



From the Headmaster

I have recently read the book 'The English Public School - An Irreverent and Personal History' by the ex-High Master of St Paul's, Martin Stephen; in it he describes how public schools of yesteryear "indoctrinate(d) its victims with passive acceptance" of 'this is just how things are'. It struck me how very different things are today. Pupils should not be quiescent recipients of education and school is not something that should be seen as being 'done' to pupils. For a myriad of reasons, not least because they are the most important stakeholders, it is vital that they feel ownership, have a voice, are involved in making decisions and have opportunities to take on responsibilities in aspects of the day to day running of the school. At DH we encourage and try to find as many opportunities as possible for children to be creative, imaginative and entrepreneurial. For example, for the first time this year, we have created positions of responsibility in Year 8 more specific to particular areas of the school and we have tried, as much as possible, to match these to the skills and interests of the pupils. Most importantly, they have the opportunity to take the initiative and develop their roles.

This notion of ownership is something the inspection process looks for; data and evidence are gathered in order to verify and back up the statements contained in the written report. During our visit from ISI, the Lead Inspector asked whether we had any evidence of pupils making decisions at school. Of course, we immediately hurried away and amassed the required information and handed it in shortly afterwards. As with all things of this nature, we thought of more and more things after this, so we decided to make another list and handed it to him. Almost recoiling, his reaction was, "No, no, no that's fine, we have quite enough." Below are the conclusions ISI came to in this respect.

From the earliest years, pupils organise themselves well and learn to make excellent decisions about their daily needs and routines, such as which clubs and activities to attend and how to spend their break times. They confidently set their own learning targets as are seen in mathematics lessons and in science books. The school council is organised, lead and elected by pupils, and the body gives pupils throughout the school the opportunity to further demonstrate the excellent decision-making qualities. Recently this has led to more potted plants in the classroom and blackout blinds in the boarding house.

Boarders' views are actively encouraged, and their opinions and concerns are appropriately considered by staff.

We value greatly the feedback from the School Council and Bella Rowell, one of our Heads of School Council writes:

The School Council meets once or twice a term. There are two representatives for each Year group and they bring ideas to meetings which are discussed before being presented to the Headmaster.

There was great excitement before the first meeting of the term and a certain amount of disappointment when this had to be postponed due to the inspection.

When the council met, there were some excellent suggestions – some more practical than others. (A sweetie fountain is not likely to make it to the next stage and deck chairs in the Woods, 'so we can have a rest' may have to wait...)

Practical things such as black-out blinds in the dorms, have been introduced and a Coding Club has started in the form of the new Robotics activity.

This is a council which really has a voice and we look forward to more activity next term.

In addition to the ISI Pupil Questionnaire, in the second half of this term we conducted a separate anonymous pupil survey which canvassed children's (Years 3 to 8) opinions and feedback on a variety of aspects of their school experience including views on lessons/ academics, pastoral concerns, preparation for senior schools, rewards, safeguarding and general happiness. The results were fascinating; listening to their different perspective is extremely valuable.

With respect to decisions to be made, some are more difficult than others and some are evidently plain stressful... a girl in the lower part of the school approached her teacher looking rather troubled. When asked what the matter was, she replied "I have chocolate brownie, pop corn and Easter egg smelly pencils and every time I have to do some writing, I have to decide which one to use; I can't make up my mind, it's really hard!"



Focus On...Remembrance



In this Centenary year, we focussed on Remembrance throughout the school, in class, in assembly, in an event at Pulborough Station and in our service at St Nicholas' Church in Arundel. Here are a few examples of the ways in which pupils learnt about WWI.

Reception linked Remembrance Day to their topic on Celebrations and 'remembering' things. They each painted a large poppy and used these in class circle time as they talked about and understood how special it is to remember people who have kept us safe and were brave. They then displayed the poppies over the classroom door so, as they walked into class that week, they could 'Remember' what the poppies mean.

Year 4 made poppies with Bury school. They also found out about life in the trenches through a music, movement and drama workshop.

The children acted out scenes from the trenches, including the Christmas truce and armistice.

In the build-up to Armistice Day children in Years 5 and 6 were asked to investigate their families' involvement in the First World War. Many children brought in fascinating information in the form of old letters, postcards, photographs and medals. This was all put together in a display upstairs in Wildbrooks entitled 'Our World War One'.

Years 5-8 studied aspects of the First World War in French. **Maisie Taylor** (Year 8) comments: 'To celebrate Remembrance this year – since it was the 100th year, we looked at the timeline of important dates and events during the war in French. We also looked at how the French soldiers' equipment and clothing improved from 1914 to 1918'.

Success



Top Marks for Tom

Tom Ellis (Year 7), scored 142 (out of 150) in his Grade 6 ABRSM piano exam. This placed him joint first in the country and he was awarded the Sheila Mossman Memorial Prize for Pianoforte.

To put this into context, 110 marks is a pass, 120 is a Merit and 130, Distinction and so this is a remarkable achievement.

Many of us enjoyed Tom's performance at the Christmas Concert during which he played a piece by Kodály on his violin to rapturous applause.

We look forward to more from Tom next term with the Inter-House Music Competition.



Showjumping Stars

Lauren Wilkins (Year 6) and **Alice Crowley**, (Year 7) (pictured above) have achieved some fabulous results this term as part of the DH team. The team report appears later in this newsletter but here are some of their individual results:

Success

Lauren: Individual National Champion 70-75cm Arena Eventing (JwS) selected to jump on the NSEA English Nations Cup team which also won the Nations Cup NSEA County Championship Qualifier at Coombelands and Individual County Champion at 70-75cm

Alice: Individual National Champion 70-75cm Showjumping Individual County Champion at 80-85cm

Both have earned a place at the National County Championships in April 2019 at Bury Farm Equestrian Village which is the next big NSEA Championship.

Alice will also be racing twice a day at Olympia in the Shetland Grand National competition. She hopes to raise £2000 for the Bob Champion Cancer Research charity which is supported by this event and which has raised millions for cancer research.

Gold for Ella

In September, **Ella Lawson** (Year 7), headed to Burgess Hill for the Sussex Gymnastics Championships and after 5 long hours of competition, she was announced as winner of her group! She was presented with her gold medal by the event organiser and needless to say she was elated - all her hard work has certainly paid off.

(She also received the 3rd highest floor routine result of the day (out of gymnasts aged 8-16) with a 9.0 which is just amazing for her age.

Terrific Tennis

Xander, Bella and Olivia Boyce all competed in the Sussex County Championships at the end of August. **Xander** entered the tournament as the No. 1 in Sussex for U9 boys which was quite remarkable considering he fractured his elbow in June. Over the summer he won a number of tournaments including the County level (Grade 4) grass tournament in Cranleigh to give him the highest ranking in Sussex for his age group.

Bella and Olivia moved up a level to 9U a year early (aged 7) as they had done so well in tournaments over the spring and summer. Highlights included **Olivia** winning the Angmering-on-Sea Club championship at which **Bella** was the runner up.

On Sunday, 25th November the girls played in the U8 County Cup in Bromley for Sussex against Kent, Surrey and Middlesex.



There were only 4 girls and 4 boys selected from the whole of East and West Sussex to compete. The competition was very tough but they enjoyed the experience and it was a privilege to play both singles and doubles for Sussex.

We celebrate children's achievements inside and outside school, every week at our Celebration Assembly. These are the highlights from this term.



Success



Chess

Sussex Junior Chess is a not for profit organisation which runs tournaments, has training days and enters county teams into national championships. This term, three DH boys took part in the under 9 closed championships - an individual and school team event. **Ned Hafner**, **Sebastian Marsh** and **Tom Hodgson** all scored well individually and their combined score meant they were =3rd placed school and were awarded bronze medals.

County Cricket

Following a great 2018 season, **Maisie Taylor** (Year 8), has been selected to play for the Sussex U13 Girls' cricket team. This is her third year playing for Sussex. She is currently training each weekend in their purpose-built training centre in Brighton.

Competition to get into the county team gets tougher each year as more and more girls apply. This year over 60 girls from across Sussex competed to get into the U13 team.

You may know that Maisie will be captain of the DH 1st XI for the 2019 season.

Climbing High

The National Three Peaks Challenge involves climbing the three highest peaks of Scotland, England and Wales, often within 24 hours. The total walking distance is 23

miles (37km) and the total ascent is 3064 metres (10,052ft) - twice the ascent of the Yorkshire Three Peaks, over a similar total walking distance.

Harry Wilmore (Year 4), completed this with his dad during the summer. When asked by one of the DH Governors, who was more puffed at the top, Harry replied, as quick as a flash, 'Dad!' (Sorry Oliver...)



Prep

French Trip Fun

Phoebe Hughes: My favourite part of the French trip was the orienteering; we had the time of our lives.

Bria Williamson: We went canoeing and played lots of games. When we did the ball challenge, I was reaching out for the ball and I rolled out. I was the first person to fall in the water.

Charlie Thomas: When we were canoeing, we did this thing called Venice...the person at the back stands up and paddles for you. So I rocked the boat so much that Edwyn fell in.

Zach Alun-Jones: ...when I went to the mini farm and held the baby bunny rabbits; they were so tiny. I also liked going to the 360 degree cinema (about the D Day landings) and visiting the Bayeux Tapestry.

Henry Brown: The canoeing was really soggy, but really fun!

Edwyn Payne: My favourite part of the trip was when Ben got us all lost in orienteering and we went on a big search for something that didn't exist.

Mia Finn: (canoeing) At the end our instructor let us all jump off; we had so much fun.

Molly Ormerod: I did love every single bit of the French trip, but one of my favourites was the last night, where we got to do several different activities like aeroball, volleyball and basketball. Aeroball was so much fun and all the girls had very serious and competitive faces, and we really wanted to beat each other. Volleyball was quite funny because we were so terrible at it, and we kept accidentally hitting the ball into the field with the Shetlands in it. The Shetlands just chased after it..... I really got to bond with all my friends on the last night. I can't wait to go back next year.



Prep



Evacuation

All children at DH look forward to Year 4. Not just because they will have Mrs White as their teacher but also because they will have heard stories of the evacuation experience. Parents looked they part as the gathered at Pulborough station to bid their children farewell and the children managed their walk along the riverbank. Despite the safety of the countryside, there was an air raid and everybody was well-behaved in the drill despite the darkness. The project finished with a fabulous VE day party in the Barn.



Alex's Penny Appeal

Thank you to everyone who supported Alex Bailey's Penny Appeal. The local press took up the story and here is what they had to say:

Young eco champion Alex Baily came up with a brilliant way to help the birds of prey he loves so much and launched an appeal for the Hawk Conservancy Trust. Conscious of the many appeals by worthwhile charities. 12 year old Alex from Rustington thought it would be a good idea to ask people to give just a few odd pennies.

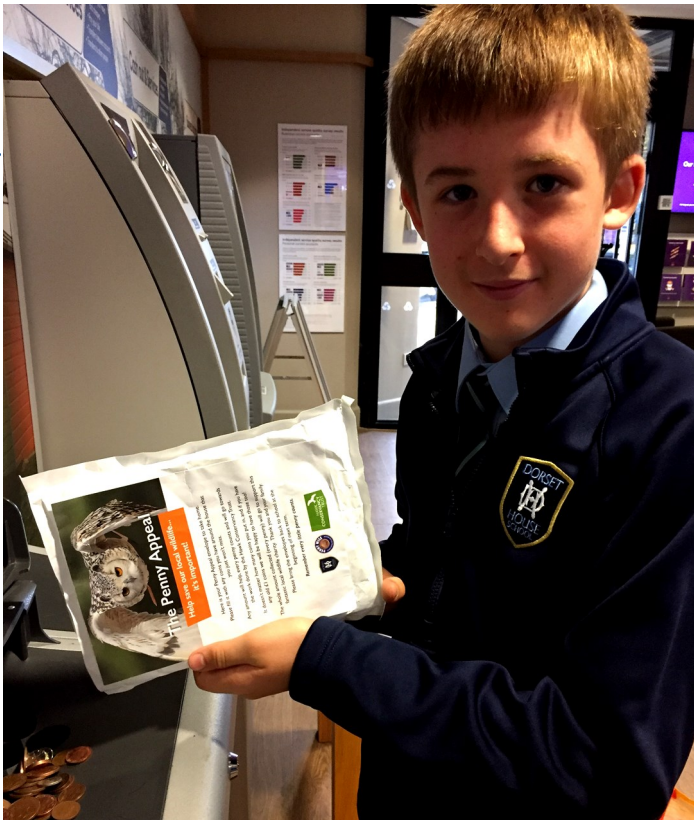
He gave a talk at Dorset House School in Bury, where he is a Year 8 prefect, and encouraged everyone to help save local wildlife by collecting and filling an envelope for the Penny Appeal.

Alex's idea was that people could 'give the loose change that won't be missed'. Dad, Richard, said, "The Project has been organised and progressed by Alex for over a year. It was a very well received and he collected over 60 envelopes, many bulging with coins.

The total funds amounted to £270.24, which was a lot of pennies. With a passion for these amazing birds, Alex met earlier this year with the senior management at the trust to set up an appeal for their work, and after a few meetings, it was all agreed." He then produced a PowerPoint presentation to his school, asking for their support and the help of all the children. So, The Penny Appeal, as he called it, was created.

Alex designed a poster and leaflet outlining the appeal and giving key facts about the Trust and its birds of prey. These were distributed at his school. Richard added, "Special collection envelopes took Alex days to put together and these were given to the Dorset House children to take home to collect any odd change around the house, even a few coins would be welcome". Staff at NatWest bank in Rustington were happy to help sort the coins, with the help of a counting machine, and the full amount was then presented by Alex at the Trust's visitor centre in Andover. Richard said "The Hawk Conservancy Trust were extremely grateful. The cheque was handed over to the CEO, whose name, just by coincidence, happens to be Penny. The Trust works to conserve birds of prey".

Other projects Alex has organised at his school include placing plants in every classroom to raise awareness of the environment and make the rooms more eco-friendly. Alex will be joining Brighton College next year, in September.



Prep



From left to right: **Bella Rowell**, **Archie Cox** and **Emmie Barks**; **Bruno Heggie** and **Katie Athron**; **Bill Morley**, **David Morley** and **Alex Bailey**; **Sebastian Darmon** and **Cosmo Portman**. **Back cover**: **Maisie Taylor**, **Monty Burr**, **Vicky Rowell** and **Ben Chaloner**. Comments have been anonymised to avoid embarrassment – but you get picture!



Prep

The Scottish Play

‘It was a very big journey for me’ wrote one Year 8 at the end of the Shakespeare Schools Festival project and, at the end of five weeks of rehearsals there were few who disagreed with him. So what do Year 8 gain from taking part in this national celebration of Shakespeare’s work? Well – an excellent understanding of *Macbeth* (this year’s play) and a knowledge of the lines that will never leave them, for one. Taking this forward, they should be able to write about the play at a level close to that required for GCSE when they come to sit Common Entrance in the summer. But there’s more...far more:

‘Working on this play was a moving experience. I thought I could never have done it and performed in front of 400 people.’

‘The play showed me how amazing people, who I did not know would be able to act, were.’

‘I feel that as a class we have worked very well together and become closer.’ ‘I don’t just know what Macduff says – I know why he’s saying it.’

‘The main thing that I think I have learnt is how to get into a clear and focused mind-set and have nothing distracting me. I did not know how to do this before this play.’

‘I got a great feeling of accomplishment out of this play because we tackled something that was very hard.’

‘I found that who you were friends with was irrelevant...I also found that I had a voice.’

‘I never thought that I could do anything related to acting, but through the weeks of practice I started to enjoy it and realised that there are roles that I can do.’

Laura Hutchings and Cherry Menlove

Kids Lit

After two years of playing ‘out of area’ up in South London, it was nice to find that the Kids’ Lit Quiz and the Year 8 play didn’t clash and we could, once again, take part in the South-East heats – this year hosted by Seaford College.

Much has happened since we played this time last year. Thailand, Indonesia and Nigeria have become part of the eleven countries now taking part – whilst Professor Mills has had to turn down applications from other countries such as Japan. Hopes were high as we set off for Seaford. All the parents had had to sign a waiver to say that the DH teams could take part in the World Final next July in Singapore – should we happen to get through both the S-E heats and then the National Final! And for a moment, just before half time, I did dare to wonder if that second stage might happen: DH were placed 2nd and 3rd on the scoreboard, we had strong teams and things were looking good.

Alas – it was not to be. Some excellent, strategic playing of ‘jokers’ to double points by other teams, saw us slip out of the top spots. In the end we finished 8th and 13th, with Portsmouth Grammar School taking both 1st and 2nd place. So it’s back to training – and with the Christmas holidays coming up, there’s no excuse for wannabe Kids’ Lit Quiz players not to be reading. Get those books out!

Many thanks to: **Sebastian Darmon, David Morley, Phoebe Hughes, Harry Pearce, Ben Saunders, Paloma Baramidze, Romilly Bladd-Symms and Emma Marsh** for playing.
Laura Hutchings



Year 5 Leadership

This term Mr Nield and Miss Oland went with Year 5 to the Lodge Hill Centre for two days of outdoor adventure and leadership tasks. They started the trip with a briefing from the course leaders and were sent off to various activities. All the children took part in small groups in Archery, Climbing Tower, Low Ropes and the Crate Stack challenge. They had a lovely supper followed by an evening watching a film, drinking hot chocolate and wearing onesies! The next morning, after breakfast, everyone enjoyed the Orienteering course around the beautiful woodland site. It was an excellent opportunity to make new friends and to try out some exciting activities – well done everyone!

Lee Nield and Steph Oland

Pre-Prep

'FIRE!'

Year 2 visited Bognor Fire Station for a tour of the station, a talk about fire safety and they were able to spray the hoses at targets. The teachers were dressed in a real fire fighters' kit and luckily they had changed by the time the alarm bells rang and the fire fighters rushed off in the engines with lights flashing and sirens blaring. The children also learned a rhyme to help them stay safe around fire. A fun time was had by all.

Sasha Metzger



Erin's Fundraiser

Erin Sherwell in Year 2 loves all animals from elephants to hedgehogs, butterflies and puppies. She is keen to make a difference. For example, over the summer, she pulled a plastic bottle from a mountain lake to rescuing butterflies caught inside.

So.... earlier this term, she had a cake sale and with a bit of help from her brother Daniel she made some cakes and with lots of help from her class mates she sold some and made £190.



First Term Done!

Our Reception class settled in really quickly and have enjoyed all areas of the school from Forest School to the Nativity via trips to Goodwood Farm and visits from various small animals during Pet Week.

Mrs Maultby keeps parents up to date with a weekly, illustrated newsletter and we all look forward to watching this happy group progress through the school.

Pre-Prep



The 'Hub'

The Pre-Prep have been very busy in our new room – 'The Hub'.

The Hub is a fantastic new space for cookery, art and after school club.

At the beginning of term, each class had a tour of The Hub and couldn't believe what had been created – they were particularly impressed by the brightly coloured stools! Children are enjoying regular cooking slots and are able to be more independent with getting out resources and clearing up afterwards.

You may be surprised to hear that children are often desperate to be the one who get to wash up!

Sarah Hobrow

Above is Olivia Finn keeping a close eye on Gus Gray as he prepares to weigh margarine for baking.



Great Egyptian Bake Off

Year 3 have been enjoying their 'Ancient Egypt' topic this term. They took part in 'The Great Egyptian Bake Off' and were given a technical challenge to make, and decorate, biscuits with an Ancient Egyptian design. The children had to work as a team to problem-solve, read the recipe and work out how to make the biscuits. The biscuits were judged by an independent expert (Mrs Posnett) and **Beatrice** was awarded 'Star Baker' due to her attention to detail. **Gus** was awarded second place because of the variety he produced.

Year 3 also had a wonderful time at Haslemere Museum as part of this topic. They met a real Ancient Egyptian mummy and studied x-rays and hieroglyphs to find out how he might have died and what his name was.

*Pictured are **Beatrice de Courcy** and **Harriet Howgate** together with **Beatrice's** winning biscuits.*



Pre-Prep

The Inn-spectors

This was a Nativity with a twist. And a very apt twist for this term - following hot on the heels of our ISI Inspection.

All the children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 were involved and it was obvious that they enjoyed the experience. There were plenty of one-liners to keep parents amused and some touching and some rousing songs.

The Inn-spectors were checking on all the hotels in Bethlehem and were horrified to find one offering accommodation in a stable. (The sheep were a 'health and safety nightmare!')

Eventually, they were convinced that the stable really was fit for a King. Parents, staff and older pupils all enjoyed this excellent performance - thanks to the Pre-Prep staff and Mr Marconi for all their hard work.

Sarah O'Brien



Pre-Prep



Sport

Isle of Wight Hockey Trip

The Year 7 and 8 girls kept with tradition and set sail for the Isle of Wight to play a mini hockey tour during the first half of the term. After the crossing at Portsmouth, the girls had a taste of the local sights and had a ride on the chairlift at the Needles. The unusually warm weather made the sea a tempting experience and during the lunchbreak on the beach at Totland Bay, **Eliza Hayward** rolled up her trousers and paddled in the English Channel waters.

The girls played their first matches at The Island Free School where they competed in a tournament involving five teams. The opposition was tough and despite not winning all their games, Dorset House put up a good fight. Their efforts and the busy schedule was rewarded with supper at the local restaurant followed by lots of sweets before settling down for the night. On Friday morning, after a hearty breakfast at the YHA, the tour group headed for Ryde. Here, the U13A team played a superb match, skilfully and tactically, and finished the game with a 5 – 1 victory, whilst the B team had a narrow defeat. After a smooth crossing, the minibus headed into the depths of Hampshire to Edgeborough whose reputation for hockey is one to admire. The U13As, despite playing on a smaller pitch, were unlucky to lose the match by one goal, whereas the U13Bs played their best match of the trip and won 5-0. The girls made a great team and they played some brilliant hockey. A few comments from the Year 8 girls about their favourite aspects of the trip:-



“Loved going to the restaurant for supper; it made me feel really grown-up being able to choose my own dish”
Vicki Rowell

“The Isle of Wight was a lovely place to visit, it was just a shame we didn’t show all the locals how to play hockey!” **Emmie Barkes**

“The hospitality from the schools was great and so were the cheese sandwiches.” **Maisie Taylor**

“The beds were surprisingly comfortable for a Youth Hostel!”
Katie Athron

“The chairlift ride was cool” **Bella Rowell**

Hockey

Girls’ hockey has continued to blossom and the older girls are beginning to see the benefits of having a whole term dedicated to hockey over the past three years. The U13As have managed to hold their own, even up against some much bigger schools and won half of their matches. They have had notable wins against Ryde School and Christ’s Hospital and the U12s drew against Cranleigh’s U12A team which was a brilliant result!

The girls also beat Handcross Park 4 – 0 who are normally a tough team to beat - another great achievement! An U13 team played in the Westbourne tournament against some strong teams to finish fifth. The U12s played in the Seaford hockey tournament which proved to be a useful warm-up for IAPS. The girls came a creditable third beating Seaford, Brighton College and Great Ballard, drawing against Burgess Hill and Windlesham, and losing 1 – 0 to West Hill Park, the eventual winners, in their final match. On a very wet and cold day, the U12 squad finished off the season by playing in the IAPS finals at Hurst. The girls performed way above their expectations, finishing third in their group, only to be knocked out of the Plate competition during the 'sudden death' penalty flick decider. The girls were understandably disappointed but should be proud to have got so far in what was a national tournament of exceptional quality. **Alice Crowley** has captained the first team superbly and her strong attacking skills have been instrumental in scoring goals. As goalkeeper, **Matilda Simpson** has also been an extremely important member

of the squad; kicking, diving and deflecting the ball to make some great saves. All in all, the Year 7 and 8 girls have had a great season. They have developed into a dominant team within the region and are the envy of many. The Most Improved U13 player was awarded to **Annabel Rowell** and the U13 Player of the Season award was presented to **Maisie Taylor**. The Most Improved U12 player was awarded to **Emilie Manger** and the U12 Player of the Season award was presented to **Ella Lawson**.

The U11s have established their hockey skills and tactics, and are also starting to build their reputation. They have had notable wins against Ardingly and Lancing Prep at Worthing. **Daisy Wilson** has developed into a reliable goalkeeper and made some great saves in matches. **Flora Skinner** and **Lauren Wilkins** have been prominent members of the team and scored some fantastic goals. The Most Improved U11 player was awarded to **Izzy Hodgson** and the U11 Player of the Season award was presented to **Lauren Wilkins**. The Most Improved U10 player was awarded to **Jimena Hormigo-Rio** and the U10 Player of the Season award was presented to **Rosie Ormerod**.

The U9s have had few opportunities to test their hockey skills against other schools but are developing into tough, competitive players. They have played matches against St. Christopher's, Lancing Prep School at Hove, Pennthorpe and Handcross Park. The team has a great attitude towards this sport and the players love the comradery it provides. They have established the basic skills and will hopefully put these to good use in the couple of fixtures they have next term. The Most Improved U9 player was awarded to **Coco Gray** and the U9 Player of the Season award was presented to **Eliza Fearon**. The Most Improved U8 player was awarded to **Harriet Howgate** and the U8 Player of the Season award was presented to **Layla Owens**.

Cross Country

Dorset House took U10 and U11 girls and boys teams to Seaford for their annual cross country meeting. **Flora Skinner** ran a strong race from the start - working hard to establish herself on the initial steep incline and managing a gallant sprint at the finish to win the silver medal. Finn Alun-Jones also ran a fine race and finished in the top ten in his age group.

At the beginning of October, Dorset House sent five girls to the English Schools Athletics Association Hampshire County Cross Country Championships held at Southampton. The competition was fierce and the course tough. **Ella Lawson** ran a hard race and came fifth out of a field of over 100 competitors. **Flora Skinner** finished 28th with **Molly Ormerod**, **Bria Williamson** and **Phoebe Hughes**

all helping towards the team placing. At the Windlesham cross country relays, Dorset House entered three teams of six mixed runners. All the athletes ran on an undulating course of 0.9 km. The U12 team, made up of **Sean Scrase**, **Phoebe Hughes**, **Ben Saunders**, **Molly Ormerod**, **Zach Alun-Jones** and **Ella Lawson** fought off Windlesham to win, in what was a very exciting race. The U10s and U11s both came a respectable fourth place.



Netball

It has been nice for all the girls to have played the occasional netball matches throughout this term, preparing them for the fiercely competitive season after Christmas. The U13Bs won their match against Pennthorpe and the U11As beat Cranleigh Prep School 14 – 6, which were encouraging results. The U9s have played more netball than hockey this term and are developing their ball handling skills fast. In their first match of the season, they beat Lancing Prep at Worthing 3 – 0. They also beat Cottesmore and drew against Prebendal. It will be exciting to see how they fare next term when they will predominantly be focusing on netball in their games sessions.

Sport

Football

This term the boys have enjoyed an extended football season which meant an additional two weeks of playing with the round ball.

The 1st team had a difficult season, despite donning a brand-new football strip. A spate of injuries seemed to prevent the team really finding any consistency. Having said that, everyone tried very hard and there were some very encouraging individual performances. Special mention must go to **Monty Burr** for his five goals against Shoreham College.

The U11A and U10A teams were the star performers this term. It seemed that they were involved in a tournament just about every Wednesday afternoon. The U11As reached the quarter finals at Lancing College, were plate runners-up at Ardingly and came 3rd at the Portsmouth Grammar School and Seaford College tournaments.

This was a team that grew with confidence and ability from game to game, with **Hamish Skinner** orchestrating things in midfield, **Seb Anscombe** a rock in defence and **Gethin Wood** banging the goals in. The highlight of the season, however, was the 4 – 1 home win against Hurst in which the side produced their most accomplished performance, including some astonishing saves from **Isaac Blowey** in goal.

The U10As were the unluckiest side of all, coming runners-up at three tournaments – Seaford, Portsmouth Grammar and Oakwood. They produced some great football, with **Finn Alun-Jones** being the creative mastermind in midfield, supplying **Gethin Wood** with the opportunities to score – and score he did, like it was going out of fashion!



In the end it was the curse of the dreaded penalty shoot-outs that denied the boys lifting the trophy. The U9s had a productive season in which the A team only lost two games – and they were in tournaments.

Although there were strong performances from **Reece Brazier**, **Tom Hodgson** and **Seb Marsh** in particular, credit goes to everyone for their effort and determination throughout the season. **Greg Weaver**

Sport



Rugby

On the back of the success of the cricket team in the Sussex Schools' County Cup in the summer, we decided to enter into the U12 County Rugby Cup. It meant that we had to play a few games a little earlier than normal, slightly out of season. It certainly didn't show, as the boys picked up three wins from three in the opening group stage of the competition.

The team made light work of Chichester High School, The Angmering School and St Phillip Howard to progress to the last eight.

A total of 22 tries were scored across the 3 games and only 2 tries conceded.

The rest of the rugby teams have begun the season well and all put in some really encouraging performances.

Music



The Autumn term is always a busy one for the Music department, with us gearing up for Christmas about the same time as the supermarkets! The concert was lovely occasion with the Barn looking stunning (thanks to the PA for decorating!) and despite it still be November, the mulled wine and mince pies and carols got us all in the mood. It was lovely to welcome the newly formed Junior Choir (featuring

Y3&4) to the occasion, along with the Swing Band and String group. There were also the 'Cornerstones' performing 'Santa Baby', with Eliza Hayward, Maisie Taylor and Molly Ormerod as the solo vocalists. Bruno Heggie, Katie Athron and Maisie Taylor also sang Chilcott's 'Time of Snow' beautifully. Mr Bardoleau's triangle playing in the carols was another noticeable highlight!

All the children worked incredibly hard and the music on show was a credit to them all and their teachers. Well done to the many children who passed their exams this term, with particular mention to Bria Williamson and Eliza Hayward for their Distinctions in cello and piano respectively.

Jason Marconi

Music

Remembrance

As part of the nationwide 'Silent Soldier' initiative, Dorset House pupils were invited to hold a Remembrance event at Pulborough Station on Friday 9th November. Mr Marconi and Ms Hutchings put together a programme of music and poetry to be performed on the railway platform.

Negotiating their way skilfully around fast trains to and from London and the 11.19 to Bognor, the choir sang a variety of contemporary First World War songs which included: *Belgium Put the Kibosh on the Kaiser*, *Don't Dilly Dally on the Way*, a 'mash-up of *Pack up your Troubles* and *It's a Long Way to Tipperary*, before finishing with *I Vow to Thee my Country*.

The songs were interspersed with poems read by members of the choir, aided by Monty Burr and Henry Brown. The poems had been chosen for their connections with either railway stations or the local area and Bruno Heggie's reading of *Chance Memories* had more than one person watching wiping away a surreptitious tear.

For those of you not familiar with this poem – to be found inscribed on a stone at the beginning of Mouse Lane in Steyning – the text and its provenance are printed below.

This poem was written by a young officer in the 5th Battalion, Yorkshire Regiment, half an hour before 'going over the top' to face the German guns at the Battle of the Somme. Using the pen name 'Philip Johnson', John Stanley Purvis survived the First World War and later became Canon Purvis of York Cathedral. His poem recalls walking from Steyning, up Mouse Lane to Chanctonbury Ring.



Chance Memories

I can't forget the lane that goes from
Steyning to the Ring
In summer time, and on the downs
how larks and linnets sing
High in the sun. The wind comes off
the sea, and oh, the air!
I never knew till now that life in old
days was so fair.
But now I know it in this filthy rat-
infested ditch,
Where every shell must kill or spare,
and God alone knows which.
And I am made a beast of prey, and
this trench is my lair –
My God, I never knew till now that
those days were so fair,
And we assault in half-an-hour, and
it's a silly thing:
I can't forget the lane that goes from
Steyning to the Ring

John Stanley Purvis



Music

And That's Jazz

Dorset House were chosen to put forward ten Jazz specialist instrumentalists for the Brighton College Jazz Day. With a selection of trumpets, trombones, saxophones, clarinets and flutes we headed off for a day of music making. After some improvised warm ups, we were shown three pieces: Havana, Tequila and Watermelon Man - some classics and a modern twist! These were pieces that we had to sight read. After our amazing lunch, we were split into groups and rehearsed with a specialist staff member on our sectional parts. Eventually we assembled in the Great Hall where we put the jigsaw back together. We then performed a concert to parents and staff. With seventy-five people in the band, there was a great sense of teamwork and a big, big sound! An added bonus was that we also bumped into a few DH alumni!

Jack Woodage (Swing Band Leader)

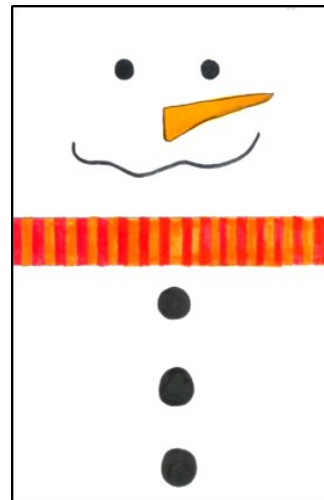


Art and DT

This year, the competition was judged by Charlie O'Brien – assisted by colleagues at Bonhams, the international auction house. Mr O'Brien was looking for designs which would stand out on a printed card, careful presentation and humour. He was really impressed by the amount of work everyone had put into their cards and wanted one card from each Year Group to win a prize. He chose one from the Pre-Prep and one from the Prep to be professionally printed. Everyone who took part received a special Christmas pencil and the prize winners are as follows:

Year 1	Coco Goss
Year 2	Jack Patten
Year 3	Harriet Howgate
Year 4	Coco Gray
Year 5	Samuel Waddell
Year 6	Truly Wilson
Year 7	Bria Williamson
Year 8	Emmie Barkes

There was a special prize for **Neve Meurer** who made two lovely 3D cards and the overall winners were: **Coco Goss** and **Truly Wilson**.



Art and DT

The Art room and DT workshop has been a hive of activity this term both in lessons and during art club sessions.

Art Club has been so popular that in addition to Monday and Tuesday lunch times children can now come along to do extra art on Thursday morning breaks.

Year 7 have been particularly enthusiastic about using the school's new printing press and Japanese lino cutting tools for their lino block print project.

They have produced some outstanding work. The theme of the project was animals and this theme has been carried across into DT where they have been making flat pack timber animals.

Year 4 have been very industrious using the sewing machines, knitting and making pencil cases in DT and in art they have done evacuees watercolour paintings and learnt about Henry Moore who was a wartime artist.

In DT Year 5 have been making whirling whizzers and learning about working safely in the workshop.

Year 6 have used acrylic and timber to make handheld mazes.

Year 5 have also been busy working on sunflower paintings and learning about different artists and Year 6 have been making butterflies and moths and doing artist studies.

Lastly, Year 8 are working on a ceramics project inspired by John Maltby, each pupil has come up with a personal design reflecting their own family and interests.

Carly Harrison

Right are **Charlie Thomas** and **Mia Finn** printmaking and below is **Edwyn Payne's** crane.



Boarding

We have had a great time in boarding this term. We welcomed **Mr Twinley** to our boarding family and he now runs Wednesday nights.

We have enjoyed lots of exciting activities such as dodgeball and lacrosse on the astro. We have also played spotlight in the woods and have been busting a few moves in the Barn playing, 'Just Dance'.

As the winter slowly creeps in, we have turned to indulging ourselves in tuck and movie nights on Thursdays. Card and board games are also popular and some boarders were very proud when they managed to complete a 1000 piece jigsaw puzzle!

We have the boarders' party coming up in Chichester at the end of term and we will go bowling – imagine over sixty of us taking over the bowling alley! We will be competing against each other, but also in teams.

Unfortunately, we have to say goodbye to three key members of the boarding team at the end of term:

Miss Bellamy who has helped out with all the activities and has been a great 'big sister' to all the boarders.

Mr McLaren who has also been key by helping out at numerous clubs, such as going to Arundel every Monday night to help cricket club and helping with general activities. When he goes it will be a great loss to the whole of the boarding family.

Miss Davies has been an excellent night matron and has always listened to people and helped with their problems. The Christmas tree looks great (thanks to the Godfrey family) and all our Secret Santa presents are waiting for us on the last day of term. If only we knew how to keep a secret...

David Morley - Head of Boarding

Above right: **Bibi Matthews** and **Rosie Ormerod** with 'Secret Santa' gifts. Below right: **Bruno Heggie** playing cards and below: **Maisie Taylor, Bria Williamson, Mia Finn** and **Phoebe Hughes** with their completed jigsaw.



Other News

Equestrian Update

The Dorset House Equestrian Team have had a superb term with some truly amazing achievements. We have had 11 children from Reception to Year 8 competing for the school across so many competitions during this term. It is lovely to see future talent getting started at the smaller grass roots classes through to our older children winning at National level!

Highlights:

- Dorset House placed 5th in the Regional Points League for South East Schools for Sept 17 - June 18
- Hurst Schools Showjumping at Hickstead
- Champion Team at 80-85cm - **Sean Scrase, Neve Meurer, Alice Crowley and Lauren Wilkins**
- National Schools Equestrian Association Championships at Keysoe
- 5th Place Team at 80-85cm Showjumping - **Alice Crowley, Sean Scrase and Lauren Wilkins**

It is important to put these achievements into perspective. The Hickstead competition had over 20 schools from all over the South East, most of which are Senior Schools. There is little doubt they were the youngest team competing at that height.

The NSEA Championships is a huge competition, attracting schools from all over UK and is growing yearly - there were around a thousand horses at the show over 5 days! To even get there is a major achievement as you have to be either 1st or 2nd at a qualifying competition. For a DH team of only 3 competitors (therefore no drop score) to come 5th out of



*It has been great to see some of our younger riders competing for DH this term. Pictured are **Gus Gray (Y3), Thomas Sirett (Y2) and Sebastian Scrase (Y5)***

over 40 qualifying schools is exceptional. Again they were by far the youngest team and raised a lot of eyebrows in the final line up of prize giving as they were so little! Our grass roots team was out at the Regional Championship on 25th November with a team of **Neve and Brooke Meurer, Matilda Simpson and Sebastian Scrase**. All went clear in the 50cm Class securing 6th place out of 11 teams.



Charity

This term, with the focus very much on Remembrance, we nominated the Royal British Legion as the recipient of our collections at church, both in Bury and in Arundel.

Thanks to your generosity, we were able to raise over £500.

Everyone enjoyed dressing up in something spotty for Children in Need in November. As this coincided with the Parents' Association Neon Disco day, there were some particularly fetching outfits! The children raised £240.

Feast fundraising has been paused this term as we are able to meet our targets from funds raised in the summer term.

Thanks as ever to you all for your support.

Bury Manor Pre-School

We celebrated our first anniversary in our new classroom with a new mud kitchen and sandpit in our playground - lovingly made by Little Tracey's husband. The children and parents of Bury Manor joined together with the children of Cootham and their parents for the harvest Celebrations in the Barn where they performed harvest songs and activities and had the opportunity to enjoy the children's harvest oat cookies and fruit punch and create a pumpkin balloon with as much healthy competitive spirit as they could muster.

As the children grow and become used to the 'workings' of pre-school we are able to take increasing advantage of our wonderful surroundings and have therefore moved further afield. The famous (infamous!) Bear Hunt round trip which included the biggest, muddiest puddle; took us to the river's edge; through the muddle puddle; up and alongside the beet field to discover the bonfire ready for the evening's firework display and party! We managed to return back to Nursery in plenty of time for 12 children to have their clothes changed from top to bottom and for me to wash 12 pairs of very muddy shoes as I didn't think wellies were necessary on this day...a mistake I lived to regret!

During the last week of term, the children walked to a Christmas Tree Farm, selected a suitably sized tree, sawed it down and carried it back to Nursery to decorate and I can't tell you just how excited I am that they were able to take part in this wonderful experience thanks to Jojo Godfrey at Hollow Farm Christmas Trees. We ended the week with the children performing brilliantly our Christmas Nativity followed by the children's Christmas Party with a brilliant entertainer and delightful chap in a red suit!

Tracey Brooks



P.A. News

The Parents' Association at Dorset House has for many years worked hard and with the support of all the parents at Dorset House, raised funds to support the school with projects big and small. This year is no different and we are off to a great start.

Over the next two years we are looking to raise funds to build a jetty at the school waterfront and supply it with all the equipment children could possibly need to make the most of our river side location. The floating pontoon accessed directly from the school will enable children now and in the future to experience the river in many different ways. Once built, it will really make the most of surrounding school environment for children of all ages at Dorset House, creating a wonderful legacy for all involved in the fundraising over the next two years.

Our first term has got us off to a great start. We raised £2216.75 thanks to all the supporters who attended Jazz in the Barn in September and the **Neon Disco**, which was just meant to be a bit of fun actually raised £476.27. Bringing us to a grand total of just under £2700. Thank you to everyone for their support.

We have three more fundraising events this year. The first is **Blues in the Barn on the 26th January 2019**. This promises to be a really fun evening to look forward to after all the Christmas excitement. This event is open to the public so please get your tickets booked early in January and bring all your friends and family to ensure this event is a success. The second is the **'Family Fun Run'**



on 18th May - suitable for all the family. Finally the jewel in the crown is the Circus themed **Summer Ball on 22nd June** which we know will be a show stopper and help us hit the 20k target for this year. Emma Wood, who is leading the Ball Fundraising Team, has accomplished the spectacular and this event is already sold out with 6 months to go! We still require sponsors for the summer ball, packages start at £500. We also require auction items to ensure we hit our fundraising target. The ongoing support of the Parents of Dorset House is much appreciated. I also want to take this opportunity to thank this year's PA. They have stepped up and made it happen for the school without hesitation, giving their time and enthusiasm for the benefit of all. Bring on 2019 and we wish you a Merry Christmas.

Sarah Meurer - PA Chair

Above are actions shots from Jazz by the River, the Neon Disco and the 'Love DH' event at which parents, pupils and staff worked hard in the school grounds before enjoying a barbecue cooked by the Headmaster.





*'Pupils are kind, happy, well-behaved and confident'. (ISI Report, September 2018)
Dorset House was given the top 'Excellent' rating in all areas.*



OPEN MORNING

SATURDAY 16th March 2019

9.30 am to 12.00 noon

(Please add Twitter, Facebook and Instagram)

Minibus pick-ups available

Day and flexi-boarding prep school for children from Reception to Year 8

'Outstanding' Pre-School on site for children from 2