyard that Wolsey would have recognised help bring events to life, and can only be helpful for their understanding of the period.

As well as this they also purchased a class mascot, and Thomas CranBear will now grace many of Ms Hurry's Year 12 lessons!

Justin Barnett, Head of Humanities



Sixth Formers get inspired at Media Magazine Conference

The Media Magazine Conference at The British Film Institute was an essential part of our budding Film and Media students' journeys, with six essential talks ranging from the subject of AI, fandom and filmmaking to the topic of YouTubers and newspapers. Within the conference, we all learned that it means to be a part of the industry from all aspects. We had exclusive talks from Chris Hog, Alison Phillips, Hannah Ewens, Harv Frost, Nida Manzoor, and David Hesmondhalgh, all prominent figures in the media industry, encompassing all essential roles such as lecturing, filmmaking and editing a national newspaper.



During each lecture, I observed a significant expansion and growth in mine and my class's understanding of the media industry. This was all very useful and gave everybody insights on what they want to use their Film Studies and Media Studies A-Levels respectively for in the future. We all felt that having a talk directly from Hesmondhalgh came in handy as he is one of the media theorists that we are expected to write about in our exams, so to be able to meet him face to face was something I could never have predicted. One year ago, I was learning about him as if he were a celebrity, and suddenly he was there in front of me. On top of this, getting to meet everybody who spoke was wonderful and gave me some real insight on the types of amazing creatives that I one day hope to be around within the media industry.

Hugo Sheppard (13Otter), Film Studies and Media Studies student

Sixth Form Winter Ball

Our Sixth Form had a fantastic time at their Winter Ball which took place at Fontwell Racecourse at the beginning of 2025.



Politics students attend PolEcon Conference

Sixteen A'Level Politics students attended the Polecon Conference at Methodist Central Hall, London. Attendance was strong as the speakers included Sir Jacob Rees-Mogg, Richard Tice, Emily Thornberry, Daisy Cooper, Sian Berry, Lord 'Alf' Dubs and Alastair Campbell.

Each spoke passionately about their political background, the reasons for their ideas and then (very bravely) took questions from the students.

"America is our ally, not a friend." Jacob Rees-Mogg

Many of the speakers were insightful with their answers and greatly helped our students understand the ideologies behind the people.

"Scottish independence is close." Peter Wishart, SNP

Overall students felt it had been an....

'...amazing opportunity to hear party ideas directly from politicians and was great to (almost) hear direct answers to questions about their voting patterns" and...

"interesting to hear from people with different ideas, never thought I'd agree with Rees-Mogg."

Matt Luff, Teacher of Politics



Film & Media London Residential

During February half term break, our Sixth Form Film Studies and Media Studies students got a taste of the capital, and the culture and creativity on offer on our doorstep. Our first stop was the Tate Modern where - amongst the expected famous works of art - innovative short films and diverse multimedia projects gave our Year 12 learners inspiration ahead of their forthcoming coursework units. Following a meander around Covent Garden, we watched the award-winning musical adaptation of *Back to the Future* with its astonishing staging effects and deft adaptation of Bob Gale and Robert Zemeckis's timeless screenplay (handy for our Year 13 Film students as we are currently studying the shift from New American Cinema to the high concept blockbusters of the 1980s).



After a stroll past Trafalgar Square and Buckingham Palace to London's original Hard Rock Café for dinner, our first day concluded with screenings at the British Film Institute. Each student decided which one of the three films on offer they wanted to watch; these included *Memoir of a Snail*, a Burtonesque Australian animation which is up for Best Animated Film at this year's Oscars, and *I'm Still Here*, the critically acclaimed story of a family's life in 70's Rio under the Brazilian military dictatorship. Each student was enthralled by their choice, and some were visibly moved and deeply affected when we gathered in the lobby afterwards to discuss our picks.

The following day we set off for what was possibly the highlight of the trip: *Vogue: Inventing the Runway*, an audio-visual experience at The Lightroom, a huge immersive space in which moving image is projected on all four walls and the floor. We lined up in a "backstage area" where some of our students indulged at the make-up stations. Then, after getting comfy on one of the Lightroom's many seating areas, the history of Vogue magazine (a product our Year 13 Media students are studying) was told through a collision of images and footage which enveloped the entire space. It was a truly unique experience, topped off by some of our students getting to meet and talk to the staff member who created the entire installation. We finished our residential with a visit to Madam Tussauds, where selfies with film, media and cultural icons were the order of the day. We also took in the newer Marvel and Star Wars exhibits, a reminder of the sustained legacy marketing and cross-promotion methods deployed by Disney, all conglomerates and companies that we investigate in Year 12 Media Studies.



After two days and over 35,000 steps we were done! The students left with a fresh awareness of the myriad ways to enter the film, media and cultural industries and the huge impact the sector has on their lives and futures.

Gareth Evans, Team Leader Film Studies and Media Studies

Fashion & Textiles Students Shine at London's Stitch Festival

In March Year 12 Fashion & Textiles students from Bishop Luffa had an unforgettable experience at The Stitch Festival held at the Business Design Centre, London. The highlight of the day was meeting a *Strictly Come Dancing* director of costume design, Gerald Schwanzer, gaining first-hand insight into the dazzling world of performance wear. Students also took to the



catwalk, showcasing their confidence as they walked in a stunning £20,000 couture dress.



The trip provided a fantastic opportunity for students to enhance their practical skills by participating in a Textiles Skills Centre workshop, where they experimented with innovative techniques and industry trends. A truly inspiring and educational day for all, leaving students motivated for their future in fashion and design!

Amanda Bonney, Teacher of Textiles

Bishop Luffa Sixth Form's Stellar Performance of *Brain Play*

In March the stage of Chichester Festival Theatre's intimate Minerva Theatre was alive with energy, emotion, and thought-provoking performances as Bishop Luffa Sixth Form took part in the National Theatre Connections Festival, performing *Brain Play* directed by Sixth Former Hugo Sheppard. The students' captivating rendition of the play highlighted both the talent within the school and the power of youth theatre in addressing complex, relevant themes.



Brain Play explores relationships and our understanding of self, a topic that resonates strongly with young audiences. The play's unconventional structure, with its rapid shifts in time and perspective, demanded precision and sensitivity from the cast—and Bishop Luffa's performers did not disappoint. The ensemble cast delivered their lines with clarity and confidence, each actor fully embodying their character. The characters' internal struggles were portrayed with nuance, and the cast's ability to transition between moments of humour, vulnerability, and tension demonstrated a maturity beyond their years.

One of the standout features of the production was the creative use of the space. The Minerva Theatre's intimate setting was used to full effect, with the actors engaging directly with the audience at times, making the performance feel immersive and immediate. Director Hugo Sheppard expertly guided the cast, ensuring that the pacing never faltered and that the more abstract aspects of the play were communicated effectively. The careful attention to detail in the direction and design helped elevate the production from a student performance to something truly engaging and professionally executed. Overall, Bishop Luffa Sixth Form's entry in the National Theatre Connections Festival was a triumph. The students' passion, dedication, and impressive performances made this an unforgettable evening of theatre.

Nicky Furnell, Team Leader of Drama

Charity Week 2025

Charity Week is a long-standing Bishop Luffa tradition led by the Sixth Form, raising money for our three Sixth Form charities – Sanctuary in Chichester, Grassroots and The Sussex Snowdrop Trust.

As well as the legendary 'Battle of the Bands' there were various lunchtime events, including 'Sumo Wrestling', 'Man vs Food', 'Teacher Lip-Sync Battle' and 'Fashion Show Reboot'.

A big thank you to everyone who supported Charity Week 2025. The lunchtime events were great fun and it was fantastic to see so many students and staff embracing the spirit of the Fancy Dress Day with such enthusiasm and creativity!



Law Students visit Portsmouth Magistrates Court



In May the A'Level Law class went to Portsmouth Magistrates Court. We were hosted by two Magistrates, JP Stone and JP Latham, who had been in to see us earlier in the year to talk about the role of Magistrates in the Criminal Justice System.

Our hosts spoke to us between cases to give us context and the 'insider perspective'. We witnessed eight cases which ranged from shoplifting to breaking bail conditions. It was really interesting to see the various professionals at work and exciting to see all the law we have been studying come to life.

Year 12 Product Design Students Shine at Goodwoof 2025

Goodwoof 2025 proved to be an unforgettable experience for our Year 12 A'Level Product Design students. Back in the autumn term our students ventured on their own Barkitecture project within school - where creativity meets canine comfort! Following on from their own projects, students were offered the opportunity to attend Goodwoof 2025.

Hosted in the beautiful grounds of Goodwood, the event brought together design professionals, dog lovers, and aspiring creators. Students had the incredible opportunity to meet and gain inspiration from renowned British designer, writer, and television presenter Kevin McCloud, who offered insight and encouragement on design ideas.



Throughout the day, students engaged with industry experts, explored innovative approaches to animal architecture, from stylish kennels to functional outdoor dog spaces, and most importantly, had plenty of opportunities to interact with some very enthusiastic four-legged guests.

With the sun shining and the creative ideas flowing, it was a fantastic day of learning, inspiration, and celebration of design in a real-world context. A huge well done to our students for representing Bishop Luffa School with such professionalism and enthusiasm.

James Bonney, Head of Design Technology



Success in Textiles Skills Centre Competition

Following an inspiring visit to *The Stitch Festival* in London, Year 12 A-Level Fashion & Textiles student Amy Parfoot (12Ridgeway) has achieved fantastic success in a national competition hosted by the *Textiles Skills Centre* in collaboration with Janome UK. During the school trip, Amy took part in a hands-on workshop run by the *Textiles Skills Centre*, which offered students the chance to qualify for their exclusive competition. Thanks to her creativity and skill, Amy was selected as a winner and received an incredible goody bag packed with high-quality textiles tools and equipment. This generous prize will support Amy as she continues her A-Level Fashion & Textiles course, and we're incredibly proud of her achievement. Well done, Amy!



James Bonney, Head of Design & Technology

Year 13 enjoy a lovely Last Day!



Year 13 students were able to celebrate their last day of formal lessons in style before their A-level exams began. The sun shone as everyone enjoyed a BBQ and a visit from an ice cream van.

We were honoured to have representatives from our three Sixth Form charities attend: Diana Levantine (Chairperson and Co-Founder of *The Sussex Snowdrop*

Trust), Evie Owen (Schools Liaison Lead for *The Sanctuary* in Chichester) and Rob Goldsmith (for *Grassroots, Tanzania*). Cheques for a third of the record-breaking sum raised by the Sixth Form this year through the Fashion Show and Charity Week were presented, with Evie commenting that she wanted students to 'see the direct impact this money has on our beneficiaries. We have traumatised children turning up with no English and little education. As I always say, they are their families' future so we must do all we can to help them thrive. I will ensure that this money is directed towards this goal.'

Head Teacher awards were also presented by Mr Hindman to the following students for their outstanding contributions to the school community and the Arts: Aaron Butters and Matilda Jeffers (our School Captains) plus Ed Bromell, Tilly Groves and Lola Hart.

Nika Muravets was also awarded the newly-created 'Bishop Luffa International Scholarship', recognising the hardship she has overcome to achieve so highly academically and to help support her financially at university. The Sixth Form Committee also received thank you gifts and a raucous round of applause for their excellent year, leading and managing a wide range of Sixth Form and whole-school events and activities. Finally, humorous 'Yearbook Awards 2025' were presented with prizes for highly sought-after accolades such as 'Most Likely to Teach at Luffa', 'Most Likely to be First Out on the Dance Floor' and 'Worst at Parking', each recipient being knighted and given a unique certificate.



Jamie Saunders, Head of Sixth Form

Year 12 Committee Training Day

In June, myself and the fourteen other members of the new Sixth Form Committee participated in a training day at Chichester Yacht club. On this training day, we took part in a variety of engaging and fun activities - such as studying different styles of leadership - as well as growing closer as a committee due to the team building exercises.

We also started planning our schedule for the upcoming academic year, with

events such as the wonderful Charity Week, iconic Sixth Form Fashion Show, the stunning Summer and Winter Balls for Sixth Form, as well as several new and exciting social events for the school.

We are very pleased to have learnt so many new skills and to have made such good progress on planning events to make sure that the next school year is engaging, fun, and enjoyable for all students.

Joel Blamire (12Wilson), Chair of Sixth Form Committee



A Night to Remember: Year 13 Leavers' Ball at Chichester Yacht Club

On a cloudy but memorable evening, our wonderful Year 13 students came together for one final celebration at the stunning Chichester Yacht Club – a fitting venue for such a special occasion. The Leavers' Ball marked the end of their school journey and the beginning of exciting new chapters.

Although the skies were grey, spirits were high as students arrived dressed in elegant gowns and sharp suits, ready to make lasting memories with their classmates and teachers. Laughter, music, and the unmistakable buzz of celebration filled the air as everyone enjoyed a night of dining, dancing, and heartfelt goodbyes.

There was a bittersweet atmosphere as we said farewell to a year group that has been such a valued part of our school community. Their energy, kindness, and determination have left a lasting impression, and it has been a true honour to have taught and supported them throughout their time with us.

We will miss them dearly, but we are so proud of all they have achieved. We wish every one of them the very best of luck. We know they will go on to do incredible things. To the Class of 2025 – thank you for the memories. You will always be part of our school family.

Jamie Saunders, Head of Sixth Form



Army Whip New Sixth Form Recruits into Shape!

We were delighted to welcome our new-to-Luffa Year 11 students for a fun and engaging team-building day. This year, the Army ran a varied carousel of challenges—some more fun than others!—designed to build confidence, teamwork, and resilience. As you'll see from the photos, all students got stuck in despite the heat. During the break, they enjoyed drinks and snacks in the Sixth Form Centre, where they mingled with current Year 12s.



We ended the day with food on the green—sunshine, shade, and lots of conversation. It was fantastic to see new connections beginning to form and, hopefully, the first steps toward new friendships that will help ease the transition to Sixth Form life.

Stella Richi, Deputy Head of Sixth Form



Students Explore Cutting-Edge Technology at Goodwood Festival of Speed

On an exceptionally hot day in July Year 12 A-Level Product Design students and members of the Bishop Luffa GreenPower team had the fantastic opportunity to attend the world-renowned Goodwood Festival of Speed.

The trip offered students the chance to explore cutting-edge future technologies, witness racing car development, and gain insight into innovation within car manufacturing and design. From electric super-cars to advanced engineering concepts, students were immersed in the very latest developments across the automotive and technology sectors. Despite the intense heat, it was a hugely enjoyable and inspiring day for all involved. Students returned with fresh ideas and a deeper appreciation of the real-world application of design and technology.

James Bonney, Head of Design & Technology



Year 12 Students Support the Work of Grassroots in Tanzania

Year 12 students travelled to Mbeya in Tanzania in July to support the work of the charity *Grassroots*. This involved bed making, school visits, supporting the food programme and delivering chickens!! Before embarking on the trip Holly Wilburn in 12Otter found out that girls in the village they would be visiting were not allowed to go to school when they had their periods. They were told that this was because of the lack of sanitary products, but Holly and her friends suspected that there might be a different reason.

Holly then raised enough money to buy one hundred sets of washable sanitary products. She and her friends met with teenage girls in the village and gave them the kits and showed them how to use them. Teenage girl to teenage girl, they made equality possible and changed a hundred lives.





*Always our best,
because everyone
matters*



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