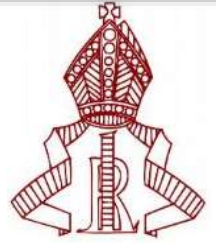


Bishop Luffa School

2024-2025 Issue 6

July 2025



Dear friends of Bishop Luffa School,

For a long time now, the summer term has meant the Tanzania trip. I wanted to share something from this trip with you, as I think that it shows you that our future is in safe-hands.

We talk a lot in school about equality and opportunity, but often simple actions are more powerful than words. Ahead of this year's 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.

This month was the 60th anniversary of the Queen Mother opening Bishop Luffa's brand new building. Miss Marples, the original Deputy Head, said that the school was intended to be 'a Christian environment where our duty to God and others was paramount' and that this made the school 'a studious caring community from the beginning'. I think that Holly's actions show that this sentiment is still alive at Bishop Luffa School. I also think that it is on display through-out our newsletter, as you get a glimpse into the lives of some amazing young people. I hope you enjoy reading about them!

Have a great summer,

Austen Hindman
Head Teacher.

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.



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

Bishop Luffa vs MCC Cricket Match

On 22nd 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

Year 12 Committee Training Day

On the 3rd of 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

Sporting Achievements

Congratulations to the following students who have been taking part in Sports events outside of school.

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



Congratulations to Reuben Shewan (9Wilson) who 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. Perhaps 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 means he is invited to ESAA Regional Combined Event Championships. Well done Reuben!



On Saturday 14th 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.

Huge congratulations to Jack Slade (8Story), who has taken 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. The weather wasn't always on their side with several hours of rain and a whole day riding into a stiff head wind, nor was his bike (a mountain bike) optimal for a long road trip, but Jack's indomitable spirit saw him through the 328 miles. Jack had a riot-affected morning of sightseeing in Paris before returning to London, this time on the Eurostar!



Having completed the IOCA Spring Championships and IOCA Selection Trials 2025, Oscar Stephens (7Story) has been selected to represent Great Britain at the Irish Optimist National Championships in August. This is a four-day event at Lough Ree Yacht Club, Ireland. What a fantastic achievement – well done Oscar!

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 an amazing achievement with only 18 females and 18 males from the 13-year age category being selected each year.



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.



I look forward to seeing the students on Silver next year and there will be a presentation evening in September where they will receive their badges and certificates. Well done to all the students who took part.

**Kat Wells, Duke of Edinburgh
Coordinator**



Celebrating Excellence: KS3 Design & Technology Awards

On the 10th 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 Timblich (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 performance 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. Photos from the event can be found on the school website <https://www.bishopluffa.org.uk/home/student-leadership/photo-gallery/fruition-2025/>

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 beautiful 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.

We would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all the host families that participated in this project. It was a pleasure to spend the week with all of your children and we, the teachers, will also remember this experience for many years to come. We took a lot of pictures and made a lovely video ([please click on this link](#)), we hope you all enjoy it!

Mr Bravo, Mrs Jackson and Mrs López (The Spanish exchange team)

La Diva Tenerife Tour 2025

On Wednesday 11th 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*. In addition, the choir performed their own interpretation of Mozart's *Ave Verum*, Coldplay's *Fix You*, and *City of Stars* from *La La Land*.



On 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 Club gets inspired at Goodwood Art Foundation

During May half term 15 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



National Schools Sailing Championships

A report from Ari Hayman (8Andrewes) about 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.

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 three 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.

Photos from the House Drama Finals can be found on the school website

<https://www.bishopluffa.org.uk/home/student-leadership/photo-gallery/house-drama-finals-2025/> 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

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 A Final

On 19th 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.

This opportunity would not have been possible without the generous support of our sponsors. We are incredibly grateful to Chelsea Flower Show gold medallists *The Little Botanical* and *Barfoot Foods* for sponsoring the team and helping to make this fantastic experience a reality for our students supporting travel and kit costs. Despite the pressure of the regional stage, the Bishop Luffa Intermediate Girls handled the day with determination and pride. We are 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

Enrichment & Enterprise Day

This 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 then 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.



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 highlight 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

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

A Night to Remember: Year 13 Leavers' Ball

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. Photos from the evening can be found on the school website <https://www.bishopluffa.org.uk/sixth-form/student-leadership/photo-gallery/year-13-leavers-ball-2025/>



We will miss them dearly, but we are so proud of all they have achieved. As they await their A-level results this August, 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

Smugglers Ahoy!

As part of their work on the swashbuckling 19th century smuggling adventure story *Moonfleet*, Mrs Stone's 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.

The winners of this Summer's competition were:

- Joint 1st place – Jonah Kus (7King) and Evie Thompson (7Wilson)
- Joint 2nd place – Ada Coates (8King) and Jack Castle (9King)
- Joint 3rd place – Ari Hayman (8Andrewes) and Lucy Green (8Otter)
- Staff Winners – Mr Collins & Mrs Bannister



All the photos from the Summer competition can be found on the school website

<https://www.bishopluffa.org.uk/home/student-leadership/photo-gallery/summer-photography-house-competition-2025/>



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

A Fairer View of History

The School is fortunate to currently be hosting 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 have 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 are the first school to host the exhibition. It will stay with us into the Autumn term, and helps ensure that we shine a light onto an often-overlooked part of history. This will complement work that Year 8 and Year 9 will do next term on women's history and 'forgotten history', aiming to create a fuller, more inclusive picture of this nation's past.

My thanks must go to Chichester Women's History Group for lending us the exhibit, and to Miss Sutton for her hard work in helping to curate the display.

Justin Barnett, Head of Humanities

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 as 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! Photos from the day can be found on the school website <https://www.bishopluffa.org.uk/home/student-leadership/photo-gallery/year-8-geography-trip-to-west-wittering/> A huge thank you to all staff who helped make the trip possible — and to parents and carers for your continued support.

Megs Wilburn, Team Leader of Geography

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 supercars 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

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. Photos from Sports Day can be found on the school website

<https://www.bishopluffa.org.uk/home/student-leadership/photo-gallery/sports-day-2025/>

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!

Recently 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

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 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 – Tuesday 8th July – 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 on Sunday 12th October 2025.

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

Latinists visit Bignor Roman Palace

On Tuesday 15th 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

Inspiring our Student Leaders: Young Collective Worship Leaders' Conference 2025

Earlier this term, 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. She 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. Alongside this, we would like to thank Chichester Baptist Church for kindly providing our

venue and hosting our conference. Our thanks too, to all the amazing clergy and staff who took part in the conference and for their prayer, time and inspiring leadership.

Angela Smith, Assistant Head Teacher – Spiritual Direction

Chicken Club 2024/25

In our second year of having our wonderful hens at school, they and Chicken Club are thriving. Our flock of 20 chickens has helped more than 35 different students have a calmer start to the school day with our morning intervention session. At least 70 different students have come to Chicken Club at lunchtimes throughout the year and 12 students have completed their DofE Volunteering section with us. All students involved have helped take care of the hens and the chickens have provided a safe space for students to relax and enjoy their therapeutic influence. We have also planted hedging and produced lots of beautiful compost. Special thanks go to Ned McCormac (10Ridgeway) and Jack Byrne (8Otter) who have been committed members whatever the weather.



We held the school's first ever Chicken Week in March and that, along with egg sales and three generous donations have helped us raise a total of £3445.28 this school year. Along with money from last year, the run-down brick outbuilding has been converted into a usable storage space for our equipment. We also have the funds to get water to the building and a constant fresh water supply to the hens. Plans for the future involve getting an electricity supply to the outbuilding and the introduction of goats. Fundraising for this will continue next year.

The chickens are being looked after through the summer by 22 different families who have volunteered to come into school to take care of them and make sure they are all healthy and ready to continue to bring joy to our new Year 7 starters in September.

Finally, thank you very much to Scarterfields Animal Feeds who have provided all of our feed and bedding for the last year and a half and who will be continuing to sponsor us with this next school year.

Louisa Fowles



PSHE Topics

The following topics will be covered during PSHE lessons during the Autumn term (but may be subject to change). If you have any concerns about the topics being discussed, please contact your child's Head of House or Mrs Smerdon-Corp, Teacher in charge of PSHE (smerdon-corpc@bishopluffa.org.uk) The following subjects are being covered.

Year 7	What is PSHE Getting to know people What is community Careers and your future Firework safety Sleep	Year 8	Health and Wellbeing Mental Health Proud to be me Abuse Bullying
Year 9	What is a drug? Different Addictions Cannabis Drug classification Party Drugs War on drugs Substance abuse	Year 10	Social Media Sextortion Online Presence Black History Month
Year 11	Organ and blood donation Sexual Harassment Pornography Teenage Pregnancy/Parenthood		



WEBINAR

The Wellbeing Hub
— from Teentips —

Coming up this week
Wednesday 23rd July 2025

Webinar: How to help your child prepare for school this summer with Dr Amanda Gummer, Neuropsychologist, author, and CEO of Fundamentally Children

Sign up now: club.teentips.co.uk



<https://club.teentips.co.uk/home/parents/>



BLOG

The Wellbeing Hub
— from Teentips —

This week's content
Week commencing 28th July 2025

BLOG: A working parents / carers guide to digital parenting by Dr Elizabeth Milovidov, Author, Lawyer, E-safety Consultant and Digital Parenting Expert

Read now: club.teentips.co.uk

Prayers

The Parents' and Carers' Prayer and Support Group have suggested that we circulate a school prayer list, so that families can reflect the present concerns of the school in their prayers. We will aim to update the list every month.

Prayer List:

Every month:

- Students and their families
- All our staff
- Our Governors and Trustees
- Our Clergy Team and Youth Workers
- Our Worship Team
- Our Parents & Friends Association
- Our Christian Union
- Our links to the wider church
- House and Sixth Form Charities

During July & August:

- For all of our students during the summer holidays
- For students waiting for exam results
- For Year 6 students who are joining us in September
- For students joining our Sixth Form from other schools
- For staff who are leaving and staff who are joining

School Calendar

Wednesday 23 rd July	Start of the Summer Holidays
Wednesday 3 rd September	INSET Day
Thursday 4 th September	1 st day back for Year 7 and Year 12 only
Friday 5 th September	All students in school
Tuesday 9 th September	Year 9 Parents & Carers Induction Evening
Wednesday 10 th September	Year 10 Parents & Carers Induction Evening
Thursday 11 th September	Year 11 Parents & Carers Induction Evening
Tuesday 16 th September	Year 7 Parents & Carers Induction Evening
Wednesday 17 th September	Year 10 Parents & Carers Induction Evening
Thursday 18 th September	Year 13 Parents & Carers Induction Evening
Tuesday 23 rd September	Parents & Friends Association AGM
Wednesday 24 th September	Year 11 Parents & Carers Induction & Revision Evening
Thursday 9 th October	OPEN EVENING for prospective parents & students
Monday 20 th October	PFA Meeting
Thursday 23 rd October	SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING
Monday 27 th October – Friday 31 st October	Half Term
Friday 28 th November	INSET Day
Monday 22 nd December – Friday 2 nd January 2026	Christmas Break
Monday 5 th January 2026	INSET Day
Monday 16 th February – Friday 20 th February	Half Term
Monday 23 rd February	INSET Day
Monday 30 th March – Friday 10 th April	Easter Break
Monday 25 th May – Friday 9 th May	Half Term
Friday 3 rd July	INSET Day
Thursday 23 rd July	Start of summer break

Tanzania 2025

