

DORSET HOUSE SCHOOL

SUMMER TERM REVIEW 2018



From the Headmaster

Earlier this term, I attended the Brighton College Conference where, amongst others, former Secretary of State for Education, Nicky Morgan spoke about the need for lessons in character education with the aim of “preparing our young people to lead tomorrow’s Britain”. A typical political headline grab, yes, but these sentiments are laudable and it is certainly right that all children are given opportunities to develop character traits such as perseverance, resilience, grit, confidence, optimism, honesty, integrity, dignity and emotional intelligence. I am certainly not being complacent when I say, however, that these elements are actively and successfully promoted at DH, just not necessarily neatly packaged and check-listed. One needs only to look at the end of term newsletters, our social media feeds and the rich offering that DH pupils experience.

Alongside fostering character development, we seek to encourage increasing independence as children move through the school. This includes taking responsibility for their learning and also for their belongings and I know that many parents support us in this.

I am always proud when I get feedback (and I do regularly) about our children when they represent the school; whether it be on school trips, being interviewed by journalists or just from people or parents visiting the school. I would like to share with you a couple of anecdotes which demonstrate what articulate and well-mannered children we have at DH...

Firstly, I was showing a prospective parent around the school the other week and as I was passing the bark chips on the way to Champs, a Year 1 child strode confidently up to me and declared, “Mr Thomas, I would just like to say that you are looking very smart today”, at which the parent said to me “Thank you for making the effort”!

Secondly, I was out at break time in the woods with Amber when I passed a couple of younger children working on some sort of earth based construction. One sneezed and said, “Excuse me”. “Bless you” came the reply from her friend; “Thank you” said the sneezer. “You are welcome”, said the friend!

To all parents, I would like to say a heartfelt thank you for your strong and continued support for DH. I am fully aware that you have a choice in the school that your children attend and that by choosing DH you are investing heavily in your decision. We strive to ensure that your children have the best possible start in life and I would like to thank you for the trust that you place in the school to

deliver that objective. When we ask prospective parents how they first heard about DH, by far the biggest response is “word of mouth”; I am extremely grateful to you for your recommendations.

The current Year 8 have achieved phenomenal success this year at Common Entrance. As all schools set their own grade boundaries for this exam, it is not possible to analyse the results in the same way senior schools do with public exams such as GCSEs and A levels. Common Entrance has many critics and, whilst I myself accept that there are significant flaws with the system, it does give children a gold standard to work towards and demonstrates that progress is achieved by hard work. I would like to share some of the comments we have received from senior schools following this set of exams:

From Brighton College: *I just wanted to say how impressive the CE results were for the three boys you are sending us, especially in the Sciences. Prizes are on their way to **Charlie Woodage** and **Tom Saunders** as top performers in Physics (**Charlie**) and Chemistry (**Tom**) out of 85 candidates. The majority of our candidates come from much larger Prep Schools.*

From Hurst: *A superb set of grades from Dorset House – great results from a great set of people. The following have been awarded the best Common Entrance entry in each subject area with an Amazon voucher for recognition of their achievement. **Jenna Jackson** has been awarded the best Common Entrance entry in Chemistry and Physics and **Charlie Manger** the best Common Entrance entry in French.*

From Marlborough: *This is to let you know that **Saffron Rowell** was one of our top ten CE candidates and a book token and card will be forthcoming. The field was very strong indeed and we were particularly impressed by Saffron. We are delighted that she will be joining us.*

From Wellington: *What a fantastic set of results for **Orla Williamson** who was placed in the top 5 CE candidates we had this year! We would like to acknowledge Orla’s performance across the broad range of subjects by awarding her an honorary commendation for excellence in Common Entrance – well done!*

This Year group really do epitomise the school’s ethos. There are many different characters but during the two years that I have known them, they have worked well as a group, supported each other, and despite achieving some of the best results we have had in recent years, they have remained grounded and have displayed humility.

I wish you all an enjoyable summer.

Matt Thomas

Focus On...British Values

Tolerance, Respect, Democracy, Freedom, The Rule of Law...

These terms can sound pretty dry to children but we make sure that they are brought to life - whether it be in lessons or through whole school and Pre-Prep assemblies, PSHE sessions and church services.

Of course, we don't use these terms with the younger children but from Reception up, pupils are encouraged to make decisions together - learning about right and wrong, taking turns and sharing. They are helped to develop a positive sense of themselves and to understand that we are all free to have different opinions.

Mutual respect and tolerance are encouraged in the classroom and at break times but also by looking at the similarities and differences between ourselves and others; among families, faiths, communities, cultures and traditions.

We also ask the pupils at DH to consider what it means to be British and to think about the ways in which we enjoy all these qualities every day. It is interesting to note that our Year 8 Leavers chose Amnesty International as their charity for the Leavers' Service.

Topics as wide-ranging as Suffragettes, Saints' Days and the Commonwealth inspire some interesting discussions and you may have noticed a frieze at the top of the stairs in Wildbrooks which was based on a work by the artist Grayson Perry - highlighting what 'Britishness' means. Do have a look next time you are at school - there are some surprising suggestions!

We consider other cultures through, for example, the study of Islam and the Hajj in Year 8; while in Pre-Prep, children look at Festivals such as Diwali and Chinese New Year in addition to Christian festivals.

Of course, the children have regular updates regarding the charity 'FEAST' (see next page) and they put forward their own plans for fundraising - showing real initiative in carrying these ideas through to fruition.

This year, the children have been introduced to Paralympic hopeful, Lizzie Williams who explained the obstacles and prejudices she has overcome throughout her life. (see page....)

Matt Thomas likes to use humour as a method of illustrating his message and one assembly saw him quoting 'weird laws'. Did you know, for example, that MPs are not allowed to wear armour in Parliament and that it is illegal to handle a salmon in suspicious circumstances? This led to a discussion on school rules the point of them.

We feel that 'Britishness' should be discussed and taught in a dynamic way rather than through set texts...



Whole School

FEAST

Fundraising for FEAST hit new heights this year when we not only collected enough money to see our eight Indian students through another year of school, but were also able to help build a house in Muttom, a village in the Kanyakumari District of Tamil Nadu.

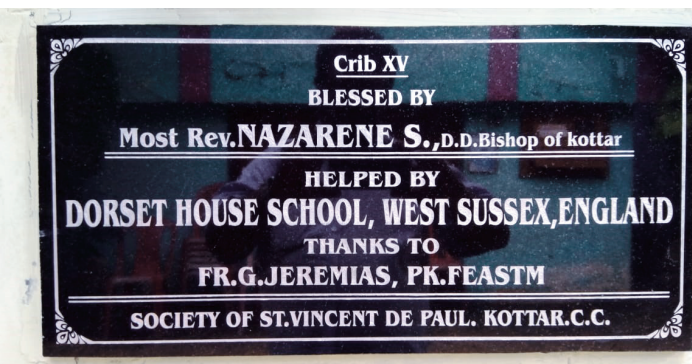
The house was built for a widow and her two children. As they were unable to contribute anything towards the construction, DH joined forces with the St. Vincent De Paul society who collected some money from the village to help support this family.

This year's Charity Day and other fundraising has totalled £1441.99 for FEAST this term - thank you to everyone who helped to reach this amazing target.

Below is an extract from an email sent by Father Jeremias to the children of Dorset House:

I am so very pleased to know that the children from Dorset House School have been so very generous and active to collect enough money to build a house for a poor family. I wish each and every student and their teachers and staff members the choicest blessings for God. Providing a roof over the head is providing confidence and self-esteem to the poor. The children in a special way would be so very grateful to it because it builds their personality in so many ways. It removes the sense of shame from the children. Instead of telling that they live in huts they will be happy to share with their peers that they too have a house. They will have electricity and as such will be able to do their homework from their own houses. They will have less fear of rain and storm. Their learning capacity usually improves a lot. In all sincerity I would like to thank the children of Dorset House School. May the merciful God bless each of them.

Laura Hutchings



Whole School



Walking with Purpose

This year, the whole school set off on the Downs for our Charity Day walk. The sun shone all day as the Pre-Prep spotted bugs and wildlife along the way and the older children used their maps to plan their route and find co-ordinates. Thankfully, all the Houses arrived back at school without getting lost!



Lizzie Williams was there to send us on our way and it was a wonderful opportunity for teamwork and for older children to encourage the younger ones. There was a picnic at Gumber Bothy which gave everyone a chance to refresh themselves and we were all so pleased to be able to send Feast and Lizzie over £600 each in sponsorship.

Janet White





Brecon Soundbites

‘Walking through the pitch black abandoned train tunnel was like having your eyes closed in the middle of the night.’

Ben Saunders

‘My favourite parts of the trip were Tom’s ghost stories and the Pasta Bolognese.’

Harry Pearce

‘My favourite part was the first walk which was up Pen y Fan because I really got a chance to bond with everyone in my group.’

Molly Ormerod

‘I almost fell off the mountain at the top!’

Charlie Thomas

‘It took us three hours to get to the top of Pen y Fan...we went to the place where we were staying and all went outside to play football and lose some energy’!

Sean Scrase

‘My favourite part of the trip was the feeling of getting to the top of Pen y Fan – it felt like I was floating at 886m above the ground.’

Jack Woodage

‘It was the most breath-taking trip ever.’

Matilda Simpson

Leadership in Action

Pupils from Dorset House have been enjoying a Leadership programme for some years and we often report on the exciting activities this includes. For this edition of the newsletter, we thought it would be interesting to compare and contrast the Year 6 and Year 7 trips. These take place during the summer term and both involve crossing the border into Wales. Matt Thomas accompanied both groups and here are his comments:

Year 6 travel to the Brecon Beacons and their adventures focus on teamwork. They are greeted by a leader and assistant who set the pace for climbing Pen y Fan, the highest peak in South Wales at 886m above sea level. The children are taught to look out for each other and to operate as a team - for example, by passing messages to one another. They are also reminded that some members of the party find certain aspects of the climb easier than others.

Whilst many of us were watching the Royal Wedding, the Year 6s were undertaking a 17km hike. The same rules applied but this time, the hike ended with a walk through a disused Victorian railway tunnel which was 1km long. In the pitch black, the children formed a chain and helped one another through. Back at 'base camp', the *esprit de corps* was excellent with children taking turns to tell stories by the camp fire to a rapturous reception. The instructors said they were one of the best groups they had ever led.

In **Year 7**, the emphasis switches to leadership and starts with gorge walking in two teams before tackling Tryfan - the most technical non-climbing mountain in the UK. Concentration is key here, with potential danger and a feeling of exposure in one or two places and the children learn that managing danger is a really important skill. Despite feeling tired after this climb, the group managed to climb Snowdon on the second day - a real achievement. In the evenings, Matt Thomas led discussions about Shackleton and specific expeditions - they talked about his dynamic style of leadership and everyone participated. For this trip, the pupils help with housekeeping and preparing and cooking simple meals - all without grumbling at the end of two very long and tiring days.

Awesome Book Awards

The Awesome Book Awards was started two years ago by Cranleigh Prep School's Head of English, Kate Schutte. Billed as 'a prize that honours the best new fiction authors for young readers aged between 7 and 10', when I first heard about it, it appeared to be exactly what the world of children's books needed - the Carnegie Medal having long since become almost exclusively YA.

I was, therefore, delighted when DH were invited to take part this year. We bought multiple copies of the five shortlisted books and Years 5, 6 and 7 set to work reading. In April, all the children who had read the complete shortlist were able to vote for their favourite book. Places at the awards ceremony itself were at a premium but we were able to take 11 students to Cranleigh to meet the authors and listen as the winner of The Awesome Book Awards 2018 was announced live on stage.

This was a brilliant reading initiative and we will definitely be taking part again next year - the new shortlist will be announced in September.

To see a short video of the night, visit www.awesomebookawards.com. If you watch carefully you will see some familiar DH faces!

'An absolutely amazing experience' - **Phoebe** (Year 6)



Pre-Prep

Science Day

Wearing their white Lab coats and working in mixed age groups under the watchful eye of Year 8 leavers, the Pre-Prep children experienced a fantastic day of Science challenges. These included investigating the strength of Haribo sweets; separating tea flavour from tea leaves; building electrical circuits and testing for conductors and insulators; investigating acids and alkalis and so much more!!

Pupils also had a session in the Lab where we blew up Jelly Babies to investigate stored chemical energy and separated some salt from rock using processes such as crushing mixtures, dissolving, filtration and evaporation. (It was also lovely to celebrate Miss Hobrow's birthday and sing 'Happy Birthday' to her while presenting her with a cake!!)

Thanks to Year 8 for all their hard work and support and to all the Pre-Prep staff who supported the day.

Paul Keane

Grand Masters in the Making?

As reported recently, Dave Graham has really sparked the pupils' enthusiasm for Chess and this term, **Ned Hafner**, **Sebastian Marsh** and **Jensen Bladd-Symms**, from Years 2 and 3, all made it through the Sussex Megafinal and qualified for the Gigafinal in Twickenham at the end of June! **Jensen** was also placed joint third, with a score of 4.5, so he is officially ranked as third best player in Sussex for his Year group. Well done to all of them and good luck!



Pre-Prep



Pirates of the Curry Bean

The Year 3 and 4 summer play this year was *Pirates of the Curry Bean*. We weren't so blessed with the lovely sunshine that we have had in the past but the show still went ahead! It was anchors aweigh as we set sail for a swashbuckling pirate adventure on the high seas. The story began with young twins, Jack and Liza Periwinkle, finding a treasure map in the 'Squirry Squid Inn'. The infamous pirate leader, Captain Redbeard, and his pirate crew stole the map and kidnapped their mother.

Accompanied by their faithful cat Fiddlesticks, the twins joined a mad admiral and his crazy crew on a voyage of sea adventure to rescue their mother, reclaim the map and find the treasure. The children worked incredibly hard to learn numerous song and dance routines and learn all their lines. We are looking forward to our next production already!

Sarah Hobrow



Pre-Prep

This term **Reception** have been studying all things linked to 'Water'. We have enjoyed learning about the properties of water and where water comes from. Of course, we all loved walking to the river and pond dipping to learn about some 'watery' geographical features. Our trip to Arundel Wetlands was great fun, with lots of water birds to feed, as well as learning all about the differences in the birds. Our term finished with studying some sea creatures and a glorious Mermaids and Pirates morning. 'Ahoy my hearties! Where's that treasure!'

There isn't an area of the school grounds that hasn't been investigated for Minibeasts by **Year 1** this term. We have found all manner of creepy crawlies, including a rather magnificent Stag Beetle clinging to the cricket nets. Each child made a bug hotel and we hid them in various locations. When we checked to see who had moved in we discovered there are many, many woodlice living at Dorset House! We finished the term with some super pond dipping at Arundel WWT. We found Whirly Gig beetles and a rather beautiful newt larva. Later, we learnt about the way insects adapt to live in different habitats. The highlight of the term was arriving one Monday morning to discover our Painted Lady butterflies had all emerged from their chrysalises ready to be set free in a very warm and sunny

walled garden. The children enjoyed writing and performing their own version of *Incy Wincy Spider* with some very clever (if rather tenuous) rhymes. They finished the show with a rousing rendition of the *Ugly Bug Ball*, complete with colourful stick puppets. All in all it was a very successful topic with so many opportunities to get outside and enjoy our beautiful location as well as the amazing summer weather.

Year 2 have spent the summer term studying Africa. They have looked at different countries within the continent and compared cultures, currency, flags, populations and traditions. The second half of term focused on Kenya, looking at wildlife and landscapes. The children created some amazing artwork throughout the topic and they produced and presented, to the class, an animated PowerPoint presentation. Perhaps next year we should look to go on a Safari!

This term **Year 3** have been learning about the Vikings. We have looked at maps to find out where the Vikings came from and where they travelled to. We investigated Vikings as both invaders and settlers and learnt about Viking life and attacks. We were surprised to discover that Viking longships could be up to 20m long! Learning about the clever design of longships helped us understand how the Vikings came to be so successful. We enjoyed making our own model longships and model longhouses complete with thatched roofs.



Eco Matters



Plastic Bottle Boat Challenge

Plastic pollution in our oceans is a hot topic at the moment and children at Dorset House are keen to find ways to highlight the problem and improve the situation.

In Art, pupils have worked on projects to produce works which incorporate plastic - weaving fish and spray-painting in Banksy style. Year 8 also spent a morning litter picking at West Beach.

The biggest effort came from Years 3 and 4 who took part in a Guinness World Record attempt to launch the greatest number of plastic bottle boats simultaneously. We joined with 75 other schools under very strict conditions with



adjudicators, independent witnesses, timekeepers and **Archie Cox** in Year 7 filmed the whole thing on his drone. Matt Twinley and Milena Thorburn were also on hand with cameras. We have to wait a while for verification but are hopeful that we will be record holders very soon. **Alex Bailey** in Year 7 gave a presentation about DH becoming a more eco-friendly school. We look forward to updating you on his progress next term.

Sport

Rounders

The girls have worked hard this term, reinforcing last year's fielding and batting skills, and have had some very pleasing results. The U13s have won all their matches bar Cottesmore, beating the likes of Pennthorpe, Great Ballard, Lancing Prep at Worthing and Christ's Hospital. The most exciting match was played against Christ's Hospital where Dorset House were six rounders down at half time and performed spectacularly in the second half to win by five rounders. The last match of the season against Cottesmore saw a very determined team sadly get beaten by their opponents. It will be sad to lose the older girls as, over the years, they have gelled into a super team.

Congratulations to **Orla Williamson** and **Maisie Taylor** who scored the most rounders in matches during the term. The U12 Most Improved Player award was given to Natalya Smith and U12 player of Season to **Maisie Taylor**. The U13 Player of the Season was awarded to **Amity Blowey** and the U13 Most Improved Player award was earned by **Millie White**.

The U11s have equally had a brilliant season and spectacularly won all their matches. They had wins against Farlington, Oakwood, Pennthorpe, Handcross Park, Lancing Prep at Worthing and Cottesmore. The most exciting match was their last against Cottesmore, winning by a mere half a rounder. The team has developed a tactical awareness in fielding and their batting has gone from strength to strength. The great camaraderie among the girls has contributed towards their success. Well done to **Ella Lawson** who scored the most rounders in matches during the term. The U11

Most Improved Player award was given to **Bria Williamson** and the U11 Player of the Season to **Phoebe Hughes**.

The U10s have won more than half of their matches, which is a pleasing result for a team who struggled in fixtures last year. They have established their game and have worked tremendously well as a team. The Windlesham Rounders Tournament provided a great opportunity for the girls to develop their skills and, to their surprise, to beat the host - Windlesham - and also Oakwood and Burgess Hill. They finished third in their group which was a fantastic result. Congratulations to **Flora Skinner** who scored the most rounders in matches during the term. The U10 Most Improved Player award was given to **Prudie Ellis** and U10 player of the Season to **Georgia Brown**.

The U9s have also had a good season. Learning the rules of rounders hasn't been easy, especially since, during some of their lessons, they have started to play cricket with the hope of playing some matches next year. However, their results have improved throughout the term and the girls ended the season with a very deserving win against Lancing Prep at Worthing. The U8 Most Improved Player was awarded to **Neve Meurer** and Player of the Season to **Aniás Hafner**. The U9 Most Improved Player was awarded to **Bibi Matthews** and the U9 Player of the Season award to **Rosie Ormerod**.



Athletics

In May, DH hosted an U9 girls and boys athletics meeting. Eight schools took part, competing in track events that included the hurdles, 75m, 200m sprints, 600m and the relay. DH girls **Sofia Thompson**, **Rosie Ormerod**, **Olivia Boyce** and **Eva Elliott** performed spectacularly to win the relay, whilst the boys came second. Other achievements came from **Finn Alun-Jones** who won the hurdles and **Rafferty Finn** who came first in the 600m. **Sebastian Marsh** came third in 200m whilst **Sofia Thompson** came third in the hurdles. The overall trophy for the boys was won by Handcross Park and Dorset House came second. The girls' trophy was won by Lancing Prep at Worthing and Dorset House came second. The Inter-Prep School Athletics Meeting at Hurst saw a fine display of track and field young talent. The standard of athletics was high and the Dorset House athletes rose to the occasion. **Finn Alun-Jones** had a great performance in the U10 boys' high jump, clearing 1.21m to take the silver medal. The gold medallist broke the championship record in what was an exciting event. **Flora Skinner** ran a brilliant tactical race in her heat of the 800m in 2:56.8 min and came second overall. **Hamish Skinner**, a relative novice in hurdling, achieved fourth place in the final. At the IAPS Area Athletics Championships at K2 in Crawley, Dorset House secured their best ever results. **Monty Burr** won the discus and shot and **Phoebe Hughes** took the gold in the triple jump. The Year 6 girls comprising **Ella Lawson**, **Phoebe Hughes**, **Matilda Simpson** and **Molly Ormerod** ran spectacularly to win the relay. **Molly** ran a courageous 300m to take the silver and **Alice Crowley** put all her hard work into effect and came second in the hurdles. **Ella** came fourth in the 1500m, setting a new personal best of

5.35 minutes, and **Phoebe Hughes** came fifth in the final of the 100m. **Monty Burr**, **Alice Crowley** and the Year 6 girls relay team were selected to compete in the National IAPS Athletics Finals at Birmingham.

The climax for the athletics season was Sports Day and what an event it turned out to be! With the new hurdles on display, it was wonderful to have four new hurdles school records set by **Alice Crowley**, **Ben Saunders**, **Jenna Jackson** and **Charlie Manger**. **Jenna Jackson** also broke the records for the Senior Girls' 800m and the high jump. **Phoebe Hughes** bettered her record in the Intermediate Girls' long jump and gained the record for the 200m. **Monty Burr** had some great performances in the throws to gain school records in the Intermediate Boys' shot and discus events.

Emmie Barkes broke the school record for the Intermediate Girls' discus and **Matilda Simpson** the shot. **Amity Blowey** is now the proud owner of the Senior Girls' long jump record and **Finn Alun-Jones** the Junior Boys' high jump. In total, there were 14 new records – a great achievement from DH athletes!



Sport

Swimming

It has been a great summer for swimming and the term started off on a good note with the Pre-Prep pupils being able to start their swimming sessions before half-term. In June, Dorset House hosted our first Year 5 and 6 swimming gala against Great Ballard and it was a great success. Everyone swam well but special mentions go to the following Year 6 pupils: **Ella Lawson** who won the mixed medley relay and the backstroke event; **Phoebe Hughes** who won the freestyle and breaststroke events and **Ben Saunders** for winning the breaststroke. In the Year 5 competition, **Flora Skinner** won the freestyle and the backstroke events and **Romilly Bladd-Symms** won the mixed medley relay and the breaststroke. Dorset House won the freestyle relays, the medley relays and the squadron relays as well as the overall competition.

IAPS Triathlon

On Sunday June 10th, Ella Lawson competed in the IAPS Triathlon at Dulwich School. All Year 6 competitors swam 200m, cycled 4000m and finished off with run over 1800m. Ella finished a fantastic sixth out of 45 girls.



Tennis

DH entered an U9 team for Sussex Schools Championship for the first time this term. **Jake French, Gethin Wood, Xander Boyce** and **Finn Alun-Jones** performed brilliantly, playing 6 matches in total against each team. Having won both groups, they thought they had done enough to win but then it was announced that there was a final and that they had to play Brighton College A team again to determine winners and runners up. The DH boys held their nerve and at the end it was 3-3. Again the matches were extremely hard fought. In the end, it came down to points difference. The 3 matches DH had



won had a greater points difference and therefore DH won the overall championship by 5 points. They all played brilliantly but special mention to **Xander** and **Finn** who had very strong competition from Brighton College A team who they managed beat in the all important, nail-biting final!

Sport

Cricket

This has to go down as one of the best summers of cricket I have ever known. The enthusiasm, enjoyment, knowledge and ability that the players have shown this term has been extraordinary. From little games of French cricket at break times, to full-on net sessions in games lessons and the tension of some really tight finishes in school matches, cricket has genuinely grown in its appeal, and not just amongst the boys.

It has been a real privilege coaching the 1st XI this year, to witness some incredible performances and be with them on that journey to becoming County Champions. The season started fairly quietly, with some rather typical wet April weather. The team went about beating Brighton College, Lancing at Hove and Prebendal and then knocked out Sackville and Tanbridge House in the County Cup. All of a sudden, there was a sense that we could be on to something special here. Defeats to Windlesham and Westbourne brought us back down to earth, but all credit to the team who then picked themselves up and went on to win their remaining matches. Seaford, Penntorpe and Handcross Park were all defeated, albeit the latter off the very last ball, courtesy of **Maisie Taylor**. Warden Park and Chichester High School came here for the County Cup matches and found it hard to field on our rather quirky pitch. Against Warden Park in the quarter final, the top order uncharacteristically, failed to turn up and it was the solid nerves of **Monty Burr** and **Cosmo Portman** that saw the team over the finish line. An almost identical game against Chichester High School in the semi-final, in which substitute fielder Ben Saunders took a vital catch and our top order once again wobbled, had **Zach Alun-Jones**, with a very important 20 runs and **Monty Burr** with nerves of steel, to be grateful for. And so to the final! Our opponents, Cardinal Newman, bowled very tightly and restricted us to just 85. Only **Hugo Ormerod** with 27 and **Cosmo Portman** with 19, managed to give us something to bowl at. What happened next, will live long in the memory of those who were there that Friday morning in Brighton. **Tom Saunders** and **Sam Green** ripped through the opposition batsmen like a boxer in the ring with his opponent up against the ropes! They were relentless – **Sam** took 3 wickets and **Tom**, who claimed the match ball afterwards, finished his spell of 4 overs with 5 wickets for just 8 runs and took the final wicket.

After 8 overs, Cardinal Newman were 24 for 8 and on their knees. As **Maisie Taylor** in the 14th over, took the final wicket the team and supporters rejoiced in the most remarkable of games and reflected on the most enjoyable season of cricket...ever! Special mentions must go to **Charlie Woodage** and **Benji Jackson**, who have been absolute stars throughout the season: **Charlie** scoring over 300 runs and **Benji** with his all-round performances. **Charlie Manger** has been superb as wicket keeper, stopping almost everything coming down behind the stumps. Finally, the skipper **Sam Green**. He has led by example, always giving 100%, opening the batting in difficult circumstances, bowling some wonderful leg breaks and setting the fielders in their positions and encouraging the team through every single delivery. I'm certainly not going to forget this season in a hurry.

The Colts A made a slow start to the season but then gathered momentum in the second half of term, picking up wins against Seaford, Penntorpe and Handcross Park. There were fine performances from **Zach Alun-Jones**, who impressed with the bat and had to be retired on a number of occasions and from **Jack Woodage**, who also batted very well, both of whom were drafted up to the 1st XI for the County Cup matches.

The Colts B had some very close games and all grew in confidence, getting used to the hard ball form of cricket. **Dylan Byrne** made excellent progress and was rewarded with promotion to the A team. There was a great win in the opening game of the season against Cottesmore, despite the torrential rain.

The U9A team won 4 out of their 6 matches. **Finn Alun-Jones** dominated with the bat and ball and there was some excellent bowling from **Xander Boyce**; and U9B team also worked really hard, particularly at their bowling and much progress was made. **Ollie Godfrey** and **Rocco Heggie** showed good potential with their batting and bowling skills.

Greg Weaver



Music

Music was my way into DH. At the age of 5 (Year 1) I started cello lessons with Mrs Tedd before I even attended this school. Little did I know that this introduction would shape my entire seven years at Dorset House, and my life. I came to this school already with a love of music, a feeling that I know many students here share. I am most grateful for the opportunities provided by the DH staff, as it has become such an integral part of my life and that of many others.

The introduction that I had to the music at Dorset House made me quickly feel that I had a place to go to in which I could escape any situation. If I was sad, I would turn to the piano. If I was excited, I would sing my heart out. Music was the easiest way I could express myself, and at DH we have multiple opportunities to do so.

These opportunities informal concerts, Summer concerts, Assemblies, residential trips (singing our way up mountains and rock walls) – in fact, whenever we can! These opportunities allow myself and others to enjoy themselves no matter their situation and ability.

I am going to take this opportunity to pay homage to some of my favourite musical moments at DH. My first performance was, *There is a Castle on a cloud* from *Les Misérables*. I was in Year 3 and it was performed during an informal concert – this being a prime example of how the opportunities are given to you, no matter your age or ability. Another performance was *Don't Kill my Vibe* by Sigrid. I thoroughly enjoyed this performance as I sang it to the entire of the school and showed them what I love doing and, again, the opportunities DH have given to me.



Finally I would like to mention the creation of my own composition 'Bub-bye' which I performed at the Summer Concert. It is a song mentioning how thankful I am for everyone, staff and students, at Dorset House School.

Above all, I want to take this moment simply to thank all the music teachers who have helped me become the musician I am now. One teacher in particular, is Mr Marconi. He has helped me with improving my skills but has always believed in me, even when I didn't believe in myself.

Amity Blowey (Year 8)



Chess

Year 7 went on a trip to a musical at Hurst called *Chess*. In the musical there were a number of ex-Dorset House pupils, including Thomas Bettle who was one of the Russian competitor in the performance. The musical was about a Russian and an American who battled it out in a game of chess to win a tournament. In the play there was a girl who was engaged to the American chess player, but then she and the Russian both fell in love. This led the Russian chess player to go against the Soviet Union. They, therefore, planned a revenge against him to show him the power of Russia. The musical was very exciting and afterwards we were allowed to meet the cast and old Dorset House pupils and ask questions about the musical. The trip was very inspiring and really exciting and all of Year 7 enjoyed it.

Bill Morley &

Monty Burr (Year 7)

Music

Kodály

Becoming a father for the second time would not be everybody's cue for considering a second degree, but Mr Marconi has embarked upon just that as he continues his studies in Kodály. At the heart of this concept is the development of the musician through singing. The process can begin at a very young age, ideally before children start formal education. It stresses the vital importance of developing the key skill of 'inner hearing', the ability to read music on the page and hear it in one's head, (as you would do when reading a book.)

Zoltán Kodály (1882–1967) was a Hungarian composer, linguist, and philosopher. He is well known as the creator of the Kodály Method as described above.



Summer Concert

The Summer Concert was a real highlight of the year with all children taking part from Year 1-8.

It was lovely too, that many young instrumentalists in Years 3 and 4 were involved in the Guitar Group, Swing Band, Flute Group and Clarinet Group; all playing with the older children. Making music together is one of the great things about the subject.

Highlights were **Amity Blowey's** solo, a song that she had composed herself for her friends leaving in Year 8. Our whole school song this year was, *This Is Me* from the Greatest Showman and once again, we all enjoyed singing together - thank you to the staff for joining in.

Summer Sounds

We also recorded a CD, which was essentially the program for the concert. We managed 23 tracks in one day, which must be some kind of record!

Katie Athron won the cover design competition, keeping up with her siblings who won in 2012 and 2016!

Happy listening over the summer.

Jason Marconi



Gamelan

Year 4 travelled to the London Symphony Orchestra headquarters in Islington at the beginning of the term in order to spend the day learning about the Gamelan.

Sofia Thompson (Year 4) says: *All the instruments were very detailed and designed and carved really carefully. The noises that they made were really lovely - some a bit like a bird - or like church bells. Everyone played together and it was very loud! The man who put it all together was very helpful and told us about Gamelans—there were carved lions at the ends of the instrument.*

Art and DT

The Art and DT exhibition is an opportunity to showcase some of the wonderful work that all Year groups have been busy creating.

We endeavour to show a real variety that reflects how we plan projects throughout the year so that pupils have the opportunity to work with different materials and equipment, are inspired by past and contemporary artists and learn about the world we live.

For example, this year we had ceramic houses inspired by Paul Klee; looking at St Jude's studio helped Year 7 with their lino prints and the Reception class looked at Picasso for their abstract pieces. Year 4 created batiks as part of their India topic; Africa was the inspiration for Year 2's artwork and Year 1 made colourful bugs. Year 5 and Year 6 used acrylic in their DT projects; Year 8 did their own wiring when making their desk lamps; Year 7 learnt many new techniques when making their ceramic seed heads and Year 5 loved experimenting with different stitches on the sewing machines.

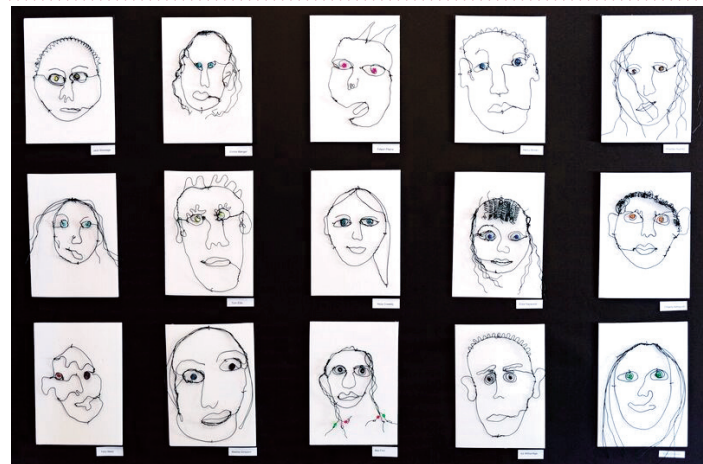
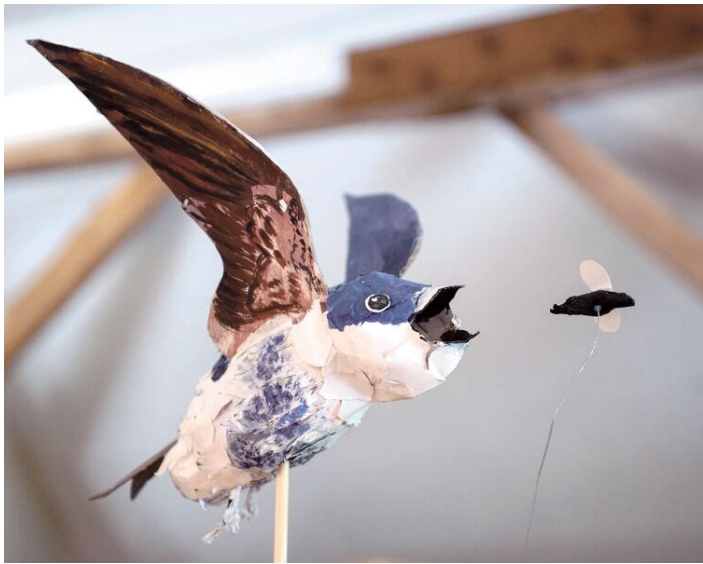
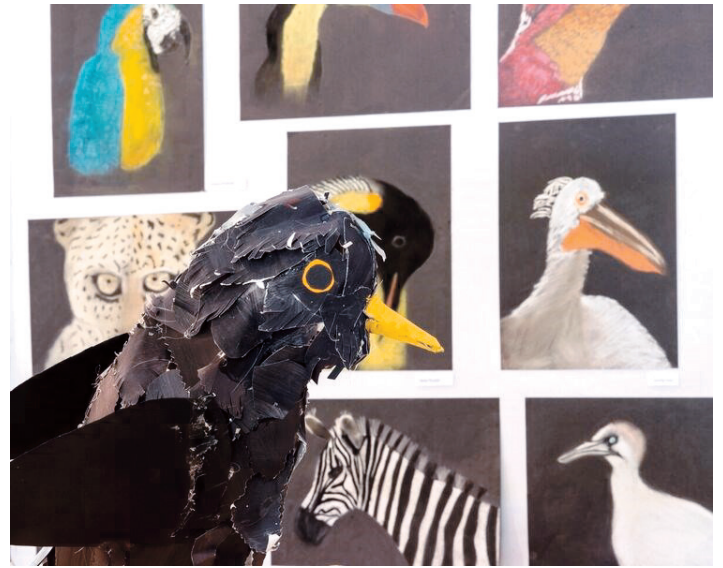
Planning and problem-solving were skills Year 4 needed when making their pirate ships and making the structural cane frames challenged Year 6 when making their birds.

Some of the children's work will be on display at The Arts Society Pop-up exhibition as part of the Petworth Festival – Wednesday 18th and Thursday 19th July, United Reformed Church, Petworth.

Carly Harrison



Art and DT



Boarding



Last term, we welcomed Mickey Marconi to the boarding house and we realised that it was time to update our photographs and so above is the new Family Marconi - including Mylo of course!

This term has seen us be able to go outside more frequently which has opened up many opportunities outdoors. For example, after playing cricket and rounders on the fields we get changed and go into the pool and play water polo. In this newsletter some of Year 8 will comment on their boarding experience at DH. Boarding provides us with a place where we can spend more time with friends and enjoy the freedom of choosing our activities.

This year has also been the start of boarding for pupils in Year 5 and some Year 4 pupils have also had a trial night. We have had four new arrivals to the Manor House: **Miss Bellamy, Mr McLaren, Miss Davies and Mr Bardouleau** who have been influential in the boarding house since the beginning of the year. They have been a great addition to boarding life at DH.

Another great improvement has been the food. With the refurbishment of the dining room and a new menu, we have been able to choose from a wide range of food.

Here are thoughts on boarding from some of the Year 8s:

Harry Wilkins: 'Boarding is a great experience and prepares you well for your senior school.'

Tom Saunders: 'The facilities are great and give you a lot of opportunities to have a good time – there is something for everyone!'

Inigo Portman: 'My favourite night is Wednesday as we get to do lots of fun activities such as arts and crafts and colour runs.'

Will Featherstone: 'I liked to be with my friends and I enjoyed the end of year parties'

Jenna Jackson: 'My favourite time at boarding was when we played water polo and had a colour fight.'

Saffron Rowell: 'I like the dogs, Mylo and Amber, as they make the boarding house feel like a family home. Some of the year 8s have been boarding for 4 years. We have noticed the major improvements including a new common room, pool table, carpets and curtains, showers and beds.'

Amity Blowey: 'The boarding house has changed a lot in a good way. It has made it feel like a home rather than a school.'

I personally feel that boarding has prepared me well for what lies ahead at senior school. I enjoyed being with my friends and playing sport on the pitches and in the cricket nets. All of the boarding staff were also so understanding and really made the boarding house feel like a second home. Finally, I would like to thank Mr and Mrs Marconi and all the boarding staff for what a memorable time they have given all of us at DH.

Charlie Woodage—Head of Boarding



Year 8 Leavers



Skern Lodge

Year 8 went to Skern Lodge in North Devon for our annual post-CE trip from 15-18 June.

We all took part in kayaking, high ropes, climbing and abseiling, surfing, tunnelling, and RIB driving.

The highlight of the trip for most pupils was the morning spent surfing at Westward Ho!

We had no rain all weekend and the Skern Lodge staff were very professional. I was very impressed that everyone took part in all of the activities and got a lot out of them.

Mike Baldwin

Post CE

Traditionally, the time after the Common Entrance exams has always been one of fun activities and days out, interspersed with lessons.

Three years ago, DH decided to formalise things: Mr Weaver was asked to come up with a programme of events that would be both fun and educational... and we haven't looked back! The first year was good, the second even better and this year's programme has been so packed with trips, speakers, days out and workshops that most of us haven't seen Year 8 behind a desk since CE. Some of the activities that the children have been involved in have included:

talks by the RNLI, the police (online safety), Amnesty International and the Samaritans; a First Aid course; taking part in a Young Enterprise Business Challenge; a dance workshop; making pizza at Pizza Express; a trip to London that combined a tour of Lord's and a visit to the theatre to see *The Woman in Black*; a stay at Skerne Lodge in North Devon and a day's sailing at Cobnor.

The turnout for these events is a mark of just how much they have been enjoyed – no post-exam drop-off here! Year 8 have been terrific throughout and we wish them well as they move on. They will be missed.

Laura Hutchings

Other News



Doctors Adrift Update

Last year, we welcomed Ted Welman and Jack Faulkner to talk to us about their attempt to row the Indian Ocean and this term, we welcomed Ted back to DH to tell us all about their adventure.

They set out from Geraldton, Western Australia and finished in Port Louis, Mauritius as they became the fastest pair to make the 3600 mile journey. They burnt 8000 calories per day rowing in 2 hour shifts, 24 hours a day for the duration of the crossing. This gruelling schedule saw them battle sleep deprivation, hurricane force winds and 50 foot waves. When introducing Ted to pupils and visitors, Matt Thomas explained that even reaching the start line for this expedition was a phenomenal achievement as the pair had to raise funds for the boat and complete many training sessions before they

were prepared for what lay ahead. Ted explained that their supplies were depleted by rats before they set out and so they had to survive on reduced ration and yet they still managed to smash the record by more than 28 days - completing the journey in 56 days, 23 hours and 45 minutes. As ever, DH pupils had lots of questions to ask following Ted's talk. These ranged from queries about lavatory arrangements to more measured questions about the daily routine and the strains under which the doctors put themselves. It was interesting to hear Ted explain that the most important person in the boat was always the other person and that, at school, he had never been the first or the best at sport but that he had become determined to do something to raise funds for *Médecins Sans Frontières*. They not only succeeded in the physical sense, they were also able to send over £100,000 to the charity.



Showjumping

The DH Showjumping team has had another successful term.

This culminated in a superb result at Hascombe Equestrian Centre where they came 2nd in the 80-85cm NSEA Team Showjumping and qualified for the National Championships which will be held this year at Keysoe in Bedfordshire. The team was **Lauren Wilkins, Sean Scrase and Alice Crowley**: a particular achievement considering they were only a team of 3 so had no drop score.

Only the top 2 teams qualify and they were against teams from 17 other schools!

Alice also gained a 5th place individually in the 70-75cm class. DH pupils from Year 3 to Year 8 take part in riding activities and events and we would like to thank Vicki Wilkins for all her enthusiasm and hard work with organisation. *And finally, many congratulations go to Harry Wilkins and his pony Storm who qualified for the National Showjumping Championships in August. We wish them the very best of luck!*

P.A. News

This is my last note to you all as Chair of the DH P.A. and what a wonderful note to end on.

We finally held our Quiz Night last month and it was, without question, the most feel-good event I've helped to organise. HM was superb as Quiz Master, the guests were suitably rowdy and the PA were as on it as they ever are. We were able to cook for over 80 people, serve drinks all night long, enjoy the quiz ourselves and still be home at a reasonable hour.

This is without doubt due to the strength of the team of Class Reps that I've been able to work with since I've been Chair and every single ounce of thanks goes to them.

Due to them, and to you as parents, we've also been able to raise a significant amount of money for the

school. The final figure is £3750 and I'm delighted to say that it will be going to help fund the riverside project and the floating jetty. So for every parent who bought an event ticket, donated money and time, purchased a drink from the bar or popped in to the second-hand uniform shop in the office, I'd just like to say thank you. It's been a real privilege to be able to help the school in this way. **Cherry, P.A. Chair**

On behalf of all the staff, I would like to thank Cherry for her support and hard work which began before she was even a parent at the school when she judged a cake competition for us in 2013! (See above) **Matt Thomas**



PLEASE SAVE THE DATE
Friday 14th September
Headmaster's Drinks - 7 pm to 9 pm
Saturday 22nd September
Jazz by the River - following Open Morning - 12.30 pm to 3.00 pm - details to follow.

Bury Manor Pre-School

We have had an exciting term to compliment our topic of People in our Community.

Timothy, a six week old lamb, came with Scott Free Range Farm and really seemed to enjoy the company of the children in the Walled Garden by being chased and in turn, chasing them!

Emily's daddy Charlie, from Southview Farm, picked us up from Pre-School in his tractor and trailer to visit the cows and see how they were milked and watch the production of yogurt and ice cream. It was a beautiful day and the children picnicked in Emily's garden. To finish off the morning, they all enjoyed a tub of the finest ice cream.

We have also been visited by an



aromatherapist who made essential oils playdough. The Paramedics came with their ambulance to demonstrate basic first aid, bandage the children and give them a tour of the ambulance.

We finished the term with a topic-related Sports Day involving a fair amount of water and saying goodbye to seven wonderful children who are more than ready for big school!
Tracey Brooks



‘It’s outdoorsy - how schools should be’ (GOOD SCHOOLS GUIDE)



OPEN MORNING
22nd September 2018
9.30am to 12.00 noon

For news updates, please visit:

-  @DorsetHouseSch
-  dorsethouseschool
-  Dorset House School

- Minibus pick-ups available from Arundel, Midhurst and now from Wisborough Green
- Co-educational prep school
- ‘Outstanding’ Pre-School for children from 2
- Day and flexi-boarding school

DORSET HOUSE SCHOOL
The Manor, Church Lane, Bury,
Pulborough, West Sussex RH20 1PB
Headmaster: Matt Thomas Med BA Ed (Hons) FRGS

Telephone: 01798 831456
email: info@dorsethouseschool.com
www.dorsethouseschool.com