



FOUNDED IN 1487

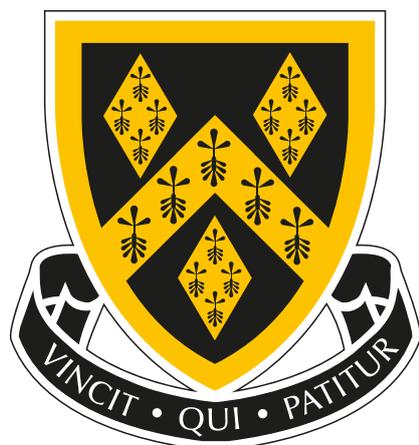
The **Stopfordian** *2019–2020*

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Vivienne Arrowsmith
Editor

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Supervisor

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Ms J. KELLY

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Mrs P. MITCHELL
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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

I am very pleased to introduce this record of an extraordinary academic year.

In the first half of the year the strength of Stockport Grammar School was evident as sport, music, charitable activities, art, drama and a wide variety of co-curricular activities all flourished and this magazine describes the achievements of the School's pupils which are a tribute to their enthusiasm and accomplishment and also to the hard work and commitment of the School's staff. In addition there were fine results in the GCSE and A Level public examinations which saw a strong intake into the Lower Sixth and enabled the vast majority of Upper Sixth leavers to take up their preferred choices for further education or training.

On 20th March, the School was required to close to all except the children of key workers in the face of the Covid-19 pandemic, which has caused illness and bereavement, has threatened jobs and businesses and has devastated social lives. In extraordinary circumstances the response of the School community was impressive and inspiring and I am really pleased to have the opportunity to pay tribute to the pupils who demonstrated such self-discipline, positivity and commitment and to express my sincere thanks to those parents who, often in very difficult personal circumstances, supported both their children's home learning and the School and its staff.

The Governors are very grateful to the Head, the Bursar and all the teaching and support staff who have worked very hard and have displayed enormous skill, commitment and adaptability in responding to challenging and fast-changing circumstances by introducing and enhancing new teaching patterns at short notice and for their imagination and creativity in introducing a wide range of virtual co-curricular activities. The staff are Stockport Grammar School's greatest asset.

A number of valued members of staff have left the School over the last academic year including Tim Wheeler, the conscientious and hard-working Head of the Junior School since 2014. I have very much enjoyed working with Tim over the last six years and it was fitting that he received recognition for his tireless charity work by being awarded a MBE in 2019 and for his work at the Junior School by the highest ISI rating of Excellent in the 2019 Inspection Report. From a very strong field of candidates Matthew Copping, formerly Headteacher of Brooklands Primary School in Sale, was the unanimous choice of the Governors to succeed Tim and I am delighted that Matthew has joined the staff as the new Head of the Junior School.



It has continued to be a pleasure to work with my colleagues on the Governing body and I am grateful for their generous commitment of time, effort and skill to the welfare of the School. Dr Lucy Gholkar, GP, Old Stopfordian and parent has joined the board, whilst Peter Giblin has retired after ten years as a governor. A former Head of Physics, Peter served successively as the nominated governor of the Teaching Body and then of Manchester University and sat on the Education and Management Committees. Peter contributed consistently and creatively on all matters discussed by the Board and has been a conscientious supporter of the School at all co-curricular events.

May I take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support for Stockport Grammar School and to wish you and your families well during these continuing difficult times.

Finally, I would like to thank Viv Arrowsmith and the editorial staff who have produced, and everyone who has contributed to, this edition of The Stopfordian.

Mr C Dunn
Chairman of Governors

HEADMASTER'S REPORT

It is an absolute pleasure to be able to look back over the 2019-20 year at Stockport Grammar School. It has been a truly extraordinary year, unlike anything I have ever experienced in my professional career, and very much a year of two halves.

In summer 2019 we celebrated another fine set of A-level results with 78% of all grades at A*, A or B. In the GCSE examinations, more than 60% of all grades were 9, 8 or 7 with over 21% of the results at the highest grade of 9. I am delighted that these fine results gave our Upper Sixth leavers excellent opportunities with their applications to university, training or employment.

The first half of the new academic year saw sports of all sorts flourishing: hockey, netball, rugby and football as well as fencing, archery, climbing and many more. Particular highlights included the U15 rugby and hockey teams reaching the quarter-final stages of the respective national competitions whilst the U14 netball team came third in the National Schools Final. Outdoor pursuits remain perennially popular with over 200 pupils involved in the Duke of Edinburgh Scheme. In Music, many pupils were able to participate in concerts before Christmas with a dazzling array of talents on show. The Drama department produced a large cast version of A Christmas Carol before combining with the Music department to stage the musical Chicago in the spring. Sadly, the main evening performances had to be cancelled, as the coronavirus lock down began in March, but the cast were able to perform the show twice to audiences of pupils during the school day. The standard of acting, singing and playing was spectacularly high and underscores the excellence of our provision in Performing Arts.

The Remembrance Day Service was particularly poignant this year, as 11th November 2019 saw the 100th anniversary of the introduction of the 'Two Minute Silence'. It was wonderful to welcome a number of Old Stopfordians and friends of the school to join in with the act of remembrance. The Founder's Day Service in March was also very well-attended and featured an inspiring address by the Reverend Michael Loach, former teacher at SGS.

At the end of school on Friday 20th March, in common with all other schools nationally, the SGS site closed to pupils, although some children of key workers were still allowed to attend. The school stayed open, however, even if the buildings were closed, as teaching, learning materials and activities all moved on-line. I was delighted by the enthusiasm, grit and sheer adaptability shown by the whole school community when confronted with the challenges posed by the coronavirus restrictions and by having to find new ways to 'do school'. Pupils developed their independent learning skills and wrote, made, calculated and collaborated effectively from home. Virtual choirs and ensemble performances, art competitions, sports fitness challenges, an on-line Sports Day, quizzes, Enterprise Days and careers events all enlivened the daily academic routine. The teachers honed their animation, film making and video presentation skills and we now have a large on-line bank of explanations, demonstrations and assemblies to benefit future generations of pupils in more normal times.



In the Summer Term the school was able to reopen for some year groups in the Junior School and the pupils delighted in being able to see their friends and teachers face to face again. The Fourth Year and Lower Sixth pupils were also able to have some time in school in June to check their progress with remote learning and to complete some practical tasks. In unprecedented circumstances, the pupils' appetite for academic learning, their determination to continue to grow and develop as people and the sense of community at SGS was impressively evident throughout the period of physical closure.

I am most grateful to the staff who worked so hard over the year in school and from home to establish and develop a huge array of activities and to help the pupils to take full advantage of all the educational opportunities open to them.

A number of members of staff left the school at the end of the academic year and I am indebted to them for their huge commitment to the pupils. Mr Bowles moves to Manchester Grammar School after four years as Deputy Head at SGS. Mr Urwin retires from the Classics department after 28 years of faithful service. Mrs Vernon leaves the Design & Technology department after 19 years at SGS and Mrs Morgan retires from the Languages department after 10 years. Mr Kennedy moves to Morrison's Academy in Crieff as Director of Music and Ms Griffiths leaves the History department.

Dr Paul Owen
Headmaster

DISTINCTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

Bronze: Rowan Abbott, Hadiya Adam, Lily Amet, Maya Anderson, Ellie Anderson, Daniel Atanasov, Nawaal Awaisi, Grace Bangudu, Lydia Barker, Alex Beer, Louis Beer, Adam Bellamy, Ava Bennett, William Bevan, Orly Bonar, James Brace, Albert Bradshaw, Oliver Brindle, Robert Brocklebank, Naomi Brown, Eloisa Burton, Marley Busby, Justin Campbell, Jacob Collier, Hayley Collins, Drew Conroy, Libby Conway, Maddie Corcoran, Lily Craig, Marika Cybulska-Ludlam, Ben Dadge, Danny Dang, Sadie Davis, Lucy Davison, Isaac Deans, Bjorn Dickson, Ned Donovan, Lily Douglas, Joseph Eaton, Oscar Fahy, Lowenna Forrester, Alexander Foster, Sam Foster, Lauren Gall, Ella Glazier, Emmanuel Graver, Evelina Gwynne, Matthew Harbridge, Charlie Harrison, Georgia Hartley-Denton, Jono Hawkins, Thomas Hodgson, William Hornby, Kate Horsley, Elisabeth Horsnell, Tammy Huang, Joe Hughes, Edward Hukin, Harry Hulme, Amy Jack, Millie Job, Manav Kanaya, Amy Le, Tristan Liddle, Harry Lynn, Daood Malik, Kristian Mason, Eddie McDonald, JoJo Mills, William Morris, Navid Mousavi Khoshrou, Ayza Nasir, Sami Nassar, Yusra Nawaz, Freya Newall, Chloe Olajide, Ashlyn Orr, Patrick Owen, Lianna Patel, Sophie Pickup, Eliza Pinkstone, Bella Platt, Libby Porter, Oliver Potts, Daniel Rogers, Amelia Rosenberg-Powell, Juliet Shiel, Alexander Shilton, Holly

Smith, Lucy Stead, Fiona Telfer, Oliver Thorley, Oliver Van Der Ploeg, Priscilla Vemulapalli, Peter Walker, Izzie White, Leah Whitehouse-Hudson, Evie Whyllie, Hannah Wilkinson, Harry Wilkinson, Patrick Wilkinson, Tom Williams, Elinor Wise, Daniel Wood, Omar Zaki, Talia Zelfhof.

Silver Award: Isabel Darbyshire, Louis Hughes, Ethan Jones, Asha Mistry, Zoe Shah, Freya Ustianowski, Rosie White, Cam Wylie.

Silver Certificate of Achievement: Eliza Arif, Harry Brown, Isobel Gardner, Ellie Hanson, Jessica Horsford, Isabel Marshall, Alex Patsias, Tobin Rose, Daniel Simpson, Alex Ward.

Gold: Sarah Callow, Phoebe Christodoulou, Thomas Cope, Emily Daniels, Anna Davies, Sophie Douglas, Leon Evans, Alfie Hall, Lucie Hanson, Emma Harte, Lauryn Howard, Lucy Howling, Nathaniel Huang, Alice Jones, Louisa Kelly, Emily Noble, Dillan Roberts, Samuel Shilton, Samuel Stretton, Annabel Tordoff.

Gold Certificate of Achievement: Ben Finlay-McDougall.

MUSIC

Pippa Brown, *Grade 8 Piano (Merit), Saxophone Diploma*
Sarah Callow, *Grade 8 Singing (Distinction)*
Daniel Vincent, *Grade 8 Euphonium (Distinction)*
George Zelfhof, *Piano ABRSM Diploma*

Lilly Cook, *Greater Manchester String Orchestra*
Thomas Culwick, *Halle Children's Choir*
Liv Dow, *Halle Youth Orchestra*
Teddy Hotchkies, *Foden's Youth Brass Band*

Kate Langton, *Halle Youth Choir*
Ella Moran, *Halle Youth Choir*
Eloise Scott, *Halle Youth Choir*
Daniel Vincent, *Foden's Youth Brass Band, Junior RNCM*

Oscar Williams, *Cheshire Youth Jazz and National Youth Jazz Collective Course*
Daniel Wood, *National Children's Orchestra*
George Zelhof, *Junior RNCM*
Talia Zelhof, *Halle Youth Orchestra*

YOUNG ENTERPRISE

SGS Company, *UpCycled* continued the School's success in the competition by progressing from the Stockport and Tameside Final in to the Greater Manchester County Final for the fifth year running. They received awards for both

sustainability and customer service. The team of three pupils created various pieces of artwork from old CDs and DVDs which sold extremely well.

PHYSICS

Senior Physics Challenge:

Oliver Ensor-Adams achieved a Gold Award. Daniel Grant, Matthew Howling, Reece Linney and Weiyu Wang were awarded Bronze 1.

Physics Challenge:

Alex Patsias and Yicheng Xia achieved the Gold Award. William Insley achieved a Bronze 1 and Harry Brown, Jessica Horsford and Louis Le were awarded Bronze 2.

ART

Hannah Franklin won the U18 category at the Living Edge Magazine schools' Art Competition. Fifth Year pupil Lois McCarthy was shortlisted in the U16 category.

Olivia Patton-Lane and Hannah Wilkinson had their artwork chosen to illustrate articles in *The Medic Mentor*, Autumn 2020 publication. Alex Beer was shortlisted for the Rankin Photography competition 2020.

PHILOSOPHY

Callum Day was highly commended in the Sheffield University's Philosophy Essay Competition.

GEOGRAPHY

Fourth Year pupil Bella Platt won the Young Planner Award at the Royal Institute of Town Planning's Awards for Planning Excellence. Bella won both the Best Report/Concept and

Most Sustainable Project awards for the 11-15 category of the nationwide competition.

UNIVERSITY DESTINATIONS

<i>Name</i>	<i>University</i>	<i>Course</i>
Namrah Afzal	Manchester Metropolitan University	Law
Sana Ahmed	Keele University	Law
Linton Armstrong	University of Leeds	Politics
Lili Ashton	Gap Year 2020/21	
Olivia Austin	Sheffield Hallam University	Chemistry
Almira Awan-Rutter	UCL (University College London)	Medicine (6 years)
Megan Bailey-Manion	University of Salford	English Literature with English Language
Imogen Belshaw	University of Leeds	Biology
Luke Bennett	Lancaster University	Law (Study Abroad)
Alfred Bradshaw	University of Exeter	Archaeology
Joshua Brougham	University of Liverpool	Philosophy and Politics
Philippa Brown	University of Birmingham	Mathematics and Music
Jack Buchanan	Durham University	General Engineering
Oliver Butler	University of Bath (deferred to 2021)	Mechanical Engineering (with Placement)
Zahra Butt	University of Birmingham	Medicine (5 years)
Sarah Callow	Durham University	Music
Liam Campbell	Gap year and reapplying	
William Carroll	Planning to join RAF Officer Training	
Jamie Carson	University of Cambridge	Modern and Medieval Languages
Amaan Chohan	Queen Mary University of London	Biochemistry
Aiden Chow	King's College London, University of London	Biomedical Science
Phoebe Christodoulou	University of Nottingham	Veterinary Medicine
Olivia Clark	University of Nottingham	Psychology
Cameron Cook	Lancaster University	Business Management
Thomas Cope	Lancaster University	Economics (Industry)
James Coppock	Oxford Brookes University	Real Estate
William Coppock	Nottingham Trent University	Product Design
Isabelle Corcoran	University of Glasgow	Law
Pippa Crook	University of Birmingham	Physiotherapy
Alex Curwen	BIMM Institute	Songwriting & Music Production
Emily Daniels	Sheffield Hallam University	Paramedic Science
Amelia Davies	Newcastle University	Geography
George Dixon	University of Sheffield	Engineering
Sophie Douglas	University of St Andrews	Medicine
Max Doyle	University of Liverpool	Politics, Philosophy and Economics
Leoni Doyle	University of Leeds	Dental Hygiene and Dental Therapy
Eloise Duck	Lancaster University	Psychology
Archie Eady-Gurr	University of St Andrews	Philosophy and Theological Studies
Charlie Escott	University of Nottingham	Psychology
Dylan Farley	Newcastle University	Marine Biology
Benjamin Foster	Newcastle University	Accounting and Finance with placement
Lucy Foster	Newcastle University	Business Management
Hannah Franklin	Leeds Arts University	Illustration
Will Garrett	University of Chester	French and German
Eve Gibbons	University of Cambridge	Veterinary Medicine
Oliver Grundy	University of Leeds	Physics with Astrophysics
Daisy Hanson	Newcastle University	International Business Management with Placement
Lucie Hanson	University of Liverpool	Therapeutic Radiotherapy and Oncology
Ruby Harrison	University of Liverpool	Business Management
Emma Harte	Lancaster University	Philosophy
Emily Hibbins	University of Manchester	Neuroscience (4 years) [MSci]
Katie Hicks	University of Warwick	Classical Civilisation
Lauryn Howard	Durham University	Chemistry (Industrial)
Ethan Howgate	University of Salford	Architectural Design and Technology

Nathaniel Huang	University of Warwick	Data Science
Jay Hurst	University of Birmingham	Sports, Physical Education and Coaching Science
Hyesung Jang	University of Manchester	Medicine
Sameer Javid	University of St Andrews	Philosophy and Physics
Macy Jeffries	Gap Year reapplying for Medicine	
Alice Jones	University of Birmingham	Engineering
Toby Jones	University of Liverpool	Business Economics
T'Don Kennedy	University of Nottingham	Biotechnology
Awais Khan	University of Manchester	Medicine
Omid Kordmahalleh	University of Sheffield	Biomedical Sciences
Thomas Lansbury	Newcastle University	Economics
Naomi Littlewood	University of Manchester	Psychology
Benjamin Lloyd	Preplanned Gap Year - sitting October exam	
Richard Loveday	Northumbria University, Newcastle	Human Geography
Muhammad Mahmood	Reapplying	
Alexander Malone	University of Liverpool	Law
Jonas Man	Reapplying	
Giacomo Mastrolonardo	University of Leeds	Business Management with HR
Alan McCartney	Durham University	Classics
Phoebe Micklefield	Durham University	English Literature
Claire Murphy	Durham University	Modern Languages and Cultures (with Year Abroad)
Laura Murray	Newcastle University	Combined Honours
Jacob Noakes	Loughborough University (deferred to 2021)	Sport and Exercise Science (with placement year)
Kaitlyn Nuttall	Manchester Metropolitan University	Speech and Language Therapy with Foundation Year
James O'Connor	Return to SGS to repeat U6th	
Benjamin Pearse	University of Nottingham	Economics
Thomas Pichel	Hull York Medical School	Medicine
Rhys Richards	Northumbria University, Newcastle	Architecture
Kate Roberts	University of Bristol	Medicine - MBChB Standard entry (5 years)
Matthew Rogan	Newcastle University	Geography
Felix Roland	University of Bristol	Zoology
Samuel Shilton	University of Stirling	Economics
Amber Sihan	University of Manchester	Pharmacy
Beth Taylor	Durham University	Natural Sciences
Megan Taylor	UCL (University College London)	Geography (International)
Finley Taylor	Newcastle University	Economics
Oliver Thompson	University of Leicester	Economics
Jake Thorley	Northumbria University, Newcastle	3D Design
Sam Thornton-West	University of Nottingham	Politics and International Relations
Bilal Vohra	University of Manchester	Medicine
Lewis Welch	Sheffield Hallam University	Aerospace Engineering
William Whitehouse-Hyde	Manchester Metropolitan University	Sport Business Management
Alexander Whyllie	University of Nottingham	Law
Matthew Williams	Return to SGS to repeat U6th	
Benjamin Wilson	University of Bristol	Mechanical Engineering

OLD STOPFORDIANS

Millad Azizi Torkanpour (OS 2019)	Bournemouth University	Forensic Computing and Security
Nia Duffy (OS 2019)	University of Liverpool	Medicine
Thibault Greenhalgh (OS 2018)	Sheffield Hallam University	Digital Media Production with Foundation Year
Sohaib Javed (OS 2019)	Keele University	Pharmacy with Health Foundation Year
Cornelia Kolusi Dehghanpuor (OS 2019)	University of Sheffield	Medicine
Humza Muhammad (OS 2019)	Edge Hill University	Medicine with Foundation Year (6 years)
Emily Noble (OS 2019)	Newcastle University	Economics

SENIOR PRIZE LIST 2020

Subject	Prize	Recipient
English	Frederick Towns	Phoebe Micklefield
English Literature	Guthrie Hall	Megan Taylor
History	Judge Gilbert Forrest	Alexander Malone
	Ephraim Hallam	Kate Langton
Economics	London Old Stopfordians'	Liam Campbell
Business	Robert Riding	Olivia Clark
Geography	Admiral Back	Megan Taylor
	Benjamin Varley	Laura Murray
Classical Civilisation	Lord Vernon	Alan McCartney
Latin	John Bentley	Alan McCartney
French	Dr William Rayner	Phoebe Christodoulou
French Literature	Linda Williams	Jamie Carson
German	Rodney Skemp	Jamie Carson
Spanish		Claire Murphy
Mathematics	Lord Gridley	Beth Taylor
	Professor Edge	Lauryn Howard
Physics	Herbert Parkes	Sameer Javid
	Peter Giblin	Jack Buchanan
Chemistry	Frederick Towns	Eve Gibbons
	Robert Riding	Awais Khan
Biology	John Ashby	Zahra Butt
	Dr Calvert	Almira Awan-Rutter
Philosophy	Loach Cup	Archie Eady-Gurr
Theology		Emma Harte
Psychology		Eloise Duck
Art		Zahra Butt
		Lucie Hanson
Music	Old Stopfordians' Lodge	Pippa Brown
	Douglas Steele	Oscar Williams
	Harold Hulme	Sarah Callow
String		Jack Buchanan
Design & Technology		Pippa Crook
A-level Physical Education		Sameer Javid
Boys' Games Cup		Daisy Hanson
Girls' Games Rose Bowl		Ben Wilson
Drama		Jamie Carson
Debating	Robert Riding	Thomas Gregory
Library	The Hallam	Alfred Bradshaw
Voluntary Service	Tom Gare	Joshua Brougham
Reading	W C Knight Memorial	Alexa Ashwood
		Rebecca Peet
Creative Writing	W S Johnston	Victoria Millington
Senior Writing	John Moulton	Emily Hull
Outdoor Pursuits	John Stanley	Ben Finlay-McDougall
Travel Award	Albert Johnston Memorial	Alex Whylie
Law	Geoffrey Yates	The whole of the first year
	The Sara Pilkington Prize	Sophie Douglas
	The Katie Thorburn Cup	

Speech Day
at Stockport Plaza
at 1.45 p.m.

L S Goddard Memorial Prize
L S Goddard Prize
Charles Royle Prize
David Blank Prize
Margaret Scott Prize
Nelstrop Literary Prize
Goldsmiths' Company School Medal

Emily Edwards
Torin Mills
Will Garrett
Omid Kordmahalleh
Charlie Escott
Katie Hicks
Olivia Austin
Oliver Butler
Felix Roland
Kate Roberts
Kate Roberts
Alexander Malone

CHAPLAINCY NEWS

Rev. L.E. Leaver

HARVEST

Harvest provides an opportunity to focus on both being thankful and practically helping those who are in need. The school community enthusiastically donated goods to our local homeless centre, the Wellspring. Some Fourth Year

RS pupils spent a morning delivering the donations and providing some practical help at the town centre building. The number of pupils who volunteer in their own time for Wellspring continues to increase.

CAROL SERVICE

The congregation fell silent, the soloist sang *Once in Royal David's City*, a pin could be heard to drop. This was just one of the magical moments in the annual Carol Service at St George's Church. Pupils and the Headmaster read the Christmas story. All the choirs sang beautifully. The chaplain

led in Christmas prayers. Everyone stood with their lit candle to sing carols. The chamber choir encircled the congregation with music and candlelight to finish. A truly wonderful start to Christmas.

FOUNDER'S DAY

Our annual service to commemorate the school's founder, Sir Edmund Shaa was held in St George's Church just before lockdown in March. We were fortunate to have a much loved former member of staff, Rev Michael Loach as our guest preacher. He spoke about his journey from questioning philosophy teacher to fulfilled parish priest serving his local community. He encouraged us all to demonstrate love in practical ways. The choir sang magnificently. The psalm was sung with gusto. This opportunity to pause and reflect within the school year is very special.



FAITH VISITS

Following on from visits in previous years, all Second Year pupils visited Cheadle Mosque and Yeshurun Hebrew Congregation (Gatley Synagogue) and the Third Years visited the Manchester Buddhist centre. Sadly the other visits were postponed due to lockdown. Pupils and staff enjoy the opportunity to develop our understanding of different faiths and cultures. The warm welcome, enthusiastic speakers and interactive activities are very much appreciated.



FAITH GROUPS

The Christian Union started an Alpha Course this year which continued meeting during lockdown. I am grateful for Fikayo Balogun's willingness to get involved in helping lead this. Awais Khan continued to lead the very popular

Friday Prayers and Muslim assembly. Fifth Year pupils Tanny Rahmana, Enas Mahmoud Jamia, Ziam Malik and Ali-Hamza Peerzada also contributed to a number of assemblies. The involvement of these pupils has enriched our community.

LIBRARY LIFE

Once again the Library kicked off the school year with a busy start, welcoming fresh new faces and continuing to provide a stimulating environment for all our users.

Library inductions were soon in full swing and our *Spotlight on...* series of talks resumed at the start of September with a diverse menu of topics with pupils and staff exploring topics such as *Reality TV*, gaining insight into *Fighting Cancer using Nuclear Physics* and *Science in Archaeology*; and finding out about *Careers in Engineering* and *Life as a Medical Student*. As the Eco-Schools initiative was embraced, we were keen to contribute to pupils' exploration of green issues and arranged talks on plastic waste reduction.

We don't just invite external speakers to share their knowledge, we also encourage pupils to deliver talks and aspiring vet, Phoebe Christodoulou, gave a fascinating talk on the *Impacts of Selective Breeding on the Welfare of Dogs*, her EPQ topic. We were also delighted to provide a venue for Mr Stone's



Mock Elections which saw passionate and eloquent debates between our pupil candidates and audience members.

SGS Lit Fest is always a highlight in the Spring Term. For this year's adventure we welcomed authors Ross Welford and Matt Dickinson who delighted us with magic, humour, Everest ascents and great women explorers; alongside the Harry Potter Book Night celebrations, quizzes and book matchmaking. Either side of Lit Fest we enjoyed the visit of author M A Bennett and a 'cake-tastic' World Book Day Cake Sale and Book Swap raising money for school charities and Book Aid International.



During lockdown we set up a trial to an eBook platform to enable us to continue to provide a selection of books to keep pupils reading widely and encouraging pupils to take part in our summer reading challenges *Rainbow Reads* and *Summer 7*.

Ms J Pazos

CHARITY REPORT

Pupils have raised £4,244 for the school's three chosen charities - The Christie, The Wellspring Stockport and EducAid – as well as other deserving charities including Mind and Macmillan Cancer Support.



The annual Nicholson House *Jumping Jacks* Valentine's lunch was a hit again. Other charity events hosted this year included the Santa Dash and non-uniform day.

The Active Citizenship Team supported The Wellspring Stockport's Rucksack Project by holding a collection of rucksacks, sleeping bags, gloves, hats and food.



The SGS community also joined together to support the wider Stockport community during lockdown. Former swimming teacher midwife Kristy Franklin took boxes of donated toiletries to Stepping Hill Hospital. To support the call for extra PPE at Stockport NHS Foundation Trust, the Science

departments donated science equipment and the Design Technology department worked hard to produce face shields for NHS workers. Science equipment was also donated to a local care home.

SECOND AND THIRD YEAR CAREERS AFTERNOON

Second and Third Year pupils participated in virtual careers days to explore a variety of career options and the necessary requirements to reach them. Forty guest speakers, representing a wide range of industries, gave in-depth insights into their career paths with many Old Stopfordians presenting their journey after leaving SGS.



Industries covered included: Armed Forces, Aviation, Business, Education, Engineering, Environment, Fashion, Finance, IT, Law, Media, Medicine, Product Design, Science and Sport. Pupils had the opportunity to learn about a variety of roles including what it takes to become a Helicopter Pilot, a Wealth Management Consultant, a Medic, a Formula 1 Strategist and many more.

The careers day is an important step for pupils considering their GCSE options with speakers offering information about

the qualifications and experiences they needed to reach their career goals, starting with their school experiences.

As well as discussing qualifications and activities at school, guest speakers were also asked about other influences that had shaped their career.

Thank you to all the contributors for their support.

Mrs H Tadman

PRIMARY ART COMPETITION

Now in its sixth year, the Stockport Grammar School Year 5 Art Competition sponsored by Brewin Dolphin welcomed 132 artists from 18 local primary schools to an exhibition evening on Thursday 6th February to show their work to family and friends.

Continuing with the competition's theme of 'self-portrait', entrants astounded the judges with their creativity and the range of theme interpretation. Artwork varied in size, style and media: Stockport Grammar School's Head of Art and Design, Mr Davies commented; *"When judging the pieces I was impressed not just by the quality on display but also by the variety of artists that had been researched and, importantly, understood in the development of the work. I hope the artists enjoyed making it as much as I did looking at it."*

Sofia Bregu of Alexandra Park Primary School won the competition with a piece inspired by the Pre-Raphaelites that

used mixed media successfully in an ambitious piece that was both beautiful and eye-catching.

All artists were congratulated on being chosen to represent their schools and the amazing artwork produced showed the talent, imagination and time the artists had put in. During the evening, they also enjoyed taking part in art activities led by SGS students and teachers. Artists went home with a 'goody bag' provided by sponsors Brewin Dolphin, including art equipment to help them continue to capture their creativity for others to enjoy.



REMOTE LEARNING

Following government guidelines, the school closed to most pupils from the end of the day on Friday 20th March. SGS teachers had been preparing for this eventuality and extensive use was made of electronic resources, with staff keeping in regular contact with pupils to support them pastorally and academically. A small number of pupils whose parents are key workers were cared for in school.

Across the school, innovative ways were found to deliver online teaching and provide pastoral support. Our teachers used a range of platforms including Google Meet, Google Classroom, Satchel One, the Pupil Portal and email.

'I have to say that I'm really blown away with the level of work, support and care you are providing, it is amazing! I just wanted to let you know how grateful we are as a family and that we really do appreciate all the efforts that you and all your wonderful staff are making.' (Parent)

In the Senior School, pupils enjoyed regular video assemblies from the Headmaster. The Sixth Form team continued to support university preparations with a series of video presentations to guide students through the process.

Departments also created a variety of videos to support remote learning. Pupils were able to watch a wide range of science experiments featuring SGS staff, from Fractional Distillation with Dr Annie Glarvey to Projectiles Demonstrations with Miss Ruth Moore. The Physics department alone videoed nearly 40 experiments! Biology teacher Mr Paul Allen tested Second Year pupils' understanding of rocks, weathering and the rock cycle by taking part in a Kahoot quiz via Google Meet.

Videos in the Design Technology department included an introduction to the piercing saw. Head of Food and Nutrition Miss Sarah Hodgkinson demonstrated a range of recipes including Macaroni Cheese, teaching Second Year pupils how to make the dish and the process of gelatinisation.

The school's musicians took part not only in virtual rehearsals but also performances. The performances included a stunning version of Bellini's *Vaga Luna, Che Inargenti* by Fourth Year Ella Moran, accompanied by Director of Music Mr Michael Dow; while five percussionists came together to play *In the Box*, a new piece composed by SGS Percussion teacher Mr Mark Landon.



The Sports department devised a variety of sporting challenges and activities. Pupils took part in an exciting challenge that involved an SGS 'race' to the Tokyo Olympics 2021 and a UK Inter-School Competition. SGS is grateful for the support of the alumni who sent in challenge videos that were made available for the whole school community to enjoy.

First Year pupils joined Mr Ollie Johnson on a virtual trip to The British Library in London, as they explored *The Treasures Room* and the *Harry Potter: A History of Magic Exhibition*.

The SGS Drama department kept pupils engaged and inspired whilst they were learning at home with a diverse range of exciting learning opportunities. First Year pupils enjoyed a virtual theatre visit as they watched a live streamed performance of the award-winning *Peter Pan Goes Wrong* by Mischief Theatre. The pupils then created their own monologue based on the play. Third Years recorded performances of monologues they wrote after studying *Citizenship* by Mark Ravenhill and Second Year pupils created a monologue after reading Roald Dahl's *The Twits*. Staff and pupils also got together, virtually, to watch weekly live streamed performances from the National Theatre.





The Art department kept all year groups busy working on *Lockdown Art*.

Lower Sixth Form geographers took part in a virtual fieldtrip. The sessions focussed on Human Geography and Physical Geography. Second Year pupils were encouraged to take part in the Cloud Spotting Competition.

The Maths department used videos to set pupils some number games. The challenges were a great way of testing the pupils' knowledge and they enjoyed the excitement of working out the answers as fast as possible.

Fourth Year Spanish pupils made some meals/tapas. They were given a selection of recipes in Spanish, then having chosen their dish, they had to read the ingredients and follow the instructions. They then used their language skills to write

about how they found making their dish and what it tasted like.

'Can I pass on our heartfelt thanks for all the wonderful lessons and support both our children have received during 'lock down'. We have been absolutely delighted with the whole package from Google Meets, lessons, form time, our girls have been phenomenally supported – simply great!' (Parent)

ARDEN

House Captains: **Almira Awan-Rutter**
Lilli Ashton
Lucy Foster
Sam Shilton

Heads of House: **Mrs H R Ashton**
Dr W Krywonos



Obviously this turned out to be a very different year. Arden pupils made a decent start to the Autumn Term with very good performances in Lower Sixth Badminton, Second Year Contact Rugby and the Senior Girls Netball competitions. We battled through some of the early First Year events, with particular mention going to the deserving rugby and quiz teams. The Arden spirit was shown to be as strong as ever with pupils fighting for points in their usual determined fashion, congratulating team mates and conducting themselves well.



Pupils also displayed their commitment through their hard work and dedication in the academic arena. The ATL grades were accumulated throughout the three terms and ensured victory for Arden House in the Brown Cup in the first year after it's relaunch.

With the onset of Lockdown, pupils remained undeterred and fought hard to raise their game through the 'Race for Tokyo' competition. Watching this event unfold online was fascinating and really did bring members of the house together across all year groups. By the end of the Summer Term Arden had risen to a fantastic achievement of second place overall in the Fallows Shield.

As the Spring Term loomed Arden were in fourth place in the Fallows Shield but pupils were not down hearted and Senior Basketball and the Cross Country competitions, alongside House Scrabble and First Year football, enabled a good production of points.

Dr Krywonos and I are very proud of how members of Arden have coped with the difficulties and challenges of Lockdown. Their strength of character, kindness to each other and willingness to get involved across the life of the school is to be admired and we congratulate them for their efforts.

HOUSE HONOURS

GOLD

<i>Almira Awan-Rutter</i>	<i>Ethan Howgate</i>
<i>Lilli Ashton</i>	<i>Lucy Foster</i>
<i>Amaan Chohan</i>	<i>Sameer Javid</i>
<i>George Dixon</i>	<i>Sam Shilton</i>

SILVER

Louis Beer
Libby Bowden
Frank Chatterton
Colleen Devlin
William Hornby
JoJo Mills
Alexander Shilton

BRONZE

<i>Enoch Ajayi</i>	<i>Archie Hoyle</i>
<i>Niamh Bentley</i>	<i>Mia Krywonos</i>
<i>Jasmine Budd</i>	<i>Uma Rathore</i>
<i>Brandon Cross</i>	<i>Robert Stanton</i>
<i>Santiago Danson</i>	<i>Rhys Watson</i>

Mrs H R Ashton and Dr W Krywonos
 Heads of House

NICHOLSON

House Captains: **Imogen Belshaw**
Pippa Crook
Emily Daniels
Emily Hibbins

Heads of House: **Mr A Ehegartner**
Mr M Sallabank



Nicholson House has been proud to maintain a high level of participation and enthusiasm in events over the past year. The House system allows different year groups to interact and encourages friendships to form, which was evident this year, as pupils worked together to win points towards the Fallows Shield.

Congratulations to Hannah Johnson for winning this year's Cheslett Trophy for demonstrating outstanding enthusiasm and dedication to Nicholson House.

Jumping Jacks was a great success again this year. This was the ninth time that the House has put on the event and it has continued to grow in popularity. We would like to thank Mrs Gosling and all her team, as well as the House band for their assistance with this event.

AIMS FOR 2020-21

Nicholson House is known for having a high level of pupil participation, as well as fantastic support from the Senior Prefects, Heads of House and fellow Nicholson House pupils. Our aim is to foster the sense of community that we have built together and to encourage every member of Nicholson House to participate in at least one House event, all whilst striving to win the Fallows Shield.



A SPECIAL THANK YOU

We would like to give thanks to this year's Senior Prefects who excelled in the role. They managed to keep assemblies interesting, always supported events and organised many themselves, all whilst balancing the rigours of A Levels. We would also like to thank all pupils and staff for their continued commitment to the House.

HOUSE HONOURS

GOLD

Imogen Belshaw	Will Garrett
Cameron Cook	Emily Hibbins
Thomas Cope	Macy Jeffries
Pippa Crook	Alex Malone
Emily Daniels	

SILVER

Ellie Anderton	Harry Hulme
Albert Bradshaw	Ben Vine
Evelina Gwynne	Leah Whitehouse-Hudson

BRONZE

Ben Lavender
Lucy Vine



Mr A G Ehegartner and **Mr M Sallabank**
Heads of House

VERNON

House Captains: **Alice Jones**
T'Don Kennedy
Jake Thorley
Jacob Noakes

Heads of House: **Miss J Berry**
Mr O Johnson



Vernon House participation was fantastic throughout the year, and the younger pupils were admirably led by an inspiring and energetic group of Senior Prefects, who led assemblies ranging from important information about mental health to a light-hearted and brilliantly performed Christmas pantomime. The Senior Prefects supported events with enthusiasm and commitment, encouraging pupils to get involved and try out a range of new activities.

VERNON SUCCESSES

Vernon were very well represented at events across the board and had a range of successes, topping the table at the House Climbing and House Scrabble tournaments, as well as performing well in a range of sporting competitions, from football to netball. Although many of the House events went virtual during the remote learning period, Vernonites continued to contribute to the success of the House by running, cycling, and walking enough miles to win the Race to Tokyo competition, and putting in a range of fantastic performances on the virtual Sports Day.

We would like to congratulate all of the pupils who took part in House Competitions, and especially to those pupils who made a significant contribution to Vernon House and have been awarded honours.

Many thanks to all the staff and pupils who have supported the House activities over the course of the year. We are looking forward to increasing participation and challenging for the Fallows Shield again this year!

HOUSE HONOURS

GOLD

Charlie Escott
 Eve Gibbons
 Lauryn Howard
 Alice Jones

T'Don Kennedy
 Thomas Lansbury
 Jacob Noakes
 Jake Thorley

SILVER

Tammy Huang
 Tom Manton
 Eddie McDonald
 James Richardson

Amelia Rosenberg-Powell
 Fiona Telfer
 Ollie Van Der Ploeg

BRONZE

Jeremy Cheung
 Jasmine Cort
 Malaek Djebali
 Tom Farrelly
 Jack Rafter
 Magdalena Zelazny

Miss J Berry and **Mr O Johnson**
 Heads of House

WARREN

House Captains: **Amelia Davies**
Daisy Hanson
Ben Foster
Toby Jones

Heads of House: **Mr A Hanson**
Mrs K Wilkinson



Well that was a year! Or was it just half a year?

September 2019 started off brilliantly yet again for Warren House. We continued to dominate in the Fallows Shield Competition, hoping to be winners for the 12th time in 15 years and things were 'on the up' yet again.



Led by our House Captains, Warren was in safe hands throughout and our weekly assemblies brought about a great sense of camaraderie for all of us. With the help of the four eager, charismatic, enigmatic and creative Captains we were able to offer new ideas and initiatives, adapting things and amending anything that we needed to, allowing our pupils to truly believe in Warren. We added many more activities and involved more pupils at individual events. The House ethos seemed stronger than ever and we would like to thank Amelia, Daisy, Ben and Toby for their input into all of this.

It is always great to see the social interaction on Wednesday mornings: House Assembly day. Many thanks to all of our House staff who make assemblies and events so memorable. Warren House continued to work diligently in terms of Charity work, they organised and ran several events including the

annual Macmillan Cake Morning which raised approximately £350 this year.

The Annual Swimming Gala went ahead in February with a few restrictions in place but then Covid-19 hit hard and things were put on hold. When school finished in March – Warren were in the lead. A number of virtual events were organised and the Race to Tokyo allowed Warren to show their worth, even from home.

We are yet to be announced 'official winners' of the Shield for 2019/2020.

The spirit of our house continues to shine through in this field and we thank our members and their families for all that they do in support of Warren House.

HOUSE HONOURS

GOLD

Amelia Davies
Sophie Douglas
Ben Foster
Daisy Hanson
Toby Jones
Richard Loveday
Kate Roberts
Beth Taylor
Alex Wylie.

SILVER

Alex Beer
Oscar Davies
Isaac Deans
Sam Foster
Edward Hukin
Will Jordan
Thomas Loveday

Finn Mayoh
Annabel Mobley
Eliza Pinkstone
Libby Porter
Isabelle White
Patrick Wilkinson

BRONZE

Emily Carolan
Eve Davies
Jack Dyson
Nathan Job
Penny Horsford
Lara Mathen
Tess McArthy

Reece Patel
Zac Pinkstone
Anna Porter
Josh Sparrow
Nick Turner
Zac Waterhouse.

Mrs K Wilkinson and Mr A Hanson
Heads of House

MATHEMATICS

Overall, it has yet again been a successful year for our mathematicians in the various competitions. Over the course of the academic year our pupils made over 300 entries to national competitions.

INDIVIDUAL COMPETITIONS

The UK Mathematics Trust (UKMT) is a registered charity whose aim is to advance the education of children and young people in Mathematics. The UKMT organises national Mathematics competitions and other mathematical enrichment activities for 11-18 year old UK school pupils.

At Senior level there were six Gold awards: Caitlin Cutts, Oliver Ensor-Adams, Nicholas Othen, Jake Thorley, Yicheng Xia and Dan Wood. Yicheng scored the highest mark in the school and qualified for the Senior Kangaroo.

At Intermediate level there were ten Gold awards: Daniel Atanasov, Luke Atkinson, Thomas Gregory, Zain Javaid, Luke Ng Man Kwong, Nicholas Othen, Thomas Pennington, Alice Song, George Steele and Yicheng Xia, with twelve qualifying for the second round. Yicheng scored the highest mark and

qualified for the Maclaurin Olympiad, along with Nicholas Othen.

There were five Gold awards at Junior level, which was moved to an online competition: Zara Ahmad, Sarwar Ali, Brandon Cross, Mia Krywonos and Alexander Mirzoyan, with Alexander receiving the Best in School award.

The Liverpool Mathematical Society have a February half term competition which consists of several problems to solve. We had many entries again and congratulations to Oliver Ensor-Adams who was a certificate winner in the Open Challenge, Stephen Monk was Best in School for the Challenge section and Louis Beer was Best in School in the Senior Challenge section.

TEAM COMPETITIONS

Fortunately, despite the difficulties over the last year, we were still able to enter teams in the UKMT Senior and Team Maths challenges, as well as taking two teams to take part in the annual Maths Feast, organised by the Advanced Mathematics Support Programme. These provide a great opportunity for our excellent mathematicians to work together in a competitive environment.

In the Alan Turing Cryptography competition our team consisting of Thomas Gregory, Louis Le, Nicholas Othen and Yicheng Xia finished fifth in the country. In their final year at SGS, Lauryn Howard, Pippa Brown and Phoebe Micklefield, who were part of the team that won the Alan Turing Competition two years ago, came unstuck in the National Cipher Challenge. Their enthusiasm for decrypting codes over the years will be remembered and we hope to emulate their successes in the future.

This has been my seventh year at Stockport Grammar School as Head of Department and it continues to impress me the huge numbers of pupils who are very keen to participate in the many co-curricular opportunities we offer. The staff in



the department work incredibly hard and volunteer their time generously to put on many additional sessions. We all look forward to celebrating more achievements over the course of the next academic year.

Mr G D Frankland
Head of Mathematics

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

The Fourth Year German debate took place as a Google Meet session.

Each set fielded a team, discussing the *Advantages and Disadvantages of a School Uniform* and *A Longer School Day*. Evelina Gwynne, Charlie Harrison, Minh Nguyen and Joshua Patel showed impressive linguistic and debating skills and reached the final. With only ten minutes to prepare, the title for the final was *Online/virtual/remote learning is better than learning in school*. Both teams gave an outstanding

performance and debated convincingly. Congratulations to Charlie and Joshua who emerged as the winners.

Thank you to the Lower Sixth German pupils Callum Day and Ella Kenyon who adjudicated the debate.

Mrs K Christmann

MODEL UNITED NATIONS

Model United Nations (MUN) continued to flourish as pupils attended conferences across the North West and increasingly received recognition for their level of debate at different events.

Pupils from all year groups embraced different nations and tackled a variety of real-world issues based on current events, ranging from human rights to the environment, to achieve suitable resolutions agreed by the majority of member states. This has been an excellent way for pupils to develop their social intelligence and confidence in public speaking.

A special mention must go to Tobin Rose who was awarded Outstanding Delegate in the Political and Disarmament Committee at a local conference. He was able to demonstrate clarity in his points whilst taking a critical stance that ultimately led to appropriate outcomes.

It has been especially pleasing to see the growing numbers of younger pupils attending Mini-MUN and using this as a steppingstone to attend MUN conferences. They have been able to test their debate against much more experienced and older delegates, to which they have done so incredibly well. This has been recognised with a significantly larger number of pupils receiving Best Young Delegate in various committees at numerous conferences.

Delegates look forward to attending conferences in the coming year, whether in person or virtually.

Mr A Phillips



TACTICAL GAMES CLUB

The Club settled into a routine and began to thrive in the second half of the Autumn Term, very ably assisted by a group of Fifth Year boys, who have regularly attended since they were First Years.

The Lower School pupils, mainly from 1W and 1Q, were soon playing with great enthusiasm and interest, arriving as early as possible and very keen to learn many of the board games, and to catch out their peers.

A group of pupils have also met regularly with either me or Mr Clarke to develop their Warhammer skills and strategies, independently. Mr Fairbairn, from the Classics department,

was a tremendous asset in the Spring Term, encouraging and reinforcing the rules and ideas. A team consisting of Lower Sixth Formers and First and Second Year pupils were about to represent the school at Warhammer World, Nottingham as the country went into lockdown; we hope to go later in the year.

Mrs A S Larkin

ECO-COMMITTEE

The Autumn Term saw the launch of the Eco Schools initiative, a commitment to minimising our environmental impact and offering our pupils, their parents and everyone who visits the school a safe and healthy space.

The team worked hard to help make the school more environmentally friendly and eco conscious. After completing a whole school audit we achieved the Bronze Award, the first step towards achieving Green Flag status. The school now has bird boxes and feeders, bat boxes, insect houses and a hedgehog house around the site to encourage biodiversity. Pollution plates were put around school to monitor and compare the levels of pollution from car and bus exhausts during the Christmas holidays to when school began again.



A 'no waste queue' was introduced in the Dining Room to help reduce food waste; and Junior School pupils made 'scrap paper' boxes to be used in teaching rooms across the school to reduce paper waste.

Eighteen Eco-Committee members from both the Junior and Senior Schools spent a day in London where they visited the Royal Academy of Arts and the London Aquarium before delivering a petition to 10 Downing Street. The petition, which had over 800 signatures, focused on reducing carbon emissions and planting trees.

The Junior and Senior School Eco-Committees also launched an inventive project to help support Chester Zoo's Save Our Zoo campaign by creating a book filled with pictures, poems and experiences of the attraction. The UK's biggest zoo faced permanent closure due to the financial impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and the restrictions put in place – 97% of the attraction's revenue comes from visitors. All proceeds from purchases of the book will help the zoo to stay open.

Pupils from Pre-Reception right up to the Upper Sixth highlighted the impact that Chester Zoo has had on so many of the SGS community, with staff members also sharing their thoughts.



THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

Despite this being an unusual year, over 350 pupils took part in the Duke of Edinburgh's award at Bronze, Silver and Gold levels. The numbers at Gold level were especially high with 43 pupils starting the award and our first Canoeing group launched at Gold level.

Despite the awful weather, a successful Bronze walking practice expedition and the Silver canoeing practice expedition were completed in the Autumn Term. In the Spring Term, the Gold walking training weekend to North Wales and Bronze training day walks with the Fourth Years took place.

It was great to see that pupils still continued with their Physical and Skill sections during lockdown and adapted activities to ensure they could continue with their DofE Award. Pupils accepted the opportunity to develop themselves further with activities which have included volunteering to help elderly neighbours with chores, learning sign language as a skill and taking part in online exercise classes as a physical activity.

The annual presentation evening in July was cancelled, however 106 Bronze pupils, 8 Silver pupils and 20 Gold pupils still completed their Duke of Edinburgh's Award over the Year. This shows the level of dedication pupils have to complete their award.

Due to expeditions being cancelled the DofE launched the '2020 Certificate of Achievement' where pupils could gain their award without the Expedition section. One Gold and ten Silver participants gained this qualification. Next year is going to be extremely busy with cancelled expeditions to catch up on as well as the normal yearly expeditions.

Well done to pupils taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award who have persevered over this unusual year and thank you to all the volunteers and staff.

Miss L Turner
D of E Co-ordinator



FIRST YEAR RESIDENTIAL TO ILAM

First Year pupils had a wonderful time developing new friendships and getting to know their peers on the residential trip to Ilam in Derbyshire.



The evening activity at Ilam Hall Youth Hostel was the famous egg drop competition. Pupils worked together as teams to develop a protective casing that would help them win the challenge.

Head of First Year, Mrs Suttle said:

"The trip was a great success and the pupils were amazing throughout the visit including taking on a ten-mile walk and scramble up Thorpe Cloud.

It was fantastic to see our pupils return to school in the company of so many new friends and full of great stories of their adventures."

During the trip, pupils visited Chatsworth House where they had great fun exploring the adventure playground as well as meeting and learning about the animals in the farm yard.



BATTLEFIELDS TRIP

Eighty pupils from the Third Year and above travelled to the battlefields of the First World War during the History department's annual visit to France and Belgium.



Pupils visited a number of poignant First World War sites to see the locations they have been learning about in lessons.

At Thiepval a wreath was laid by Jacob Henshaw and Alice Thomson and a minute's silence was observed in memory of the Old Stopfordians who fought during the war.

At the Flanders Field Museum in Ypres, accurately replicated underground bunkers and trenches allowed pupils to experience what life was like for soldiers more than 100 years ago.

In the moving Last Post ceremony at the Menin Gate in Ypres, Anna Collins-Room and Harry Meanwell laid a second wreath.



Lilah Vidler said: "I got to visit a lot of places that I have heard of in class and I was particularly moved at seeing the grave of John Condon, the youngest soldier killed in the First World War aged just 14 – almost as old as me!"



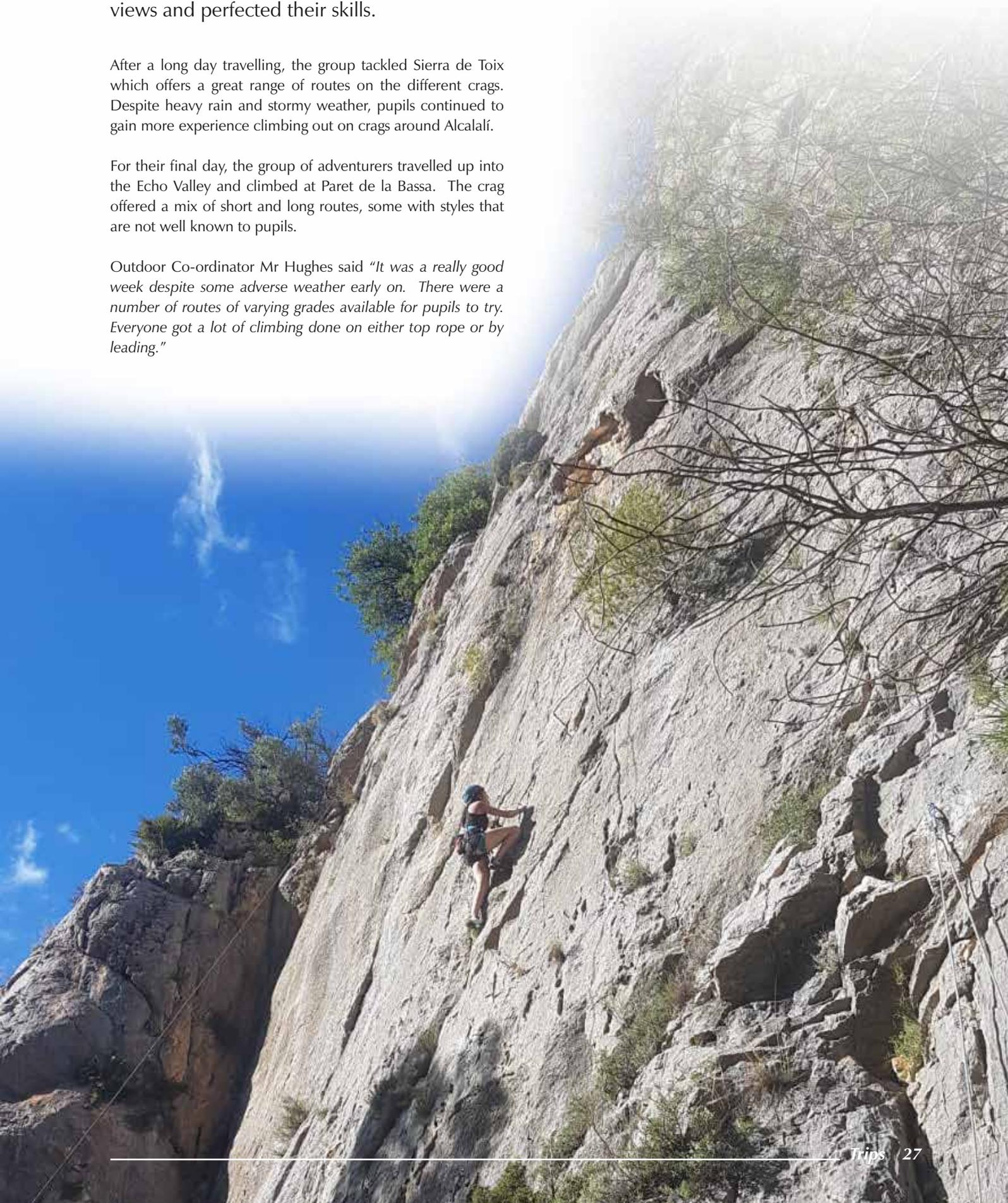
CLIMBING – COSTA BLANCA

A group of climbers ventured to Spain over the Autumn Half Term where they enjoyed stunning views and perfected their skills.

After a long day travelling, the group tackled Sierra de Toix which offers a great range of routes on the different crags. Despite heavy rain and stormy weather, pupils continued to gain more experience climbing out on crags around Alcalá.

For their final day, the group of adventurers travelled up into the Echo Valley and climbed at Paret de la Bassa. The crag offered a mix of short and long routes, some with styles that are not well known to pupils.

Outdoor Co-ordinator Mr Hughes said *“It was a really good week despite some adverse weather early on. There were a number of routes of varying grades available for pupils to try. Everyone got a lot of climbing done on either top rope or by leading.”*



MADRID

In November 2019, members of the Fourth and Fifth Year ventured to the Spanish capital, Madrid, for a busy four day cultural experience.

On our walk around the local area we saw the Mercado de San Miguel, el Palacio Real and spent some time in the Plaza Mayor. Our meal that evening allowed the pupils to taste an authentic paella in a gothic-style restaurant.

On our first full day in Madrid, we visited the world-famous Bernabéu Stadium which is the home ground of Real Madrid F.C., touring the stadium, as well as viewing the numerous medals, trophies and memorabilia that the club has achieved over its long history. Next we headed to another famous landmark, the Las Ventas bull ring, which is the largest fighting arena in the world. We were given a guided tour, were able to try bull-fighting for ourselves (wearing a virtual reality headset) and Mr Lorentz was super-imposed onto a picture to look like a real bullfighter – he looked quite the part!

We then took the metro to our next activity: Flamenco dancing. We visited a traditional tablao, where we were taught the typical rhythms and movements of flamenco dancing and some of the pupils impressed with their drumming skills.

Sunday morning saw us visit the most popular open air flea market in Madrid – El Rastro. This market has taken place every Sunday for over 400 years and stretches down many of the streets in the neighbourhood of La Latina. After bargain hunting in the market and having a bite to eat for lunch, we made our way to Madrid's Zoo and Aquarium. Dinner was eaten at the Museo de Jamón, where we experienced a

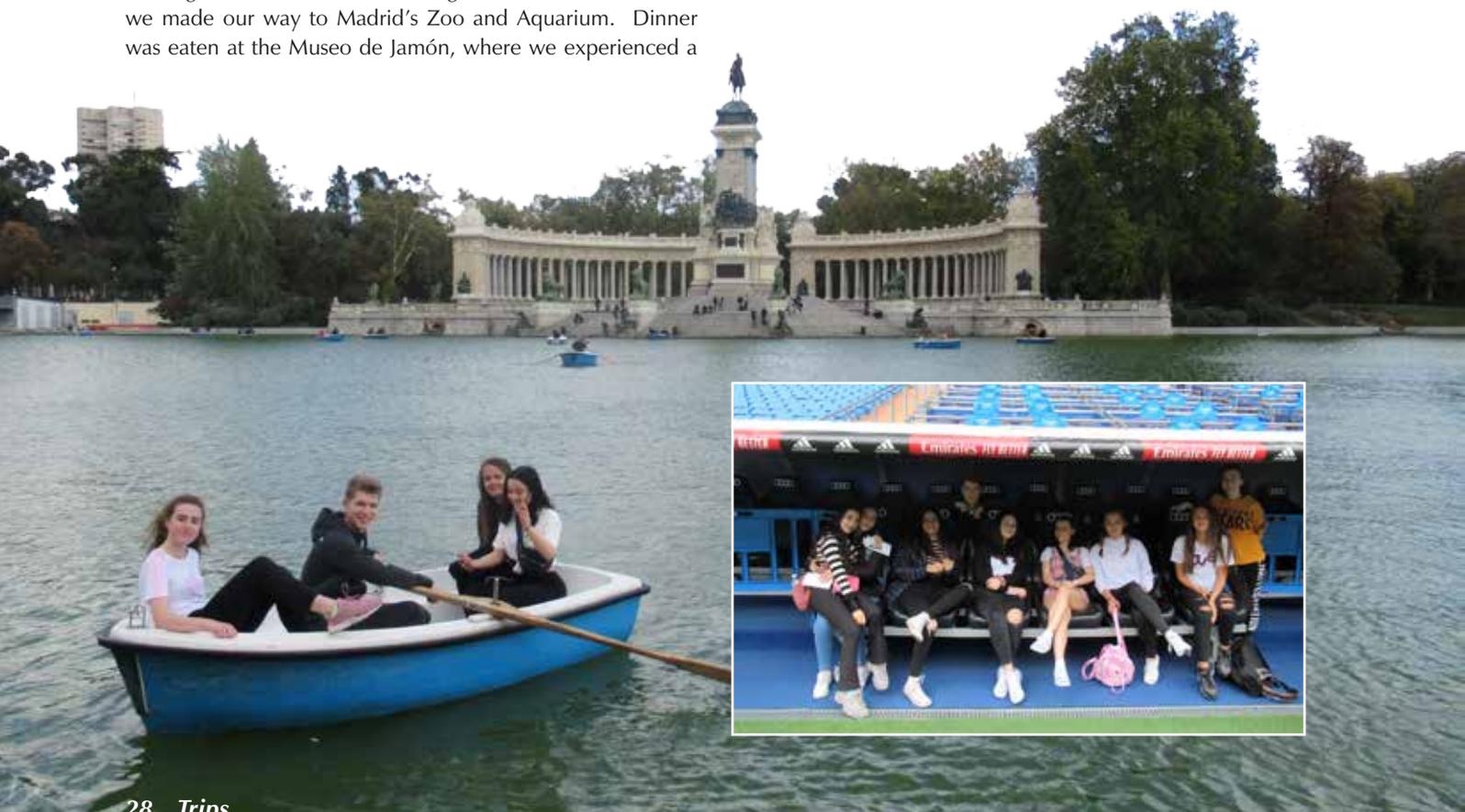


selection of traditional tapas dishes. Our day didn't end there! With full stomachs, we finished the day off with a game at the local bowling alley where Mrs Psaila surprised many of the pupils with her bowling skills!

Our final morning was spent looking around the Reina Sofía art gallery which houses many famous paintings including Picasso's *Guernica*. As the weather was on our side, we then visited the main park in Madrid, El parque Retiro. There was just enough time after lunch for a final shopping spree before we made our way to the airport for our flight back to Manchester.

It was an exhausting trip which involved many cultural activities. The pupils got a real taste of Madrid and I really hope they enjoyed themselves!

Mrs K Psaila-Harris



AACHEN

The Aachen trip was one of the best trips I have ever been on, there was so much to do.



My favourite part was going around the markets and trying German food. The bowling in Belgium was great fun and the hot chocolate is the best hot chocolate you could ever have.

The tour around Aachen was really interesting, you should try the water from the hot springs. It is delicious but it does have a bit of an egg smell to it!

I definitely recommend going on this trip, you will have the best time.

May Nassar 2Q



KRAKÓW



Twenty three Fifth Year pupils studying History and Religion, Philosophy and Ethics for GCSE built upon what they have been learning in lessons on a visit to the Polish city of Kraków.

After arriving in the central European country, the pupils went on a short walking tour of the Old Town - with stops at the Main Square (Rynek Główny), Planty Park, Barbican and Floriańska Gate. The area was the centre of Poland's political life from 1038 until 1596.

A tasty lunch was followed by a visit to the Rynek Underground Museum where they learnt about the city's rich history, as well as the connections between the city and medieval Europe's chief centres of trade and culture.

Wawel, and its stunning Cathedral, was next up. The building is more than 900 years old and has traditionally served as the coronation site of the Polish monarchs. The day concluded with time spent in the traditional Christmas Markets.

The following day the group made their way to Auschwitz and Birkenau - the largest of the German Nazi concentration camps and extermination centres. The original pre-World War Two concentration camp of Auschwitz I was the first stop and the pupils were given an extended tour of the site. The tour continued at Auschwitz II – Birkenau, the camp established as an extermination centre for European Jews.

The Remuh Synagogue, the Ghetto and Kazimierz District – a bustling, bohemian neighbourhood, which was the centre of Jewish life in Kraków for four centuries before the Nazi



Occupation during World War Two – kicked off day three of the trip.

In the afternoon they ventured to Oskar Schindler's factory, which has now been turned into a modern museum covering the Nazi Occupation of Kraków. This visit provided pupils with a valuable insight into the events that led up to the invasion of Poland and the treatment of Kraków's Jewish population during the Second World War. In the evening they had a look around Kazimierz Shopping Mall and had dinner in a Jewish restaurant with a live traditional Jewish band.

The final day of the trip saw the pupils visit the Wieliczka Salt Mine – a UNESCO heritage site. The mine was opened in the thirteenth century and produced table salt continuously until 2007.

Pupil Alex Ward said: *“Visiting Auschwitz was a bit surreal and extremely moving but it helped put what we had learned in class into perspective.*

I really liked the city of Kraków as a whole, the architecture - particularly in the Jewish Quarter - was really interesting and the whole place was just amazing to see. The trip was a great experience and I would recommend it to other pupils.”

Mr J Swann

GERMAN EXCHANGE 2020



In February, nine Fifth Years embarked on the return leg of our German Exchange to Bad Segeberg, about an hour North of Hamburg.

After an initial evening of settling in with our German hosts and experiencing the language and culture first hand, we spent our first day exploring Germany's second largest city- Hamburg; a dynamic city with a strong musical culture including the famous Elbphilharmonie concert hall. After experiencing the magnificent sights over the River Elbe, we went to a nearby chocolate factory to make some of our own, whilst also bonding further with our exchange partners. It was a great day.

Over the weekend, we all went our separate ways to further understand German day to day life. Experiences included visiting the Baltic Sea, Cold War Museums, and following our partners through their normal routine: I joined mine at his local rowing club on Bad Segeberg Lake.

We then spent a few days in their school, with some notable differences; a far earlier start was a struggle for some of us, but was rewarded with a finish in the early afternoon. Lessons were similar and both parties enjoyed the involvement. This was followed on the second day by a personal tour of Bad Segeberg by one of the school's teachers which culminated with us asking questions to the town's Deputy Mayor in the Rathaus (Town Hall).

For our final full day, we visited the beautiful city of Lübeck, which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and famous for its seven towers. After climbing up one of the towers and seeing the brilliant city from above, we finished by eating at the famous Niederegger café, with its world-renowned marzipan.

We loved our time in Germany, from the food, efficient public transport system, to our improved language and sense of culture, we all felt truly rewarded for participating in this trip, and would highly recommend to other pupils.

Lauren commented: *"I really enjoyed getting to know a completely different way of schooling and I have met friends I will stay in touch with forever."*

Harry Brown (5S)



DUBAI

Senior School cricketers enjoyed stunning sites, wonderful weather and cracking cricket on their tour to Dubai in the United Arab Emirates.

After an overnight flight, the boys were keen to stretch their legs and get some last minute practice in before two T20 matches the next day. The venue for this training was the ICC Academy - a world-class facility that has hosted a number of international and county teams. The two games took place in Ajman at the Young Talents Cricket Academy, which is run by a former UAE national team player.



Match one saw the boys reach an impressive 205-1 with Jacob Noakes, Joshua Patel and Jay Hurst scoring impressively. The bowlers held up their side of the bargain with Umar Chughtai picking up three wickets. The second match, which was played in scorching heat, saw SGS win by 10 runs.

Tuesday was a rest day for the boys with trips to the souks along Dubai Creek and the Dubai Mall on the itinerary. Souk markets are traditional market stalls which sell a range of items including spices, perfumes, gold and textiles and the boys challenged themselves to see who could get the biggest discount as the souks are well-known as the place to haggle.

The next match was against Sheffield's touring Birkdale School at the Dubai Sevens Stadium, a stunning venue which plays host to the World Rugby Sevens every year. In the first game SGS limited the opposition to 126 but ended up losing by 17 runs. The second game saw Birkdale set a total of 136 and, with one over remaining, Stockport Grammar required eight runs to tie and nine to win. Strong running between the wickets by Jack Tyley and Dominic Hanson saw them score eight and take the game to a super over! Umar Chughtai bowled skilfully to restrict Birkdale to eight runs but the batters could not secure the required runs to win.

Thursday was a well-earned rest day with a trip to Jumeirah beach where they played some beach football with the locals.

Desert Cubs Academy were our next opposition, tight bowling and good fielding saw the hosts post 148/9 off their 30 overs. The Stockport Grammar innings got off to a blistering start before the batters started to quickly fall. With just one wicket left and 42 runs needed, Joshua Patel decided it was time to go on the offensive and the boys edged over the line in the 28th over with Joshua finishing on a fantastic 79 not out.

On Saturday the touring party played their last matches as they faced Zayed Cricket Academy in two T20 games at the Sheikh Zayed Cricket Ground – a venue that hosts the UAE national team. Fatigue and the hot weather played its part as the impressive hosts defeated SGS in both matches. The boys soon had smiles back on their faces though as they finished the tour in a great way by having a team photo taken on the outfield of the cricket ground.





All of the cricketers played their part in making the trip a great experience for everyone involved. Standout batsmen of the trip were Joshua Patel who averaged 78.5 from four innings and Jacob Noakes who averaged 55.5. Standout bowlers were

Umar Chughtai with six wickets and Oliver Van Der Ploeg with three. Thank you to East Cheshire Mortgages who sponsored the player's brightly-coloured kit.

PIANCAVALLO, ITALY

During February half-term 69 pupils and 7 staff took to the slopes in Piancavallo, Italy, skiing in what can only be described as 'testing conditions!' This purpose built resort did a remarkable job in maintaining the piste as this was the worst snow fall on record and we were still able to complete five hours of skiing a day for the duration of the trip.





The pupils also had an action packed après-ski programme. We had our daily fill of hot chocolate and biscotti, rode the Alpine Coaster, played basketball, football and used the games room. One evening saw the group take to the ice to show off their skating 'skills'.

I would like to thank my colleagues Mr Heyes, Mr Johnson, Mrs Goddard, Miss Berry, Miss Curl and Miss Mills for their

support over the course of the week. A special mention must also go to all the staff at Hotel Stella Montis; their hospitality and warm welcome made this a trip to remember.

Finally, I must show my gratitude to the pupils, they were a real credit to themselves and represented the school well.

Mr A Ehegartner



Following an early start and a 12 hour journey we arrived at the hotel, to find a worrying amount of snow. Every day we went out skiing in varying conditions, ranging from ice to puddles, which tested our ability.

One of the nights we went to the sports hall, which we really enjoyed due to the competitiveness between the different

year groups and teachers. On other nights we were able to develop our independence, with remote supervision, by exploring the town.

The trip wouldn't have been the same without all the amazing staff who helped the trip run smoothly.

Katie Hewetson (5T) and Lucy Brook (5M)

BARCELONA ART TRIP

A group of Fourth and Fifth Year Art pupils spent three days immersing themselves in the art and architecture of Barcelona.

A busy itinerary included visits to both The Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya, with its collection spanning over 1000 years of European art, and The Museum of Contemporary Art (MACBA) where the pupils were able to spend time examining work, some of which questioned their own perceptions of what art could be.

In addition to visiting the large national collections, the group also spent time in both Fundació Joan Miró and The Picasso Museum - both of which provided a fantastic chronological overview of the work of each artist, and this provided an opportunity to consider how the work of each artist had developed over a period of time and in response to the changes that were happening in society.

Any visit to Barcelona should incorporate time spent exploring the classical and contemporary architecture the city has in abundance. Undoubtedly among the most famous examples are those designed by Antoni Gaudí, and as well as getting the opportunity to see Casa Batlló and Casa Milà, the group visited the spectacular La Sagrada Família before spending their final morning exploring Park Güell.

Blessed with warm and sunny weather throughout, the group returned with an abundance of sketches and photographs that



will prove useful as reference material for their GCSE Art and Design course.

Mr R A Davies



BERLIN

Five Lower Sixth Modern Foreign Languages students spent an action-packed day in the city of Berlin; a trip that allowed them to look at the historical and cultural sites they are studying at A-level and to experience the city's diversity.



During their time in the German capital they visited a host of well-known landmarks associated with the former East Germany, World War Two and the Cold War including the Pergamon Museum, the Brandenburg Gate, German parliament, the DDR Museum, the Holocaust Memorial and Checkpoint Charlie.

The students tried out a Trabant, often seen as symbolic of the former East Germany, and got a feeling about what it was like to be interrogated by The Stasi - the official state security service of the German Democratic Republic – by spending a short amount of time in a cell.

Miss S Gibson
Head of Modern Foreign Languages



THE MUSICAL YEAR

This was a unique year in the Music department, containing many highs as always but also the lows of concerts and productions cancelled due to the lockdown. Despite the severe restrictions that this time posed, many of our pupils found ways to show great creativity and innovation in their music-making and I was proud of all that they were able to achieve during this challenging time.

The year got off to a great start with the Autumn, Christmas and Winter Concerts and Carol Service. First Orchestra, Second Orchestra and String Orchestra gave impressive performances of Beethoven, Mozart, Haydn and Irving Berlin and Sarah Callow should be congratulated on her fantastic account of Weber's *Clarinet Concertino* with First Orchestra. It was such a shame that Pippa Brown and Lauryn Howard were denied their concerto opportunities later in the year due to the lockdown but my thanks to them for their great efforts in practice and preparation and I hope one day they might get a similar opportunity.

The choirs at SGS continue to thrive; members of Chamber Choir enjoyed a wonderful trip to Oxford in January, where they sang Evensong in University College, conducted by their Director of Music, Dr Giles Underwood, in collaboration with the chapel choir. The day also involved unique opportunities to meet university Music staff and students and to learn more about musical pathways in higher education.

Chorus and Vox gave stirring performances of a medley from *Les Misérables* and other popular pieces in the Autumn Concert, featuring a number of excellent solos, and all of the choirs sang beautifully once again at the Carol Service.

One of the highlights of the year was the outstanding production of *Chicago* in March in collaboration with the Drama and Dance departments. It was such a shame that the public performances had to be cancelled as this was one of the best productions we have ever done at SGS. However, it was pleasing that we were able to give two internal performances and these were greatly enjoyed by cast and audience alike. My congratulations to all involved. I hope it will not be long before we are able to put on something similar. Junior Chamber Choir are to be congratulated on their superb performances within the production of *A Christmas Carol*; they were a great asset to another wonderful production.

Each of the wind bands continued from strength to strength with an impressive number of pupils involved and excellent performances given by all. The Jazz Bands, Percussion Ensembles, Guitar Ensemble and Big Band added their usual class to the concerts they were involved with and Brass



Ensemble did likewise with an uplifting set of festive pieces for the Christmas Concert.

MARS recitals took place throughout the Autumn and Spring terms, enabling a large number of pupils to gain confidence in solo performing. Chamber Music was also enjoyed prior to the lockdown with accomplished performances given by the Piano Trio, Sax Quartet, Cello Choir, The Mayhemias and The Be Sharps.

Throughout the lockdown lots of pupils sent in fantastic solo performances, all of which can be viewed on the school





website. There were also some terrific virtual ensemble recordings such as Pitoni's *Cantate Domino* by Chamber Choir and our own Mr Landon's piece *In the Box* by the Senior Percussion Ensemble; these were both produced by pupils sending in recorded tracks from their own homes that were then layered together through the wonders of modern technology!

It was particularly sad to lose the Leavers' Concert this year; I would like to put on record my sincere thanks to all of the Upper Sixth Form Music leavers for their support over the years and their invaluable contributions to the musical life of our school. My thanks also go to all the Music staff for their fantastic efforts to sustain and encourage music-making in all year groups throughout the year. We were sorry to say

goodbye to Mr Kennedy at the end of the Summer Term after four years of outstanding work in the department as Assistant Director of Music and wish him and his family every success with their move to Scotland.

Mr M Dow
Director of Music

AUTUMN CONCERT

Concert Band began the evening with a dizzying array of music, from Carly Rae Jepson to the brass band classic *Stal Himmel*.

Next up was Vox who performed a trio of well-known songs, followed by Zoë Shah, Olivia Dow and Talia Zelhof who performed *Piano Trio in G Major* by Haydn. This was followed by Jazz Band, led by Mr Hamilton, who performed *All*





the *Things You Are* and *Golden Lady*. Finishing off the first half was First Orchestra who played *Concertino for Clarinet and Orchestra* with a beautifully exquisite solo by talented Upper Sixth Former Sarah Callow.



After a short interval, First Orchestra completed their set with *Movement 1 of Symphony No 5*. Up next were the Junior Percussion Ensemble playing *Jai Ho*, followed by Junior Band, who played a vast range of musical styles from film music to Bossa Nova Jazz. The Senior Percussion Ensemble gave an impressive performance of *Okavango* and *Danse Boheme*. Wrapping up the evening was Chorus who sang a medley from *Les Misérables* which included a number of soloists coming to the front of the stage. An amazing night of music.

Teddy Hotchkies (L8)

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

This year's Christmas Concert was a fabulous evening showcasing a cross-section of the school's talented ensembles. As always, the pupils took full advantage of the opportunity for Christmas accessories.

The evening commenced with the spirit of festive cheer with Brass Ensemble, conducted by Mrs Johnson and performing rousing renditions of *Carol of the Bells* and *Rudolph The Red-Nosed Reindeer*. This was followed by the Mayhemiolas, a

female vocal trio, consisting of Sarah Callow, Caitlin Cutts and Zoë Shah, performing Kent's *I'll Be Home for Christmas* and the iconic World War II tune *Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy*. The lyrics of this jazzy arrangement depict a virtuosic 'trumpet man'





who was embodied by Patrick Owen, also accompanied by Daniel Vincent on the drums. String Orchestra then performed *Sinfonietta in A* by Haydn, led by Mrs Matthews who expertly multitasked conducting whilst playing the double bass.

Next, Chamber Choir displayed its versatility as an ensemble, beginning with a rendition of Morley's *Sing We and Chant It*, which incorporated Chamber Choir's much-loved signature "Fa la la la la la la la la la" refrain. This was followed by *Ding Dong! Merrily on High*, and then, by contrast, *Crazy Little*

Thing Called Love, which was arranged and enthusiastically conducted by Mr Dow. The male voices excelled with their "Shoomba-shoodelly"-ing.

After a brief interval, Mrs Short conducted Second Orchestra, displaying the talent of younger musicians in the school, playing *Symphony No.36 The Linz* by Mozart and *White Christmas* by Berlin. Saxophone Quartet, featuring pupils Sarah Callow, Matthew Howling, Pippa Brown and Ruby Harrison followed with a performance of the simple but charming nursery rhyme *Three Blind Mice*, followed by *Seasons of Love* from the Broadway musical *Rent*.

The penultimate act of the concert was Junior Chamber Choir, who surprised the audience with an unconventional introduction to Chilcott's heart-warming setting of the traditional poem *Mid-Winter*, preceding a performance of *Carol of The Bells* which gave Brass Ensemble's rendition some serious competition!

Finally, Wind Orchestra performed *Cartoon Express*, *Gershwin* and, of course, the traditional *Sleigh Ride*, in which Upper-Sixth form pupil Phoebe Micklefield earned the privilege of playing the bells (a highly sought-after position), conducted as energetically as ever by Mr Kennedy.

Zoë Shah (L7)



WINTER CONCERT

The Winter Concert began with Junior Band playing *Dr Rock*, *Apache* and an arrangement of *Superman*, which was projected around the hall with pride, showing that their months of hard work had paid off.



The newly formed VOX II then performed popular classics, *What About Us* and *High Hopes*. For their first performance of the year, the guitar group, led by Mr Girling, amazed the audience with their rendition of *There She Goes* by The La's.

The Mayhemiolas, now in their second year, performed an exciting rendition of *The Bluebird* and *You Could Drive A Person Crazy*.

Finishing the evening in style, Big Band performed the stylish *Ain't She Sweet*, the lyrical *A Nightingale Sang in Berkley Square* and a West Side Story classic, *Cool* which was played with incredible rhythm and focus.

The Winter Concert showed many of the school's Chamber groups as well as greatly established bands and we look forward to many more concerts.

Rosie White (L3)

This was followed by the barbershop trio *The Be Sharps*, consisting of Nikolai Krywonos, Teddy Hotchkies and Matthew Howling. They performed an enchanting rendition of *Baby on Board* and a fantastic medley of the Beatles most loved songs.

The Cello Choir followed with a performance of the *First Movement of Bach's 3rd Brandenburg Concerto* and a Michael Jackson classic *Smooth Criminal* which kept the audience captivated. The Cello Choir is made up of pupils from First Year to Sixth Form and gives cellists the opportunity to play as a chamber group.



CHAMBER CHOIR VISIT TO OXFORD

The Chamber Choir was given the fantastic opportunity to sing Evensong with the University College Choir at Oxford, and the trip was incredibly educational as well as lots of fun.

As always, the coach journey was entertaining, and we arrived at University College at about 11.30am; it was lovely to be reunited with a few Old Stopfordians who met us there. We were taken on a tour of University College followed by a fascinating talk about the university application process in regards to Oxford and study of Music in general. Despite having already applied for university, I found the talk very helpful.

During lunch we were given the chance to explore the beautiful city of Oxford, and then given a tour of other colleges, including Magdalen, Merton and Queens. Each college was so unique and had such amazing architecture, with highlights being the amazing Dobson Organ at Merton and the Magdalen Old Library, which is one of the oldest libraries in Europe.

We joined the University College Choir for the rehearsal, which went smoothly, and were able to learn singing techniques whilst surrounded by a group of talented and practised singers. The service itself was beautiful, and I found that as a choir we blended together well and settled in to the amazing acoustic of the chapel successfully.



I really enjoyed getting to sing in such an environment, it was an incredible and unforgettable experience. I am very thankful to the Music department for arranging the trip.

Hannah Franklin (U6)



CLASSICS PLAY

In February, a group of talented Sixth Form pupils performed the 14th Stockport Grammar School Classics Play, *Bethides*. This Athenian retelling of Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, consummately adapted and directed by Mr Thorley and Mrs Suttle, packed a powerful dramatic punch, combining the bard's own lines with those of Euripides.

The chorus of Caitlin Cutts, Rabeeah-Nuur Mohammed, Zoë Shah and Lydia Johnson, brilliantly choreographed and wonderfully strange, provided a synchronicity and otherworldliness to the witches. Their cackling performances, and ferocious delivery of key lines, drove the plot and the hero forward throughout.

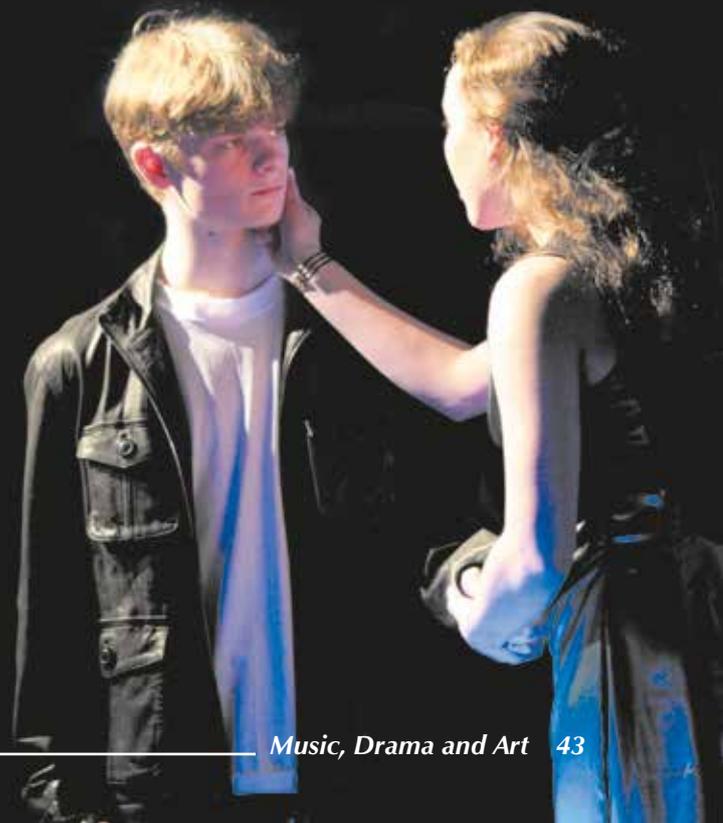
Adams, whose delivery of Duncan's mammoth monologue, in his first foray into SGS drama, was particularly impressive.

Very well done to all involved.

Mr O Johnson



Psychedelic lighting and distorted guitars provided the backdrop, regularly reminding us of *Bethides*' psychological degradation as the play continued. Nikolai Krywonos' turn as the eponymous warrior was outstanding, whilst Katie Collier impressed as his simultaneously Machiavellian and long-suffering wife. Callum Barton and Rowan Sutton both performed their roles with distinction, as did Oliver Ensor-



CHICAGO

2020 was the year for SGS to perform a big musical production and everyone was very pleased to hear that this time it would be *Chicago*. It started with the auditions, where we had to sing a song from the musical, before reading a part and learning choreography from one of the main numbers. The auditions were challenging, so I was ecstatic when I realised that I had been given a part in one of the chorus groups.

The busy but enjoyable rehearsal schedule then began. In my ensemble, we sang with Mr Dow, acted with Mr King-Sayce and danced with Mrs Downing.



During the singing rehearsals, we were given scores to all the songs that our group would be performing before starting to commit them to memory. My favourite song was *Me and my Baby* although the words were quite difficult to remember!

I found the dancing rehearsals the trickiest but the most rewarding, and it was fun going through all the numbers and learning the choreography. Mr King-Sayce led the acting

rehearsals and it was fascinating to see his ideas being brought to life on stage, especially the busy opening scene in the night club and the court room scene, which was challenging but so rewarding when we got it right in the end. It involved spoken lines as well as many musical interludes and took lots



of rehearsal time to perfect but, once we had, it felt amazing! Meanwhile, the backstage and costumes teams, led by Mrs Moffatt, were working relentlessly behind the scenes to ensure a great production and their commitment and enthusiasm helped make the show such a success.

Holly Buckley had a starring role as Roxie and Grace Shropshire played her once enemy but then friend, Velma.





The leading lawyer, Billy Flynn was played by Cam Wylie and Gabriel Keeble played Roxie's long-suffering husband Amos. Emma Scorah played prison officer, Matron Mamma Morton.

The band, which played music to all the main numbers was incredible. It was made up of a variety of instruments and they provided a great soundtrack to the action on stage. They kept it together well and were all very talented musicians.

As the performance neared, question marks appeared as to whether we would be able to perform due to the pandemic and the imminent lockdown. We had to put it to the back of our minds and prepare for the internal performances, where the cast performed songs such as *Mr Cellophane*, *Cell Block Tango*, *We Both Reached for the Gun* (my personal favourite), and *Razzle Dazzle*.

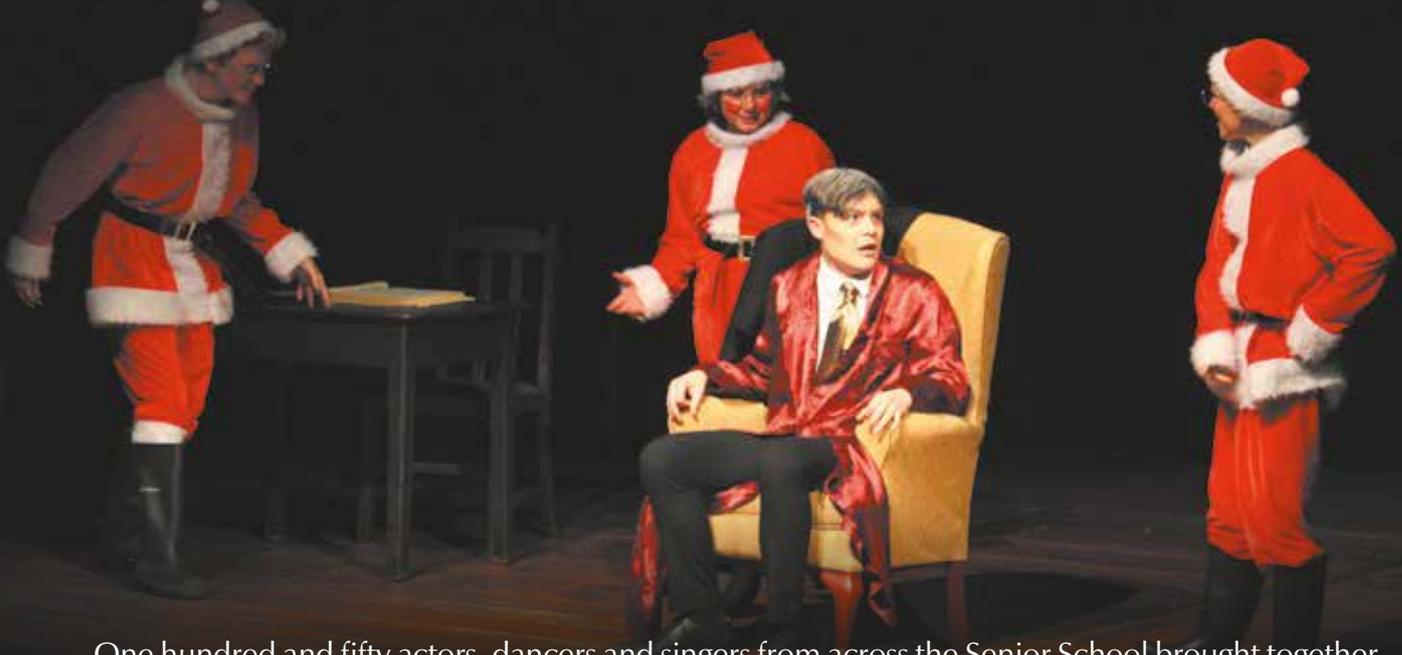
Sadly, we didn't get to perform to a full audience, however, we had lots of fun performing to the staff and pupils, who loved

the show. Although we haven't had the chance to perform it to friends and family, taking part in *Chicago* was a great experience and we made some great memories.

Charlie Harrison (4S)



A CHRISTMAS CAROL



One hundred and fifty actors, dancers and singers from across the Senior School brought together their talents to showcase two heart-warming performances of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*.

Ranging in age from First Year to Sixth Form, the pupils came together to tell the story of Ebenezer Scrooge, a rich, mean and miserable old man. Scrooge was played marvellously by Sixth Form pupil Sam Wilkinson, who commented:

"It was an amazing experience all round. All the cast really enjoyed it, and it was certainly my favourite production to have taken part in."

The production was supported with exceptional performances by SGS dancers, Chorus, Junior Chamber Choir and a full production team.

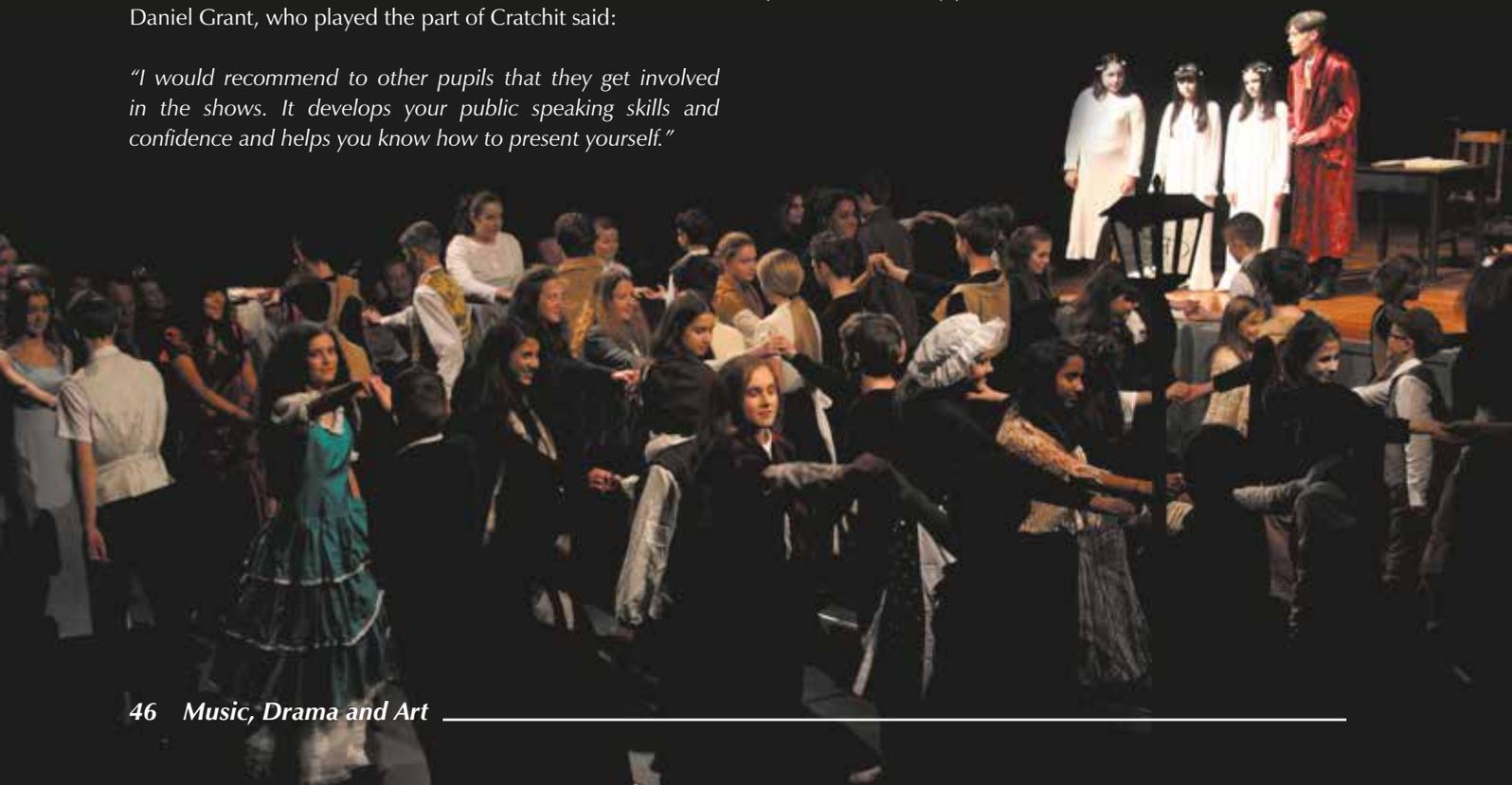
Daniel Grant, who played the part of Cratchit said:

"I would recommend to other pupils that they get involved in the shows. It develops your public speaking skills and confidence and helps you know how to present yourself."

The play creates a very stark picture of Victorian London, and perhaps communicates the most heart-warming message of all, which is our need as a society to help and support others, irrespective of background, status, religion, creed or colour.

Mr Matt King-Sayce, Head of Drama:

"The hours of hard work and commitment to rehearsals truly paid off. The staff and pupils worked tirelessly and with such energy, both onstage and backstage to create something special – the buzz from the pupils and the mutual support made 'A Christmas Carol' a real success. I'm excited to continue to build upon this with many productions in the future."



NOTES FROM LEONARDO...

In what has been a most unusual year, compiling the information in preparation for writing this review of life in the Art department offers a degree of reassurance and calm, as well as a moment to reflect on what has been achieved, despite the difficulties faced by both pupils and staff in the intervening twelve months.

At the outset I want to acknowledge the remarkable effort and forbearance shown by my colleagues in the department, all of whom switched from classroom to remote teaching in what seemed like the blink of an eye. Their remarkable stoicism when faced with the problems associated with trying to teach a subject that relies heavily on the practical application of media and demonstration, meant that pupils continued to engage with the subject and importantly, to learn! The pupils too showed impressive levels of grit and resilience and a willingness to engage with tasks set online, despite not having access to the full range of materials, nor the support they are used to in the classroom in the form of friendly words of encouragement and advice.

When it became clear that the annual GCSE and A Level Exhibition could not take place, the decision was taken to produce a catalogue containing a piece of work from each pupil. Designed by Art Technician Mrs Brooks, the resulting publication provided a fitting record of the achievements of all those who had studied on either the A Level or GCSE course. Indeed, so positive has been the response from those that have seen it, that the intention is to produce it each year.



major success came in the Autumn Term at The Living Edge Schools' Art Competition, hosted by The Lowry Gallery in Salford Quays. Lois McCarthy's painting of a cottage garden was chosen to represent the School in the U16 category, while Hannah Franklin's modern interpretation of *The Fool*, was selected as overall winner in the U18 category, a remarkable achievement.



The department has a long tradition of successfully submitting work into externally judged competitions, as well as in local and national exhibitions. Among highlights this year was Niamh Johnson's painting 'Four Pork Chops' that was displayed in the first Young Artists' Summer Show held at the Royal Academy in London. The painting, done in acrylic on panel, was selected from well over 6000 entries and had to pass scrutiny by a panel made up of Royal Academicians. Another

In October, pupils studying on the A Level course spent the day in London, initially around Borough Market where they sketched and photographed the hustle and bustle of a London market, and then in Tate Britain and Tate Modern, as well as in the new White Cube Bermondsey gallery. Working outside the confines of the School presents its own challenges, but the experience is always worthwhile and, in this case, the source material gathered on location is still helping to inform much of the work that is being completed back at school. The visit to London came after a day earlier in the term when pupils in the Lower Sixth spent a day in Manchester's Castlefield Basin and in the glasshouses at Wythenshawe Park. The opportunity to engage with the world around them is a key factor as it encourages each pupil in developing an individual response.

In February, pupils from the Fourth and Fifth Year enjoyed a few days exploring the galleries and architecture in Barcelona. Now a regular feature in the calendar, the European Art trip has provided pupils with the opportunity to visit collections

in most of the major Art centres around Europe. The wealth and variety of work on display in Barcelona's National and Contemporary art galleries, as well as in Fundació Joan Miró and the Picasso Museum, was outstanding, and combined with time spent exploring the architectural highlights of the city, particularly Gaudí's Sagrada Família and Parc Güell, it left a lasting impression on all those who made the journey.

Gallery visits also provide a rich source of inspiration for our pupils and we make a number of trips to visit exhibitions, both locally and further afield. New this year was a visit to The Hepworth in Wakefield. Named after Barbara Hepworth, the gallery houses a large collection of her sculpture, maquettes and sketches, alongside a number of temporary exhibitions. Pupils from the Fourth Year and Lower Sixth were able to take part in a sculpture workshop as well as spend time exploring the galleries.

We were fortunate again this year to be able to run a life-drawing masterclass led by the artist, Mark Demstader. Recognised as being among the most important figurative artists working in the UK today, Mark has gained an enviable reputation over the last 15 years; he has exhibited both nationally and internationally and has received critical acclaim in the mainstream media. The demands associated with life-drawing can appear daunting initially, however, Mark's reassurance and encouragement was invaluable in helping to introduce and guide the pupils through the processes and techniques required to master the discipline and they quickly gained confidence, so that by the end of the session each of them had produced a series of studies using pencil, pastel and ink wash.

The Year Five Open Art Portrait Competition was a resounding success, once again. The high standard seen in the work

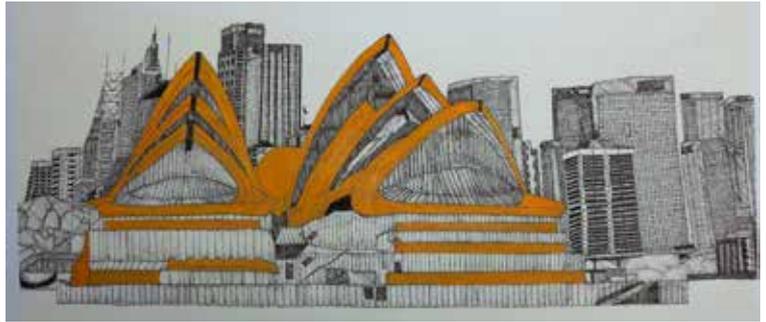


entered, as well as the wide range of media that is employed, is a real credit to the boys and girls whose work is entered and to the teachers who encourage and develop their technical skill.

In conclusion, it is no exaggeration to say that this year has been the most remarkable in my career. At times it has presented challenges that I could never have expected, however, faced with circumstances often beyond our control, both staff and pupils have sought to carry on, regardless. Their willingness to continue to engage with the subject, combined with a boundless work ethic, leaves me in no doubt that the department is in safe hands and that it will continue to produce the next generation of talented and able young artists.

Mr R A Davies.
Head of Art, Design and Technology





Harry Mellett ▶



▲ Millie Henry



▲ Lois McCarthy



▲ Darcy Entwistle



◀ Hannah Sullivan



▲ Hannah Wilkinson



▲ Amirah Afsah



▲
Rafe Howgate



▲
Alice Song



▲
Rachel Bramley



▲
Chloe Chew



▲
Oscar Williams



▲
Caroline Jenks



▲
Milly McCartney



▲ Sophia Fidler



▲ Joshua Karski



▲ George Pichel



▲ Olivia Patton-Lane



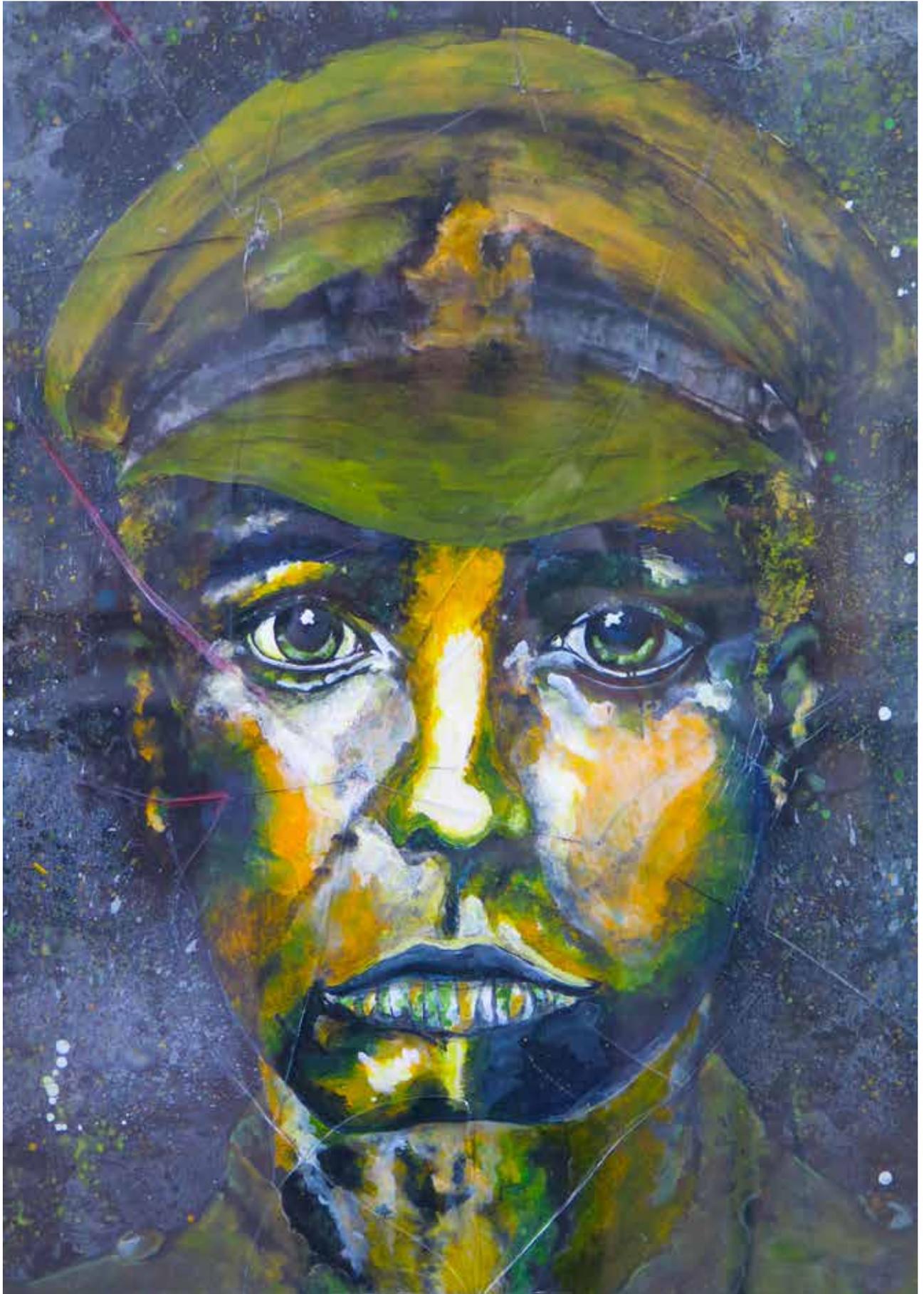
▲
Amber Sihan



▲
Lucie Hanson



▲
Zahra Butt



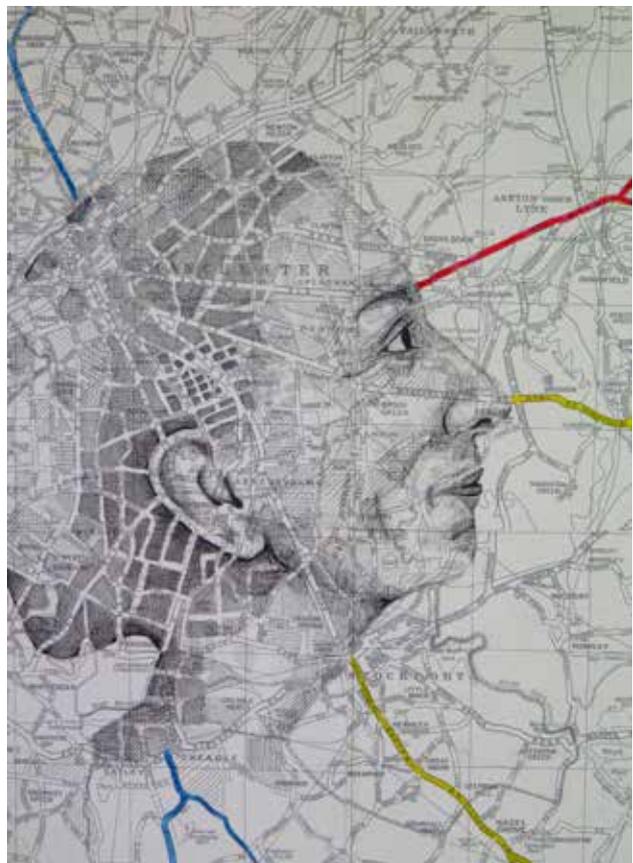
▲
Lucie Hanson



Hannah Franklin



Laura Murray



Rhys Richards



▲
Hannah Franklin



▲
Laura Murray



▲
Rhys Richards

SPORT

At SGS our philosophy for sport has a number of areas of focus: the pursuit of excellence through personal improvement and teamwork; ethical and responsible behaviour; adherence to the spirit and meaning of rules; leadership, strength of character and sportsmanship: respect for one's opponents; acceptance of victory with humility and acknowledgement of defeat with grace.

In order to develop such qualities through sport, children have to enjoy it and participate as widely as possible, particularly when they are young. In all training sessions, the School's sports coaches make sure that the balance is kept between rigor and fun, with a focus on competing, but winning or losing in the right way.

Our ultimate goals are to improve and involve everybody at SGS, and to instil a mind-set of **be the best you can** into every member of the SGS community.

Even though this year was cut short, we still managed to provide 512 fixtures within a number of sports including football, rugby, netball, hockey, swimming, cross-country and cricket. These opportunities have seen 742 pupils get involved.

Special mention must go to the U14 Netball squad, who were crowned the third best team in the country. This most recent triumph continues a run of success including becoming Smile ISNC Netball Cup Champions 2018 and Finalists in 2019.

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

- The U15 Rugby squad, who put in a host of impressive cup performances as they reached the Quarter Finals of the National Cup,
- The U15 Hockey squad, who can be rightly pleased with their efforts after they reached the Quarter Finals of the National Plate, and
- The U13 Girls' Football team, who reached the Quarter Finals of the Sisters n Sport National Plate Competition.

In place of the usual Senior School Inter-House Athletics events and the Junior School Sports Day, the department held an online Sports Day. There were over 3,600 entries of activity for the 10 challenges that were set; challenges included *Wall Ball*, *Fast Feet* and *Pole To Pole*, as well as old favourites such as the *Egg and Spoon* race. When the results were totted up Warren came top, Arden pipped Vernon to second and Nicholson finished fourth.

Old Stopfordians, pupils, staff members and figures from the sporting world set some entertaining and energetic challenges, devised to keep pupils active and healthy whilst they were learning at home.

After 12 weeks of competition – and over 22,600 miles covered – the *Race to Tokyo Challenge* came to an end with Vernon claiming top spot! It was truly fantastic to see the engagement across the whole SGS community with pupils, staff and parents representing their Houses by either running, walking, cycling, swimming or rowing. The challenge also inspired a number of pupils to take it to the next level and have their mileage go to a good cause. One pupil clocked up 400 miles in June and raised a total of £900 for Alzheimer's Research UK. Well done to everyone who took part!

I would like to put on record how fantastic the Sport, PE, Heath & Fitness department have been this year.

Mr D Thomson
Director of Sport

HOCKEY

"Hard work beats talent when talent doesn't work hard." Tim Notke

In September we welcomed Rick Kenefick as Coach and Mr Longshaw to the Hockey family. There was an enthusiastic yet productive environment on the astro which, as always, was in immaculate condition thanks to the hard working Grounds staff.

Rick worked with all groups from Third Year upwards but concentrated his efforts on the Seniors supported by Miss Berry. This small but hard working squad really developed over the season and improved with every fixture. Kate Roberts was a fabulous captain aided by Amelia Davies her vice and they,

along with Pippa Brown, Sophie Douglas and Pippa Crook, will be very much missed. We wish them well at university and thank them for their commitment over the years. Squad member Emily Edwards was selected to represent Wales U16 and has been invited to their elite training sessions.



The U15s were simply on fire, scoring goals for fun and playing with style and panache. I love their hunger and desire and they really do have great promise. Despite their success they worked hard every session and never let their wins go to their heads. They were undefeated in the Greater Manchester Tournament and justly crowned champions. They also reached the Quarter Finals of the Independent National Schools Plate Competition.

Amaya North from the U14s was selected to play for the UK Lions and played in a tournament in Malaga. I have been really impressed with the improvement the U14 team have shown over the season. They were North finalists in the National

Schools Competition, narrowly missing out on a place in the Finals. There have been many close results; some went our way and others not. The parents who watched weekly all have a few more grey hairs but they loved every minute.

The U13s were *Withington's Fledglings* with huge potential and boundless enthusiasm. Monday evening practice was loud and busy but the girls really embraced what we were trying to do and improved dramatically this year. They achieved some really great results against tough opposition by working hard and digging deep.

U12B were undefeated all season and U12A not far off that, which is really encouraging. Everyone wanting to play a part and being the best they can, whether that is in games, practice or matches, bodes well for the future of Hockey at SGS.

The season came to rather an abrupt end, which was a real shame as I feel all the year groups still had more to give but there's always next year.

My thanks go to Rick, Miss Berry, Mrs Jones and Mr Longshaw and also to Mr Thomson whose enthusiasm is infectious and who oozes even more positivity than me! Swaglok Manchester continue to sponsor the 1st XI shirts and I thank them for their support. The Grounds staff make sure the astro is immaculate, and Mrs Gosling and her team have the pizza ready on those cold Saturday mornings.

"The future's bright, the future's black and gold (not orange)"

Miss S Withington
Head of Hockey

COUNTY/REGIONAL AND NATIONAL HONOURS 2019-20 SEASON

Wales U16

Emily Edwards

Yasmine Doyle

Greater Manchester U16

Emily Edwards

Georgia Thorogood

North U16 Development Squad

Libby Porter

Alexandra Hartemink

Greater Manchester U15

Amaya North

Lucy Stead

UK British Lions U14

Amaya North

Charli Barnett

Lily Cook

Greater Manchester U14

Anna Howard

Jessica Jones

Chloe Smith

Sara Watson

RUGBY

Rugby continues to flourish at Stockport Grammar School with an ever-increasing number of pupils representing the school and demonstrating the core values of the sport: Teamwork, Respect, Enjoyment, Discipline and Sportsmanship.

In late-August the U15s, U16s and U17s travelled to Pembroke for their pre-season, team bonding trip. The squads were split into groups of mixed ages, which certainly helped to quickly forge friendships and bond the team from the start.

The boys trained in the mornings at St David's RFC before embarking on a series of exhilarating and adrenaline-fuelled activities. These included: coasteering, sea-kayaking and surfing in the warm, crystal clear waters; and finally the pièce de résistance – the mud-run. This involved climbing, running, wading and sliding and was roundly lauded as “great fun” even if most approached it initially with trepidation.



In the junior age groups we have never had so many pupils playing rugby and taking part in fixtures against other schools. The annual fixture against Bolton School involved every single boy in the First Year and really showed how the game can be adapted to suit every individual and give them the opportunity to represent the school.

The U14 & U15 age groups continued to work hard and success emerged in different ways. Whilst the U14s hard work was not reflected in results on the pitch, the real success was the fact that the number of boys attending training continued to grow during the season and this will form a firm foundation for their development as a group.

The U15s worked extremely hard, both on and off the pitch and were rewarded with recognition and success on the



national stage. The National Schools U15 Cup is ruthless and involves moving through local, regional and national rounds against the best schools in the country. Fine wins against Wirral Grammar School for Boys and Manchester Grammar School took the team through to the North Final against old rivals Queen Elizabeth Grammar School from Wakefield. In an outstanding display they emerged victorious! In the last eight of the competition the boys faced an opponent that Stockport Grammar School had never played against before, Stowe School. Despite the boys' best efforts and showing real grit and courage, Stowe came out on top 14-21. The whole squad and their coaches, Mr Hanson and Mr Jones, should be so very proud of their efforts and achievement. To reach the last eight in a National Cup Competition is something that has never been achieved by a rugby team at Stockport Grammar School.

The 1st XV and 2nd XV really had to dig deep during tough seasons for both teams. Success can be defined and emerge in many ways, and whilst on the outside the results may seem as though the season was not ‘successful’, those involved know what a journey the group went through, under difficult circumstances, and came out the other end stronger. Great credit for this should go to the leadership group of Richard Loveday, Amaan Chohan and Alex Whyllie.

My congratulations go those pupils listed below whose hard work has enabled them to gain representative honours, I am sure that this list will continue to grow over the years as these pupils provide role models for other pupils to aspire to.



My thanks go to all of those staff involved in delivering the rugby programme at Stockport Grammar School, both on the pitch and behind the scenes. Finally, I would like to thank the

players, for their considerable time and efforts throughout the season and for giving us all the opportunity to work with them.

Mr E H Corbett
Head of Rugby

COUNTY/REGIONAL AND NATIONAL HONOURS 2019-20 SEASON

Cheshire U16
Harry Reeder-Hirst

Rowan Abbott
Albert Bradshaw
Frank Chatterton

Rowan Abbott
Albert Bradshaw

Rowan Abbott
Albert Bradshaw
Frank Chatterton
Isaac Deans

Dominic Hanson

Sale Sharks Lancashire U16 DPP
Jack Brown

Cheshire U15
Isaac Deans
William Karlton-Morris
Thomas Loveday

Sale Sharks U15 SDG
Frank Chatterton
Isaac Deans

Sale Sharks East Cheshire U15 DPP
Edward Hukin
William Karlton-Morris
Thomas Loveday
Tom Manton

Sale Sharks East Cheshire U14 DPP
Raees Latif

Sale Sharks Cheshire U16 DPP
Harry Reeder-Hirst

Eddie McDonald
Navid Mousavi-Khoshrou

Eddie McDonald
Navid Mousavi-Khoshrou

Eddie McDonald
Navid Mousavi-Khoshrou
Fin Rode
Oliver Van Der Ploeg

Elliot Mills



NETBALL

November, they qualified from the Greater Manchester stage. They were successful again at the Regional stage and qualified for the Finals. Only two schools qualify to represent the North West at the finals in Hertfordshire. This squad are extremely talented and finishing 3rd in the country out of 18 schools at the finals is an amazing achievement. They only lost one game all day, the semi-final, and the entire squad should be very proud of their performance.

Netball in the North West is very competitive and strong, with every match being a test of each player's skill levels, fitness and teamwork. The players are committed and passionate about the sport and represent Stockport Grammar School proudly in every game.

Some highlights alongside the National Schools success include the U16s results; played 11, won 7 and lost 4 - 63.6% win ratio. The U12s played 14, won 9 and lost 5 - 64.3% win ratio.

The Netball season was action packed once again. There were 125 fixtures with nearly 150 girls playing, ranging from U12s to U18s. Each year group often had A, B and even C teams, highlighting the value placed on representation as well as success. Pupils have a multitude of playing/training opportunities that cater for all abilities and provide a platform to represent school, experience competitive sport, enjoyment and making lifelong friends.

We will miss the U18s Senior squad. A talented team, captained by Beth Taylor. They had an impressive SGS Netball career and we wish them well as they continue their Netball at University and beyond.

The most prestigious competition in the Netball school calendar is the National Schools Netball Finals and this year we had the belief the U14s could get there. Starting in

I would like to thank Katrina Wilkinson, Jo Maskery and Katrina Britton for their hard work and commitment this season. They all work tirelessly to ensure each training session is well planned and thorough, making sure every player makes progress regardless of their ability. The success of all the squads is through the passion and care of these members of staff and I am extremely grateful.

Mrs L E Goddard
Head of Girls' Games

COUNTY/REGIONAL AND NATIONAL HONOURS 2019-20 SEASON

Greater Manchester County Netball U15

Eloisa Burton
Libby Goodman

Chloe Olajide
Holly Williams





FOOTBALL

Although the 2019/20 season was slightly truncated, the School still managed to get plenty of football played and had some highlights.

The 1st XI travelled to Tonbridge in the ISFA Cup to win a dramatic tie after extra time and a shootout; Sam Thornton-West, made four amazing penalty saves in the tie and didn't let one in! We were knocked out by Eton College in the next round but it was great to have such esteemed visitors to SGS.

The team went on to have a pretty successful season, losing only 4 out of 13 games and that included a couple of tremendous wins at Wilmslow and Altrincham.

The U13s won through three rounds of the ISFA Cup before being knocked out by Merchant Taylor's, Crosby 4-2. The highlight of the season was probably the U15s reaching the final of the MGS 8-a-side tournament, after a semi-final shoot-out victory over Cheadle Hulme, before being beaten by the hosts.

The U13s girls also went on their travels in the new Sisters n Sport National Competition, losing in the plate quarter final. This followed their trip to St George's Park the previous summer to compete in the National ISFA Festival.

Overall, we played 67 fixtures and had approximately 200 pupils represent the School before the season was prematurely ended.

Dominic Hanson, following his North West selection the previous season, trained with the National ISFA U14 team and played against a couple of Premier League academies.

Thanks to all the staff who have taken teams and training this year – Mr Prudham, Mr Johnson, Mr Thomson, Mr Corbett, Mr Lorentz, both Mr Cookes, Mr Elstone, Mr Buxton-Cope, Mr Eeckelaers and Miss Curl. Not forgetting Mr Phillips for his excellent officiating too. Thanks also to Mr Pybus, our resident football coach, who has led some excellent training sessions in new and innovative ways.

Mr R J Bowden
Head of Football

COUNTY/REGIONAL AND NATIONAL HONOURS 2019-20 SEASON

ISFA U14
Dominic Hanson

DANCE

The dance year of 2019/20 was a short but exciting one. The first show saw 150 actors, dancers and singers take part in Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*.



The SGS Dance Company portrayed the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come, performing a unique and ghoulish contemporary piece, while actors tried their hand at some folk dance in Fezziwig's Ball, all choreographed by dance teacher, Mrs Abi Downing.

Midway through the Autumn Term saw the beginning of rehearsals for the school musical *Chicago*, with rehearsals really kicking in at the start of the Spring Term. Set in the roaring 20's, with choreography inspired by the iconic Bob Fosse style, big dance numbers such as *All That Jazz* and *Roxie* were carefully created and rehearsed. Sadly, the cast were unable to perform to family and friends, but were able to perform to fellow pupils and teachers on what would have been our opening night.

Many dance clubs were on offer over the Autumn and Spring Term and most of them were working towards the summer dance show *A Night at the Movies*. The First and Second Year club were enjoying rehearsing *Friend like Me* from Disney's *Aladdin*, and the Contemporary Club were working on a piece inspired by the film and soundtrack from *Gladiator*. The SGS Dance Company were working on *Jellicle Ball* from *Cats*, and Mr John Dean's Commercial Club were learning a dance inspired by the DC comic villain, Harley Quinn. Meanwhile, Miss Jess Ricketts taught Barrecore Dance Fitness and also ran a Tap Dance Club. Even though the show was unable to go ahead, the dancers at Stockport Grammar School still enjoyed a fun-filled year of dance and cannot wait for what the next academic year has to offer.

Fiona Telfer (5P)

ARCHERY

I have really enjoyed Archery at Stockport Grammar School. Since joining the club in First Year my skills and technique have improved massively and it has helped me develop into a well-rounded person.

The coaches are experienced and very knowledgeable about the sport and its finer points; they have inspired me to extend my practice to outside of school, as well as encouraging me to compete in events which have made me a stronger archer.

I would strongly recommend the Archery club to everyone at SGS.

Alex Ward (5W)

FENCING

I've taken part in the fencing club on Thursdays after school for a year now and I have really enjoyed learning and practicing this often-overlooked sport. Both épée and sabre are taught at the club, two unique styles of fencing that use different swords.

The coaches, Dave and Pete, are particularly welcoming and help to expand your skills set whether you are a complete novice (as most members are) or someone with prior experience. They continue to be an incredible asset to the club and I would like to thank them for their excellent coaching and guidance.

Fencing is also a great opportunity for one of your sections in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme, as either a physical activity or a skill.

Alex Patsias

SPORTS COLOURS 2019-20

Commendations are awarded in First, Second, Third, Fourth Year and Upper Sixth for excellent attendance, reliability, attitude, teamwork, organisation, willingness, commitment and a good standard of attainment. Commendations awarded in Upper Sixth will reflect contributions made as part of the Senior sports teams during the Fifth Year and Lower and Upper Sixth.

In addition **Colours** are awarded to a small number of pupils in these year groups who meet all of the above criteria and, alongside regularly representing the school in fixtures and other competitions, demonstrate exceptional performance, unquestionable quality and leadership.

FOOTBALL

COMMENDATIONS

Under 12

Harry Brace
Hugo Cooke
Roman Deans
Zac Dow
Sean Duckworth
Finn Haisley
Aedan Hodgkinson
Vuso Munaiwa
Toby Wells

Under 13

Alex Canty
Ben Lavender
Reis Patel
Robert Stanton

Under 14

Seth Barlow
Zaid Chowdhury
Raees Latif
Leo Mason
Elliot Mills
Ben Powell

Under 15

Orly Bonar
Daniel Bramley
Jacob Collier
Luke Graham
JoJo Mills
Luca Muthappan
Joshua Patel
Joshua Sullivan
Patrick Wilkinson
Harry Williams

Senior

Toby Jones
T'Don Kennedy
Jacob Noakes
Matthew Williams

COLOURS

Under 12

Oliver Feehan
Cameron Reid
William Shilton
Jack Williams

Under 13

Archie Hoyle
Jeff Lam
Rhys Watson

Under 14

James Carr
William Francis
Dominic Hanson

Under 15

Harry Lynn

Senior

Max Doyle
Sameer Javid
Thomas Pichel
Samuel Shilton
Sam Thornton-West

The winner of the **FOOTBALLER OF THE YEAR TROPHY** was **Sam Thornton-West**.

HOCKEY

COMMENDATIONS

Under 12

Alexa Ashwood
Katie Billings
Bella Clarke
Bella Evans
Klara Joubert
Sophia Lipinski
Jessica Pennington
Eleanor Thomas

Under 13

Niamh Bentley
Shania Broderick
Francesca Burton
Nancy Dawkes
Beatrice Downing
Eliza Khan
Grace Lorimer

Elise Muthappan
Kimberley Nguyen
Evie Poor
Lucy Vine
Emilie Wellens
Tilly Wolstenholme
Magda Zelazny

Under 14

Rhiannon Bailey-Manion
Amelie Batey
Claudia Fell
Anusha Prasad
Isabella Teare
Isabella Woodside

Under 15

Ellie Anderton
Libby Conway
Colleen Devlin
Lowenna Forrester
Lauren Gall
Ella Glazier
Ashlyn Orr
Alex Perkin
Holly Smith
Izzie White

COLOURS

Under 12

Holly Batey
Lilly Cook
Annabel Cooke
Caitlin Hill
Florence Hughes
Amelie Joubert

Under 13

Charli Barnett
Minnie Buchanan
Emily Carolan
Elizabeth Jordan
Lara Mathen
May Nassar
Freya Niven
Millie Nuttall
Anna Porter
Uma Rathore
Sara Watson

Under 14

Milly Hall
Alexandra Hartemink
Anna Howard
Jessica Jones
Emily Mills
Amaya North
Scarlett Sim
Chloe Smith

Under 15

Amy Jack
Jenna Kenyon
Libby Porter
Lucy Stead
Maddie Walker
Talia Zelhof

Senior

Pippa Brown
Pippa Crook
Amelia Davies
Sophie Douglas
Kate Roberts

The **CLAIRE CUP** (awarded to the player who has contributed most to Hockey) is won by **Amelia Davies**

NETBALL

COMMENDATIONS

Under 12

Darcy Appleton
Cara Bell
Lily Brown
Bella Clarke
Bella Evans
Hannah Gall
Evie Garside
Rosa Hughes
Amelie Joubert

Under 13

Shania Broderick
Ella Buddle
Nancy Dawkes
Beatrice Downing
Holly Jacks
Brooke O'Connor
Anna Porter
Amber Sullivan
Isabella Traynor
Lucy Vine
Jasmine Whittaker

Under 14

Alexandra Bloor
Grace Ensor-Adams
Phoebe Ferris
Brooke Richards
Macy Stones

Under 15

Millie Job
Annabel Mobley
Juliet Sheil
Niamh Warburton

Under 16

Neave Burns
Isabella Byrne
Sophia Fidler
Charlotte Jackson
Caroline Jenks
Daisy Keigher
Lila Perkin

COLOURS

Under 12

Hephzibah Bangudu
 Amelia Blakeley
 Mia Brown
 Annabel Cooke
 Maisie Keyes
 Ava Perfect
 Lauren Storey

Under 13

Neena Anand
 Charli Barnett
 Niamh Bentley
 Francesca Burton
 Emily Carolan
 Penny Horsford
 Aryannah Latif
 Lara Mathen
 Sara Watson
 Emilie Wellens

Under 14

Libby Goodman
 Annalisa Griffiths
 Sophie Harris
 Rosie Lear
 Amelia Massey
 Vivian Mull
 Aimee Reynolds
 Anna Wilkinson
 Holly Williams

Under 15

Grace Bangudu
 Libby Bowden
 Eloisa Burton
 Sage Jeffries
 Chloe Olajide
 Charley Shea

Under 16

Lucy Brook
 Channell Brown
 Lucy Ferris
 Lizzy Griffiths
 Ellie Hanson
 Mia Hutchinson
 Tiane Mull
 Olivia Patton-Lane

Senior

Lilli Ashton
 Phoebe Christodoulou
 Emily Daniels
 Daisy Hanson
 Lucie Hanson
 Emily Hibbins
 Macy Jeffries
 Beth Taylor

The **NETBALL CUP** (awarded to the player who has contributed most to Netball in the School) is won by **Beth Taylor**.

RUGBY

COMMENDATIONS

Under 12

Zac Dow
 Jordan Ikeh
 Faris Latif
 Haris Latif
 Vuso Munaiwa
 Toby Wells
 Jack Williams
 Tom Woodside
 Christian Woodworth

Under 13

Frazer Assheton-Bryant
 Brandon Cross
 Santiago Danson
 Stephen Monk
 Reis Patel
 Charles Walmisley
 Luke Warren
 Rhys Watson

Under 14

Hussain Armughan
 Seth Barlow
 Ramsey Challah
 Jacob Henshaw
 Ben Powell
 Eddie Thorogood
 Jack Tyley
 Leo Walton
 Tuguldur Zolzaya

Under 15

Harry Boyle
 James Brace
 Robert Brocklebank
 Oscar Davies
 William Hornby
 Edward Hukin

William Jordan
 Tristan Liddle
 Tom Manton
 Dom Rode
 Oliver Van Der Ploeg

COLOURS

Under 12

Hugo Cooke
 Roman Deans
 Nima Mousavi-Khoshrou
 Oscar Reeder-Hirst
 Jenson Wilkinson

Under 13

Harry Cook
 William Daniels
 Bradley Gleave
 David Hughes
 Ben Lavender
 Joshua Sparrow
 Robert Stanton

Under 14

William Francis
 Dominic Hanson
 Raees Latif
 Elliot Mills
 Jack Purves

Under 15

Rowan Abbott
 Albert Bradshaw
 Frank Chatterton
 Isaac Deans
 William Kalton-Morris
 Thomas Loveday
 Eddie McDonald
 Navid Mousavi-Khoshrou

Senior

Amaan Chohan
 George Dixon
 Sameer Javid
 T'Don Kennedy
 Richard Loveday
 Alex Whyllie

The **BLOOD CUP** (awarded to the most promising player in the School) is won by **Frank Chatterton**

DANCE

COMMENDATIONS

5th Year

Lauren Hedley

COLOURS

5th Year

Jessica Barraclough

Phoebe Kelly-Cooper

The **CHRIS MUSCUTT DANCE TROPHY** (awarded for outstanding contribution to Dance) is won by **Phoebe Kelly-Cooper**

SWIMMING

COLOURS

1st Year

Maizie Farrar

Oliver Feehan

Matthew Stewart-Peak

Amy Yates

2nd Year

Elizabeth Jordan

Lucy Vine

Magda Zelazny

3rd Year

Ibrahim Ashraf

Isabelle Holland

4th Year

Alex Beer

Alexander Shilton

Benjamin Vine

5th Year

Sam Lavender

STOCKPORT GRAMMAR JUNIOR SCHOOL

STAFF LIST

Mr T. Wheeler, BA, MA, FRSA	Headmaster
Mr S. Milnes, BA	Deputy Head
Mrs C.M. Nichols, BEd	Assistant Head (Curriculum)
Mrs C. Bailey, BA	Assistant Head (Infants)
Mrs C.A. Hampson, BA	Pre-Reception Manager
Mrs B. Cheyne	Headmaster's Secretary & Admissions

Gap Year Students:	Miss S. Buchanan Miss R. Crawford
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ASSISTANT MASTERS AND MISTRESSES

Mrs R.J. Cole, BA	Mrs E. Coulson, BA
Mrs H.C. Carroll, BEd	Mrs K. Wells, BA
Mrs A. Sullivan, BEd	Mrs J. Noble, BA
Mrs L.J. Turner, BEd	Mrs L. Hudson, BA
Mr A. Taylor, BSc	Mrs S. Barrowman, BA, MSc
Mrs K.V. Roberts, BEd, MA	Miss S. Knowles, BSc
Mrs C. Smith, BA	Mr J. Bowden, BA
Miss H. Baker, BEd	Mr M. Vernon, BA
Mrs N. Hurst, BA	Mrs K. Ehegartner, BSc
Mrs V. Hutchinson, BA, MA	Mr M. Cooke, BA
Mrs C. Woodrow, BA	Mr O. Mills, BA
Mrs L. Carr, BA	

HEADMASTER'S FOREWORD

I am delighted to be joining Stockport Grammar School as Headmaster of the Junior School.

I am very much looking forward to getting to know the whole school community - children, parents and staff. The can-do attitude the children display across the Junior School is really clear to see - they all undoubtedly love coming to school! The opportunity to work with a group of such motivated and energetic children is an absolute privilege and I look forward to continuing to ensure that the Junior School thrives.

Mr M Copping
Headmaster



HEADMASTER'S REPORT

In my final year at Stockport Grammar Junior School, it seemed appropriate to choose 'History' as my theme. The history of which I am thinking is not the 'horrible' variety but it is actually the children.



As we reach the end of another school year, another set of Year 6 children ‘go down in history’. The fact is, we are all of us making history all of the time and the end of a school year brings us an opportunity to look back and to look forward.

At Stockport Grammar School, we are fortunate to spend each day in an environment which is teeming with history, and this helps to give us a sense of our place in the world as we join with those who have been educated at the school over hundreds of years. We are each day reminded of our place in history through our school Houses, which forever keep alive the names of Arden, Nicholson, Vernon and Warren, families who have played a significant role in the school’s past. We are aware of the importance of our traditions. However, we are not overwhelmed by them as we take our own place in history. We are not restricted by our history; we are inspired by it.

Life is full of potential. We are here to make history; it’s just that we don’t yet know what it will be. I have always tried to instill in the children a sense that they can make a difference, that things are there to be challenged, to be changed. History is there to be made.

“You can’t change history – but you can change the future.”

For my final assembly, I left the children with three key thoughts.

Be kind: Kindness is one of our core values and the need to try to be kind to others, all of the time, underpins every relationship within our school. We know that this is not always easy and that sometimes others can seem to make it hard for us to be kind but we still need to keep trying. We also need to be kind to our world, to value and protect our environment. Thirdly, we need to be kind to ourselves, to accept our mistakes and move on, to look after ourselves, to be ambitious and yet also realistic.

Be curious: There is so much in this world for us to find out, whether we are children or grown-ups, and I encourage everyone to keep learning, to keep wanting to know more. Of course, we know that we are at school to learn but it doesn’t stop there. We should keep wanting to find things out, to explore, to want to know. What’s that about? Is that true? Really – did it happen? Let’s find out. Is there something else like that? There are so many exciting, interesting questions in the world. We need to keep learning and keep wanting to find out. I want the children to make sure that they stay curious.

And smile...: I ran a *Share a Smile* campaign during my final months at the school and the children sent in pictures for our ‘wall of smiles’ – which, of course, made us smile! I have often talked with the children about the fact that smiling makes us feel better and that it also has the additional benefit of making others feel better too. It’s a very simple process. However, I don’t just mean to smile. I encourage everyone to aim to enjoy life, to give themselves (and those around them) reasons to smile. We can deliberately set out to try to enjoy whatever we do, to tackle everything with a positive mind set.

One of the things that I like about schools is that they keep changing. Children (and adults) come and go very quickly. It doesn’t seem any time since this year’s leavers were in Year 3 and we were putting on our Year 3 show and sharing a trip to Grasmere. You very quickly become history in a school; things move on and that’s healthy. Of course, much of their history is yet to be written. I don’t know what the pupils of Stockport Grammar School will go on to do. However, I do know that, whatever it is, only they can do it. As each of our children moves on to whatever challenges await, as they, and I, become history, I encourage them all to go on and make history.

Mr T Wheeler
Headmaster

CHARITY

SEASHELL SPORTIVE

Year Six pupil Ella M and her brother Henry in Year Three were the youngest riders ever to take part in the Seashell Sportive in Cheshire.

Ella completed the 50km course in 2 hours 57 minutes, raising

a magnificent £270 for the *Seashell Trust*. Unfortunately, Henry’s race ended at 14km following a collision! Ella got a photo with Fran Millar, CEO of Team Ineos at the end of the race, before cycling home!

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Thanks to all the generous donations to the Harvest Festival, pupils were able to deliver an abundance of much needed food to local people including The Wellspring Centre and Queen's Gardens home for the elderly.



MACMILLAN

Our annual Macmillan Coffee Morning, where many of our teachers broke their diets and indulged in the delicious cakes, raised an impressive £264 for this very worthy cause.

Many of this year's cakes were home-made, with Ms Koziel taking the top prize. Many thanks to Miss Gay, Mrs Turner and Mrs Gilmour for organising this event.

CHILDREN IN NEED

The children rose to the challenge of having a fun day to raise money for this very worthy cause.

The boys and girls dressed in their pyjamas, bought Pudsey inspired cakes and bakes and learnt about how their donation would benefit those children less fortunate than themselves. Over £642 was raised: a fantastic achievement.



MISSION CHRISTMAS/ SALVATION ARMY

Each year, the children are invited to bring in a present to place under our Christmas Tree as part of the Mission Christmas appeal, which supports the many children who live in poverty in the Manchester area.

The children also took part in a reverse advert appeal for Stockport Foodbank. Thank you to everyone for their generosity in supporting such worthy causes.

The school also supports the work of the Salvation Army and we pass on some of the gifts for them to distribute to local children.

THE LITTLE PRINCESS TRUST

Adam and Ellenor in Year Two H raised an astonishing £380 thanks to the generosity of children and parents.

a special request, that their friends in Year Two donated money to The Little Princess Trust instead of giving them presents. The Trust sent both children a certificate to show how proud everyone involved should feel for their kindness and generosity.

Both Adam and Ellenor celebrated their seventh birthday with



RSPCA

Evelyn, Florence, Yasmin and Erin in Year Five organised a delicious bake sale raising £122 for the RSPCA.

Florence said “We chose to raise money for the RSPCA after learning about rescue animals and seeing the effects of the Australian bushfires. I think it is important to raise money for animal rescue because I got my dog, Max, from an animal shelter and he’s amazing.”

FRANCIS HOUSE



In early March, Junior School children raised funds for Francis House Children’s Hospice with Design a Bookmark and Guess the Clown’s Name competitions.

For the Design a Bookmark competition the Infant winner was Georgina S. In the Junior section, Mustafah came first. The name of the clown, which was correctly guessed by Year Six Annabel E, he was called Kenneth. Alex P from Year Five was the lucky raffle ticket winner of the giant teddy. Congratulations to all of the winners and well done to the pupils for raising money for this very worthy cause.

AWARDS

CHESS



Year Five pupil Chethas, was very proud to win the Stockport District Cubs Chess Tournament.

Chethas was representing 1st Great Moor Scouts and won five out of his six matches.

William in Year Four was selected to play for the Cheshire/North Wales County U9 Chess team after his success at the county trials.

DANCE



Ophelia in Year Two competed in the All England Dance National Finals and was awarded a gold medal in the Age 6 and under Character Solo category.

Ophelia was astounded with the result and said “Well I didn’t expect that!”

GYMNASTICS

Ella and Neave in Year Five produced great performances at the Stockport School of Gymnastics 2-Piece Championships.

Ella came third in the floor section and third overall and Neave finished first in the floor section and first overall, she said *"I was the first one in my family to take up gymnastics ... I like it because it is fun and I can learn new skills."*



BIATHLON

Year Six pupil Lucy competed in the GB British Modern Biathlon Championship Final in Nottingham.

Lucy ran a superb race to finish 1st in the North West and 8th overall. The event consisted of an 800m run followed by a 50m swim. A very impressive and well deserved result.



TENNIS



Daniel in Year Five has been playing tennis since the age of four.

Training at Thongsbridge Tennis Club in Holmfirth and with the Yorkshire County U8s squad, Daniel was part of a team of four which became the U8s Mini Tennis County Champions at a competition in Hull.

ACTIVITIES

YEAR SIX

As part of their river topic, the children have been looking at how rivers form and change on their journey to the sea.

Using a hose pipe as the river source they watched as the river

naturally formed. They then identified the different features and labelled them with flags. The children were particularly fascinated to see erosion and deposition and how the rivers change course causing meanders and oxbow lakes.

Junior MUN is a club in which Year Six children role-play representatives of governments from various nations, debate and make agreements on issues.

Under the expert guidance of Miss MacDonald from the Senior School, the children are learning to debate and discuss international problems and make rules that all countries have to follow.

The first issue which the junior delegates explored was the use of animals in circuses. Delegates considered both sides of the argument, then thought about what their country believed before writing their resolutions up together as a 'country'. The final resolution, for all member nations to reduce and eventually stop the use of animals in circuses, was passed by an overwhelming majority.

Junior MUN is a fantastic opportunity for children to learn more about the world around them and develop valuable skills.



YEAR FIVE



The children enjoyed two days of K-Nex activities, starting with identifying the huge variety of engineering careers that are available.

Their first task was to build and develop their prototype Ferris wheel, ensuring that lights flashed and the motor ran to accelerate, decelerate and reverse the direction of the ride. The children then had to develop their own ride and include music in the programming.

"It was amazing to do something that I wouldn't normally do in school and especially because I love programming." said Julia in 5C.

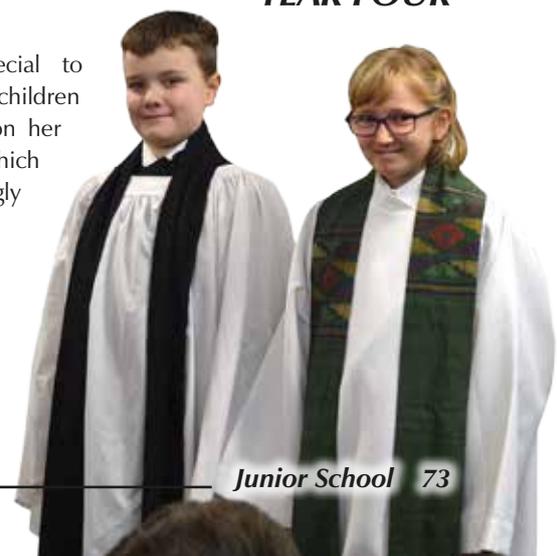
YEAR FOUR

Year Four children have joined our 'Cracking Ideas' Club, becoming ingenious inventors in a top secret inventor's lab!

The children have researched some everyday objects, looked at what they liked and did not like about the design and then used their creative skills to draw and explain how they would improve them.

As part of their topic on the Christian Church and special meals, Revd Leaver, the school chaplain, talked to the children about Holy Communion. She brought some bread, which the children shared and told them why the bread and

wine were special to Christians. The children enjoyed trying on her vestments, which were surprisingly heavy.



YEAR THREE

As part of their work in RE the children have been thinking about who they find inspiring.

There was a range of people chosen, from footballers to authors, granddads to explorers. "I chose Eric Abidal because he overcame a big challenge," said William. Whilst Tom said, "Nick Vujicic inspires me because he never gives up."

YEAR TWO

Year Two T started the school year writing their own poetry.

Using the poem *The Magic Box* by Kit Wright as their stimulus, the class enjoyed discussing their special objects and reasons why they would include these objects in the box, using an amazing array of adjectives.

surprised to hear that things were very different in America in 1963 and how black people were treated differently to white people. The children wrote of their dreams and visions for the future:

"I dream of a world without litter." Jepp B

Year Two H enjoyed a lesson on Dr Martin Luther King. The children heard a brief account from a 10 year old girl who was present at the famous *I have a dream* speech. Our children were

"My dream would be that everyone would have a house so no one lived in boxes." Georgia S

YEAR ONE

The Year One boys and girls welcomed their families into school for an animal themed Art afternoon, which linked to a book the children have been reading called *Wanted: The Perfect Pet* by Fiona Robertson.

Making good use of the craft materials, the children created animal masks - cats, dogs, pigs and horses all making an appearance - using paper plates.

The children enjoyed learning about traditional tales in their English lessons, reading and retelling the story of *Cinderella* before weaving a rug, just like Cinderella did, using weaving boards and yarn. Adam commented, "I liked it because it was calm and peaceful."



RECEPTION

The Reception children really enjoyed exploring their new classrooms.

They produced cakes in the play-dough area, made pirate boats outside and investigated how to make shadows with the torches. They were very excited to start their topic on dinosaurs and watched a dinosaur egg hatch that they found

in their dinosaur swamp!

The children kick-started their topic on Space by training to be astronauts. Their training included balance counts, tunnel crawls, gravity lifts and star jumps. They learnt some interesting facts about astronauts and made badges to complete their training.



PRE-RECEPTION

The boys and girls explored ice, thinking about what ice and snow is made of.

Some of the children thought that water is blue but, once they looked at the water in their bottles and water trays they realised that water is actually 'see-through'. They then decided to make ice. Rehman spoke to Mrs Gosling in the kitchen and asked if they could use the freezers in the kitchen. Sophie said, "It was water and then turned into ice, it was white and freezing cold!"

TRIPS

YEAR ONE

The boys and girls enjoyed their trip to Quarry Bank Mill which supported their learning on materials.

The children experienced life as Thomas and Mary in the Apprentice House. They saw where Thomas and Mary slept and completed their house chores as well as where they spent twelve hours a day working in the mill. All the children were amused by the chamber pot and Lara and Zayaan even had the opportunity to empty it!

The children toured the mill and learnt how cotton is produced from a plant, watching the cotton being stretched and spun by various pieces of machinery and watching how the weaving machine turned the cotton into fabric. The children looked at the River Bollin and saw how the water turned the water wheel which powered the machinery.



YEAR TWO

Year Two learnt some facts about L. S. Lowry and observed some of the equipment he actually used on their visit to The Lowry during the Autumn Term.

The boys and girls enjoyed a workshop session which included using techniques like stippling and using dots for crowds and freckles, cross marking, drawing with a rubber for light and shade and smudging for tone. The children also had the opportunity to try to draw a line and then wash with a water soluble pen to create a sense of atmosphere. The day was rounded off with a drawing exercise where they had to look at the subject, not their paper, and draw without removing the pencil.



YEAR THREE

Excited Year Three children set off for a visit to The Lowry to watch the much acclaimed production of Circus 1903.

Our boys and girls were promised an array of jaw-dropping new performances from around the world and that is precisely what they got. Wowed by the incredible acrobats, aerial artists, probably the fastest juggler you will ever see and the unbelievably flexible contortionist, our children were in awe.

One of the highlights of the show was the appearance of Queenie the elephant and Peanut, her baby, amazing puppets created by the winning team behind *War Horse*. The children have been doing some incredible creative work in English, based on the book *Leon and the Place Between*, which linked very well to this visit.





YEAR FOUR

The Year Four children donned Roman tunics to train as guards and improved their javelin throwing and sword skills on their residential in York.

They made a Roman soldier's oil lamp and wrote in Latin. Soldier training set our boys and girls up well for when a Celt came to try to raid the fort and they performed the 'testudo' to send her packing.

The next day the children were ready to tackle the activities at the Yorkshire Museum. Participating in a prehistoric workshop, they handled artefacts from the Stone Age, wove a blanket, made coins, created a cave painting, made a small pot, built a Stone Age hut, painted their faces and told stories round the fire to celebrate a successful hunt. The children also had the opportunity to look around the rest of the museum, answering questions and looking at the artefacts on display.



YEAR FIVE

The Hollowford Centre in Castleton played host to our energetic pupils for three days, where the boys and girls were able to challenge themselves and work on their team-building skills in the outdoors.

On site some pupils took on team challenges such as rafting and the zip wire, whilst off site others went caving or spent the afternoon at Higgar Tor, weaselling and bouldering.

Following overnight rainfall the challenges on the second day became a little trickier. The children went caving in Giant's Hole.

The wet and wild weather on the final day did nothing to deter our resilient pupils, as some braved the elements to take on the high challenges, whilst others did team activities and orienteering.

The trip certainly hit the right note with animated children, "*The residential was the best trip ever,*" according to Lola.



YEAR SIX

Despite an early start, fifty very excited children set off to London.

First stop was *Harry Potter World*, with the new addition of Gringotts Bank and the flying, fire-breathing dragon. Many of the children tried the infamous Butter Beer and Bertie Bott's Every Flavour Beans, with some parting with some of their spending money to buy wands, prompting cries of *Expelliarmus!* for the rest of the day.

The evening was spent watching an amazing performance of *School of Rock*. The acting, singing, band and dancing were simply awesome and the final song had everyone in the theatre on their feet, clapping and dancing to the music.

The next day it was off to the Globe Theatre. Their tour guides regaled them with tales and woes from the history of the Globe and Shakespeare's many plays. Our children sat up in the 'Gods' to experience what it would be like to be a very rich person and then have to stand down in the pit like a very poor person.

ECO TRIP

The Junior and Senior Eco Committee members headed to London with a very important task to complete.

Following a visit to the Royal Academy of Arts to see the *Eco Visionaries* exhibition, a collection of works showing how architects, artists and designers are responding to some of the most urgent ecological issues of our times, and a look around

the London Aquarium, the children headed to 10 Downing Street to hand over a petition, backed by children and staff at SGS.

Our pupils had written the petition, which focused on planting trees in the UK and reducing carbon emissions. The passion and enthusiasm of the pupils was evident and it brought children from all ages together, providing a focus for the school to help towards gaining our Eco Schools Green Flag Award.

MUSIC AND DRAMA

MUSIC FESTIVAL

The children thrilled an audience of family and friends at the Music Festival.

Performances from the 'Drum and Things' group, Orchestra, Junior Choir, Ukelele group and Year Three and Four Singers, along with selected Soloists, proved a perfect way to showcase everything the boys and girls have learnt.

Mrs Cole said: *It was great to see so many people attend our Music Festival. Our girls and boys have been working hard and I am delighted with how they performed. They should be really proud of themselves and we look forward to seeing them develop their musical ability in the years ahead.*



NATIVITY

The Pre-reception and Reception children dazzled the audience with their amazing performances of Born in a Barn.

The boys and girls loved dressing up in an array of bright costumes and demonstrated great confidence on the stage. They had so much fun learning their lines, songs and dances and were so excited to perform to all their families.



Great fun was had by our Year One and Two children performing *Children of the World*. The play was based on the different traditions observed at Christmas around the world. Our children learned how to say *Happy Christmas* in several languages, sang songs with traditional tunes and dances in the style of the countries. There were super duets during the songs and fabulous harmonies, finishing with an encore of the rousing gospel-style song *Come to the Manger*.

YOUNG VOICES

January marked the end of the long anticipated wait for our singing groups, as they caught the train for the annual Young Voices event at the Manchester Arena.

Excitement was high, even after a long rehearsal and the group was amazed at the size, volume and atmosphere generated by

the eight thousand plus strong choir.

The host was pleased to inform the assembled choirs that *Young Voices* had overtaken *Take That* in the number of performances brought to the Arena! Guest appearances from the Urban Strides dance group, Tony Hadley, The Shires and



Ruti (who sang as a youngster in the *Young Voices* concerts), went down a treat with pupils, parents and staff.

The favourite numbers for our pupils were the pop medley, songs from Phil Collins and the Queen medley, finishing on a high with *We Will Rock You*.

SPORTS ROUND UP

HOCKEY

TERRA NOVA TOURNAMENT

The Year Six Hockey tournament at Terra Nova was a good way to start the season.

A mixed team played five games throughout the afternoon. There was an excellent mix of individual and team attacking which resulted in wins against Pownall Hall and Lady Barn

'B' and draws with Rydal Penrhos and Terra Nova. The final game was a tough one against a strong Lady Barn team who played one attacker high up the pitch and took our defence by surprise. The final results put our team in third place overall. There were some glimmers of excellent team play but some targets for improvement as well.

HOUSE HOCKEY

A huge well done to the many children who played over two Friday nights in the House Hockey competition.

Each team was brilliantly managed by House Captains to ensure that all squad members had a fair amount of pitch time. The standard of hockey played was good and for many children it was great match experience. The children came away having had fun and getting to know other year groups a little better.

Teams scored 5 points for a win and 3 for a score draw. The winners were Warren with two wins and a draw - 13 points.

	Arden	Nicholson	Vernon	Warren	POINTS
Arden		0	5	3	8
Nicholson	5		5	0	10
Vernon	0	0		0	0
Warren	3	5	5		13



AJIS HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

A fantastic start to the tournament for SGJS with a 4-0 win over Scarisbrick Hall.

The winning streak continued with a 2-0 win over AKS 'B' team and a 2-1 win over Rossall. The last game caught the girls off balance and was the toughest match of the morning, resulting in a 1-1 draw.

We topped the group to go into the plate final where we met a strong, physical Kings' Chester team. Their positioning in our D caught the girls unaware so we quickly went 0-2 down, which resulted in us losing out on a place in the final. It was a most enjoyable day of hockey where the girls had the opportunity to show how much their game has progressed since Year Five.

Across the Junior School both boys and girls have been involved in over 80 fixtures and tournaments against other local schools. Football remains an incredibly popular sport for the pupils with attendance high at both the boys' and girls' clubs.



FOOTBALL

The Year Six team have had a strong year, although they had an off day against The Grange in the AJIS Cup. They performed brilliantly in the Metro Cup and were looking forward to their semi-final before school had to close, after beating Norris Bank in a closely fought 2-1 victory. Stanley Tombs performed a stellar job at leading the team and setting the right tone as the Captain. Pupils from Years Three - Six got to experience how professional footballers train, with tournaments at Manchester City's Etihad training complex. Results were strong across the age groups with Year Five narrowly losing in the semi-final to the eventual winners and Year Six also coming close with some excellent performances.

Girls' Football is growing at Stockport Grammar as a sport. The enthusiasm and effort from the pupils are now being matched with skill and game understanding. The Year Six team performed well in getting out of the group stage in the AJIS competition held at Platt Lane Sports complex. Against a number of schools, who have been playing football for a lot longer than we have, they were able to show their competitive side and certainly held their own.

The annual end of season Sports Tour was a change of venue this year, with the boys and girls in Year Six travelling to St George's Park, the home of English football. On their tour pupils were due to train and play on the pitches used by England's national team as well as play in fixtures against Newcastle under Lyme School. Unfortunately it could not take place this year; however, we look forward to organising the trip again in the future.

RUGBY

All boys from Years Four to Six have now experienced contact rugby. Many pupils who have picked up a rugby ball for the first time this year have gone on to join the Rugby Club for Years Five and Six and, under the coaching of Mr Cooke and former Sale Sharks and England player Chris Jones, have really stepped up.

Fixtures and tournaments were arranged for all year groups and although some were lost to the weather, a large number of pupils have now enjoyed playing competitive fixtures against rival schools.

Year Six have had a strong core of players who play and train at both school and local clubs. Captained this year by Jack

Hunter they have recorded some excellent wins against Bury Grammar School, Stonyhurst and Altrincham Prep School. The fixture against Altrincham was a particular highlight of the year as we had A-D teams playing which meant more than 40 boys and girls experienced contact rugby fixtures.

In the AJIS 7's festival hosted at Rossall, the Year Six team finished the group as runners-up and enjoyed a number of fixtures against some excellent schools. Year Five also showed real potential in their AJIS festival held at Merchant Taylor's School. The future of Stockport Grammar Junior School rugby appears to be in good hands.

NETBALL

Fortunately we managed to complete the season before lockdown and what a season it was!

The Year Six girls were fantastic and with hard work and determination they were extremely successful. They played six games and the 'A' team won 3, drew 1 and lost 2, whilst the 'B' team won 5, drew 0 and lost 1. We were even able to host the AJIS tournament a couple of weeks before lockdown, where both teams were able to compete and played to a very high standard, showing true grit and determination in a very strong field. The 'A' team finished as runners-up in the plate competition and the 'B' team came third, so both teams returned to the Junior School proudly wearing silver and bronze medals.

I would like to thank Mrs Coster who helped to coach the children on a voluntary basis all year and also Miss Buchanan who has worked tirelessly with the children for the last two years, coaching them to the highest of standards. She has been an amazing support to the girls and will be sorely missed next year. We wish her every success in her new ventures as she heads to Leeds University to study midwifery.

Who knows what next year will bring but I hope that all the girls continue to develop their netball skills. They are a talented group with a lot of potential and I look forward to hearing about their successes as they move to the Senior School.





SWIMMING

We have also competed in a couple of regional and national events with our club swimmers, the AJIS 2019 in Blackpool and the IAPS North West Qualifying 2019 at Stoneyhurst.

Although we have been unable to go ahead with our normal programme of events for the Summer Term this year, pupils have still engaged in a number of competitions and events both in school and at home including a virtual sports day and exercise challenges.

Mr M Cooke

Teacher i/c PE & Games

Throughout the year SGJS have taken part in inter-school galas both home and away with local schools. In each event, the children all perform well and support each other.

REMOTE LEARNING

Following government guidelines, the school closed to most pupils from the end of the day on Friday 20th March. A small number of pupils whose parents are key workers were cared for in school.

Across the school, innovative ways were found to deliver online teaching and provide pastoral support.

Pupils were delighted to receive regular video messages from Mr Wheeler, who had some help from Moose and his endearing puppet friends.

"This is brilliant. I am so impressed with the way you are communicating with students – absolutely fantastic!" (Parent)

Pupils joined their teachers on Google Classroom as they continued their reading, writing, mathematics and wider

learning. As part of Year Six's English Lessons, staff set up Poets Corner so that pupils could share and respond to each other's poems and attend Poetry Meets.



Year Five children designed some 'resilience' superheroes - showing the ways they have shown resilience during lockdown.

As part of their Science lessons, Year Four children studied living things and their environment. The boys and girls were asked to think about how they might make their gardens and outdoor spaces more attractive to wildlife and came up with some fabulous designs.

Year Three pupils helped Miss Knowles to set up an investigation to find out about the function of leaves, with plants being monitored over a series of weeks.



THE BOY

His eyes were fiery red,

Shining in the acres of blackness that devoured the night sky.

His name - Wolf.

Thick, black hair covered his arms and made it hard to see the skin beneath.

He was transforming.

Sharp, white teeth pierced through his gum.

His shy clothes ripped off him.

Claws replaced nails

He sank on all fours

He was a werewolf.



Year Two children learnt about famous landmarks in England such as Buckingham Palace, the Angel of the North and Big Ben as part of their Humanities lessons. It was Stonehenge, however, that seized their interest the most.



Year One pupils enjoyed learning about buoyancy with a task to design and make a pirate ship which would float. Year Two pupils made a butterfly feeder as part of their Science lesson using materials including sand, pebbles and glass stones.



Reception pupils made a great start to their topic on animals. The children made fantastic animal-spotting hideouts, pet shops and junk model animals.

Pre-Reception children demonstrated their artistic flair as they got to work on some amazing art and craft work. Colourful pieces included self-portraits, roaring lions, and fluttering butterflies.



TIM WHEELER

Tim is a Classicist, who attended the Universities of Sheffield, Cambridge and Bath.

He taught at Norwich School, then became Director of Studies at Bilton Grange School in Rugby and Head at Hereford Cathedral School before being appointed Head at Stockport Grammar Junior School in 2014.

In amongst his 'typical Head' duties, Tim contributed towards the Drama in the Junior School and was delighted when the children he had taught in Year Three got around to putting on the Musical in Year Six. He was passionate about the children eating healthily and the school menu changed considerably in the war against sugar! He ran a Hockey club for several years and enjoyed leading a Year Five Reading Group. He was also determined to see the school grow and develop, the new Pre-Reception building is in-situ largely because of his efforts.

Tim was awarded an MBE by the Queen in her Birthday Honours List, for services to education and his charity work. Tim has worked tirelessly for the Little Princess Trust since 2009 and the charity has become so successful in obtaining hair for children suffering with cancer, that they now have way more hair than they know what to do with. Tim is a keen runner and has completed the London Marathon a number of times, virtually on one occasion, raising money for the Little Princess Trust each time. The children witnessed several incarnations of *Scissorman* over the years as Tim worked to improve his Guinness World Record time for running the marathon whilst dressed as an oversize pair of scissors. Like many Marathon outfits, it was not built with comfort or streamlining in mind.

During one of his first assemblies Tim demonstrated his juggling prowess to the children, where he juggled three items of different weight; I can't remember what the three items were but I was impressed by his juggling ability. The point of the assembly was that you should always be trying to learn new things. In his final assembly, he was still trying to get the same message across as he demonstrated his recently acquired skill of riding a uni-cycle whilst juggling clubs; this was a truly memorable moment for the children and something of a health and safety nightmare for the staff!

His self-deprecating style was an example to the children to enjoy life and not be too worried if things do not go to

plan, that was where *bouncebackability* was required. An example of this was his willingness to take part in the Staff Pantomime, indeed most of the staff who take part do so under extreme duress from Mrs Sullivan but Tim would excitedly plead for the opportunity to dress up as the giant again. I

also remember him dressing up as Father Christmas when we had our first Staff 'Secret Santa', it should not have come as a surprise that Tim would want to make the event a little more festive and special for the staff. Indeed, whilst we are talking about Secret Santa, I should take the opportunity to confess that it was me who bought his new Jungle Book themed 'What's in the Box?' box that replaced Tim's tatty old storage box; Tim was delighted with and utilised it in many assemblies. I am not saying that Tim is a hoarder, but the staff were amazed at the age of some of the items that emerged from that box.

In another assembly, shortly before lockdown happened, Tim handed out small pieces of paper showing smile emojis and launched his one man crusade to 'Share a Smile'. He cared about the children and wanted to maintain a positive feel during a difficult time, 'being kind, curious and keep smiling' was at the heart of his ethos.

Going back to 2014, for me personally, it felt quite refreshing that Tim was so approachable and always seemed to be willing to chat. I felt very comfortable talking to Tim and we had many conversations which were usually school related, often football (I have played a small part in converting him to an almost fully-fledged Manchester City supporter), occasionally politics but thankfully never Classics. On a personal note, I will miss those conversations and would like to wish Tim all the best in the coming years.

Mr A Taylor

BEN BOWLES

Ben joined SGS in 2016 as Deputy Head (Staff & Co-curricular).

He immediately established himself within the community through being virtually omnipresent. As a black-belt in lunch queue management he was adept at being in the right place at

the right time, chatting to pupils and defusing tensions before anything actually happened.

Ben will long be remembered for his sartorial elegance: garish socks, an eponymous trench coat and flat cap on winter days, scarves of all varieties worn even in the summer and a splendid powder-blue jacket perfect for crowd control on Sports Day.

Ben is much more than this, however, truly a deep and creative thinker who innovates, solves problems and is robust in promoting the solutions. Such traits allowed him to ably lead Teaching and Learning across the school, to refocus the grades system and to teach Maths with challenge and real panache.

He leaves SGS to become Deputy Head (Academic) at MGS and we wish him every success in his new role. Ben's

biggest legacy may be his infamous pupil protocol for recovering balls from grassy areas controlled by the Grounds Staff which has made its way into the pupil handbooks and is also available as a 'how-to' video on YouTube!

Dr Paul Owen
Headmaster



PETE URWIN

Pete Urwin has been “a speaker of words and a doer of deeds” throughout his time here.

Although Pete joined SGS initially to teach History, he certainly found his home in the Classics department.

Over many years, he remained keen to improve and refine his teaching by listening to the ideas and experiences of others. As his Head of Department, I was always particularly grateful for his willingness to take on new topics. Perhaps this understanding, that teachers are always learning, was one of the reasons why he was such a good teacher for such a long time?

In the classroom he was a magnificent communicator, understanding intuitively how to put across his enormous enthusiasm for every part of the subject to a range of pupils. Homer, especially the Iliad, was his first love and I am sure that he will miss teaching this in particular. The pupils will certainly miss his idiosyncratic and engaging presentation of Homer's epic: Helen, to them, will remain “a babe”!

In departmental meetings, he always saw issues from the pupils' perspective. He wanted to make sure that the department was doing as much as it could for pupils of all abilities. This interest was also evident in his role as a Form Tutor, where he was outstanding. He was also one of the first Heads of Year in the school, working in the Middle School. It is not overstating things to suggest that Pete was integral in the development of the current pastoral system, showing what a difference to the pupils a good Head of Year can make. Pete's pastoral impact was huge over a sustained period. He was also head of Vernon House back when this was done as a voluntary position. Although he may well have questioned this choice when sitting in a bath of cold baked beans in one assembly!

Pete was also, very much, a “doer of deeds”. There were numerous Classics Trips to Greece, Italy, London, Bath,

Hadrian's Wall etc. There was the work with the younger pupils in Classics Club: a wood/cardboard Parthenon and a chicken wire/papier-mâché Mount Vesuvius, both testaments to his patience and ingenuity.

As well as being an outstanding classroom practitioner, Pete's abilities and interests extended to the games field. As a talented all-rounder, Pete was capable of coaching at the highest level in both rugby and cricket and did so throughout his time here. I remember him saying to me that he had always got so much from sport and wanted pupils to have those same opportunities. This guiding principle pushed him out on every Saturday morning, year round.

As Chairman of the Common Room for a number of years and also ICA representative, he was a confident and vocal advocate of support for staff at the school. I remember noticing, particularly at staff leaving events, how clear it was that Pete knew his colleagues well and was always, therefore, able to offer an anecdote. I know that there are so many staff who will be extremely grateful to Pete for the support and friendship he offered them.

We will miss Pete in the classroom, in the department, on trips, in the common room, on the cricket square, on the rugby pitch and, definitely, at staff social events.

Mr A Thorley
Head Classics



ZOE VERNON

Zoe was once described as having SGS running through her like a stick of rock.

She came here as a pupil; met her future husband here; both of her children went through the Junior and Senior school; did her Teaching Practice here and now she is leaving here after 19 years as a Teacher.

Zoe was instrumental in the setting up of GCSE and then A Level Textiles and the impact Zoe had on the teaching of Textiles in Art and Design at A level was immediate. The pupils who chose to pursue a career in either the fashion or textile industries could not have had a better mentor and a significant number of former pupils can attribute their own success in part, to their formative years spent under her tutelage.

The teaching of Textiles as an endorsement within the Art and Design specification at A Level allowed a broader range of responses and, while visitors to the Annual Exhibition will have recognised the technical quality of the resolved work that was a key factor in her teaching, there was also a strong creative response evident, where textiles had been used to create elaborate wall-hangings and installation pieces.

Zoe assisted with many of the Art trips and the Classics and Music department concerts and trips, all of which is a tribute to her ability to work in a team.

Zoe was a great support to the Music department over many years. She has helped with the staffing of countless school

concerts and also on Music tours to the Lake District and across Europe. She has also assisted extensively in school drama productions with costumes and backstage support.

Mr M Dow

Zoe has been an ancillary member of the Classics department for a few years, coming with us to Greece, creating a Gordian knot and particularly for her involvement with the Classics Play over so many years. We have concocted many bonkers ideas for the plays and Zoe's enthusiasm, creativity and positive demeanour have been an absolute inspiration to me.

Mr A Thorley

The thing we will remember the most about Zoe is the genuine warmth that she showed the children under her care. They know that she cares about them and they love her for that.

All of us in Art and Design wish Zoe a very happy retirement.

Mr R A Davies and Mr N Young



LINDA MORGAN

Linda Morgan joined SGS in September 2010 and in her time with us she taught German and French.

Following a period of time teaching in the state sector, Linda joined her daughters Amy and Chloe who were already at SGS. Linda immediately fitted in well to the MFL team due to her strong work ethic, sense of humour and passion for languages. A decade of pupils have benefitted from her thorough and caring approach to their studies and many have Frau Morgan to thank for knowing when gentle or more robust encouragement was needed.

Linda went the extra mile for her pupils and for the department. She took over the running of the German Exchange and set about putting her own stamp on the trip. New visits for our German visitors were organised: trips to Blackpool and its dungeon and Manchester City were particularly popular. As well as an orienteering afternoon and canoeing, Linda also organised visits from Glossop Mountain Rescue. SGS pupils could only look on with envy as their German counterparts

re-enacted a rescue outside Convent House, orchestrated by Linda's husband, Dave. Linda was an enthusiastic organiser of the German exchange and she enjoyed sharing her love of the language and culture with our pupils. A visit to the Niederegger Café for coffee and cake in Lübeck was always a highlight and well deserved after a morning up high (i.e. freezing) in the Lübeck Dom or attempting to skate in the ice rink. Linda was generous with her time and continued to run this trip and accommodate the German teachers in her home even after she went part-time.



The department will certainly not be the same without Linda's calm presence and her common sense. I am pleased that she will now have more time for herself to enjoy in her garden or baking - we will miss the regular banana cakes and I will miss her bag of treats which should have been for pupils' good work but more often than not became afternoon sustenance for those of us who knew where they were!

We wish her a happy retirement and hope that she will enjoy travelling to Germany without pupils. Indeed, Linda is the perfect role model for future exchangers as she has kept in contact with her own German exchange partner, Angelika,

for over 30 years. Our thanks go to Linda (and Dave) for these adventurous activities and for the numerous expeditions and supervision duties which they undertook for SGS Duke of Edinburgh. Aside from the German exchange, Linda also helped out on several trips to Grasmere and the First Year French trip.

I wish her all the very best for the future and hope that she will stay in touch with her many friends at SGS.

Miss S Gibson
Head of MFL

ROB JONES

Rob joined the English department in the new role of Second in Department in 2017.

In addition to inspiring many pupils in the classroom, he coached the U13 football team, accompanied pupils on a football tour to Barcelona and joined a theatre and lecture trip to Stratford.

He shared his interests at the Symposium Society when delivering a fascinating talk to pupils on Artificial Intelligence. He organised the unforgettable visit of Edwina Currie to the Debating Society, who arrived fresh from the 'Celebrity' jungle with her bush hat before fielding some challenging questions about the Conservative Party's policy choices in the 1980s.

He will be missed by the many staff who played on the football team he organised and those who enjoyed hearing him sing and play his guitar at functions. He has now joined The Laurus Trust and we wish him every success in his new role.

Mrs G Cope
Head of English



PHIL KENNEDY

Phil Kennedy taught at SGS for the last four years, where he held the position of Assistant Director of Music.

During this time he made a fantastic impact on the Music Department.

An outstanding classroom teacher of pupils of all ages, he inspired a love of music. He motivated a large number to take up and sustain the learning of musical instruments and encouraged widespread participation in the co-curricular life of the school. Throughout his time here Phil took responsibility for the wind bands, creating a great buzz in rehearsals and directing fantastic performances. He also established the

MARS recital series, giving opportunities to many pupils for informal solo performances, and helped develop the regular playing of music in assemblies. Phil assisted with the running of Chorus and supported several other ensembles by singing or playing whenever



needed. He also assisted with the marketing of the musical life of the school and the use of ICT in Music.

He made a great contribution as an Assistant Form Tutor and was a much liked and respected colleague across the school. He could usually be relied upon for a rich supply of jokes and was always great fun on the Music trips and tours. On behalf

of all the pupils, staff and parents I would like to thank him for all that he brought to SGS and wish him every success in his new position as Director of Music at Morrison's Academy in Perthshire.

Mr M Dow
Director of Music

CATHY GRIFFITHS

Cathy joined the School in 2016 and it was quickly apparent that she was prepared to work very hard and to adapt to circumstances.

She taught A Level English and Russian History from scratch and it was pleasing to see her produce her own materials and to engage her classes in topics relatively new to her. She showed an aptitude to create interesting and challenging resources for her classes at A Level, IGCSE and in the Lower School. Her charges enjoyed her lessons and came away thinking about what they had learned and excited by the prospect of another lesson. Her technical ability showed itself in her materials and presentations.

Cathy is a knowledgeable historian and she was always willing to discuss areas of curriculum and to think about how they might be delivered. In connection to this, she rewrote the Third Year Scheme of Work and introduced an extended set of lessons on the female suffrage movement. She also took part in our annual Battlefields Trip to France and Belgium. Cathy

ran the weekly History Club for the Lower School and her dedicated group of pupils regularly attended her lunchtime sessions.

She showed in her time here that she was able to see the funny side of situations and her light-hearted approach will be missed by the department.

I wish her every success in her future endeavours.



Dr S Smith
Head of History

Hola!

This amazing adventure, being your Spanish Language Assistant, has come to an end and, because of Covid-19 invading our lives, it was done in a very strange way. Despite me working remotely from Spain with some of the pupils, I have to confess that I really feel sad not being able to say "goodbye" properly.

Since the very first e-mail I received from the school, I knew that it would be an incredible and unforgettable experience. In my first week at SGS I felt a bit nervous but very soon I started to feel comfortable and relaxed; I met two friends forever, the French and German Language Assistants. The MFL Department has extraordinary teachers who helped and supported with everything. To work closely with Mrs Psaila-Harris and Mrs Cole was really fantastic and I learnt a lot from them. I cannot be more thankful for this (you are all so lucky

SPANISH ASSISTANT

to have these two amazing people teaching you the Spanish language, so take advantage of that!).

Working with the pupils has been both thrilling and funny; sooner than I expected they started to call me by my name, instead of Miss, which made me realise they had accepted me and I was so happy about that. I always encouraged them to keep practising, revising and studying Spanish to obtain the best results because I know the Spanish can be sometimes difficult, but they did great and I am super proud of them! I have to admit that I learned as much from them as they did from me, since I practised and improved my English.

The last thing I have to do is thank you so much for everything, you will be in my memories, always.

iHasta pronto, SGS!
Cristina Azcona.

OSA PRESIDENT

Stockport Grammar School is brimming with enthusiasm, talent and fun. I have had a wonderful time not only in observing the wide range of activity pursued, but also in being able to attend a school event in 2019 as neither pupil nor parent.

My time as President began as Tim Stretton retired after the Old Stopfordian Dinner in March 2019. Tim did a great job as President and has since been very helpful in guiding me through the school calendar - for both of which I offer him many thanks.

What have been the highlights of the year? The Art Exhibition in May 2019 was a lovely occasion when the work of GCSE and A level students - including work books - was displayed. I was struck and encouraged by the high level of engagement with both current world issues and the local area that was on show.

Speech Day 2019 followed and was a reminder of past days spent in a hot theatre dreaming of summer - but at least I didn't have to wear a heavy gown as well unlike the Headmaster. I did though enjoy seeing the recognition of the achievements of all pupils and staff, and was honoured to be able to add my thanks at the end to the guest speaker, Ben Heason, and all associated with the school. June also included the Summer Reunion, which was a wonderful chance to get together in a relaxed, informal setting. I wholeheartedly recommend this event to Old Stopfordians of all ages - on their own or in groups - as there is always someone to talk to about the school and friends.

The school year then moved into autumn and winter. I was privileged to attend an exceptional Remembrance service. The



formal event in the main school hall was dignified and thoughtful and this was matched by quite outstanding readings and music - and lunch - in the Hallam Hall. I also very much enjoyed the Autumn Concert and Carol Service, the latter jolting me firmly into new renditions of carols in St. George's Church.

School life is obviously now heavily affected by the issue of Covid-19. I wish all pupils the very best in their efforts to continue their education and thank the staff for all they are doing. I hope big school events can return before too long.

My final thanks must go to all in the External Relations team for all they do for the Old Stopfordian community. Rachel Horsford, Rebecca Shawcross and Stuart Helm in particular have been tremendously helpful to me and it is much appreciated.

Graham Earles (OS 1983)

FROM THE HELM

When former pupils return to school after a gap of several years they are often fascinated by the changes that have been made to the buildings and the facilities.

Until the 1950s, there were few changes to the plan that had been drawn up by the architects for the school in 1914. However before agreement had been reached on the initial cost, there was one proposal that fell victim to the overall cost of £32,000, an open air swimming pool. The pool would have cost £2,000 and been located in the area adjacent to the caretaker's lodge at the side of the drive. There was clearly enthusiasm for the project as the builders had already begun

tiling part of one wall. These tiles could still be seen well into the 1970s.

The area remained unused until 1933 when there were some 380 pupils in a building designed for 250. As the 450th Anniversary of the Foundation approached and the school had achieved Public School status, with the admission of the Headmaster into the Headmasters' Conference, it



was decided that it was an appropriate moment to extend the accommodation with the building of two ‘temporary’ classrooms and a new Art Room. These timber structures, 1A, 1B and the Art Room effectively enclosed the space intended for the swimming pool and became home to generations of First Year boys. The pleasantly quirky rooms along with their attached boardwalk, survived until late into the 1980s when the new Dining Hall and Bursary were built bordering onto the original space.

In 1990, a grand plan was proposed for the site to create a totally new quadrangle or court which would substantially improve the way that many pupils were able to work. The scheme provided for new Chemistry Laboratories, a whole suite of rooms for the Geography department, substantially larger CDT facilities and a new Upper Sixth Form Common Room. The architectural style reflected that of the 1916 buildings and the court was to be the preserve of the Upper Sixth. Opened in September 1991, the whole enterprise was universally praised.

Although visually attractive, the court space, occupying almost exactly the original site of the proposed swimming pool and First Year playground, never realised its potential in terms of frequent use. Perhaps best known as the site for the annual Lower Sixth Form play at the end of the Summer Term, an event frequently interrupted by rain, and receptions after Speech Day its future came under increasing speculation as the school population increased in size and demanded more useable day to day space.

And so today we look to the most recent incarnation of the site. The whole of the court has been reborn retaining many of the architectural features while creating a large modern and well equipped social space with a stunning glass roof for Lower and Upper Sixth Form students, a far cry from the original proposal for the site over one hundred years ago.

Best wishes
Stuart Helm
School Archivist

REMEMBRANCE DAY

More than eighty Old Stopfordians joined pupils for the Stockport Grammar School Remembrance Service on Monday 11th November 2019.



Pupils and guests were able to pay their respects to the brave men and women who have served their country – including the one hundred and sixty Old Stopfordians who volunteered to fight in the First World War before conscription was introduced, and the fifty two Old Stopfordians who sadly lost their lives during the battle.

The service was led by Senior School Headmaster, Dr Paul Owen, with Upper Sixth Form pupils reading poetry and accounts from the war. The School Chaplain Rev. L E Leaver led the service prayers. The school's Head Boy, Alexander Malone, and Head Girl, Kate Roberts, laid a wreath. Fourth Year pupil Patrick Owen played the Last Post before a two minute silence was observed.

Following the service in the school's Main Hall, Old Stopfordians made their way to the Hallam Hall for a Remembrance lunch.

Prior to lunch being served, our visitors received a talk from Stuart Helm, the SGS Archivist, who gave an illuminating insight into early memories of life at SGS before 1964. Following Mr Helm's speech Third Year pupils Alice Thomson, Thomas Keogh and Lilah Vidler gave talks of their experiences on a recent trip to the First World War Battlefields where wreaths were laid in memory of Old Stopfordians lost in battle at the Memorial for the Missing at Thiepval.

Guests were also treated to spectacular musical performances by Zoe Shah, Talia Zelhof, Ella Moran and Olivia Dow.

Mrs R Shawcross

DEATHS

Jeffrey G Bissenden (OS 1963)
died 14/7/2020

John Dutton (OS 1949)
died 12/06/2020

David H Fletcher (OS 1964)
died 19/09/2019

Reginald G Hardie (OS 1956)
died 07/04/2020

Nigel H Higgins (OS 1939)
died 03/05/2020

Neville J Holt (OS 1950)
died 03/02/2020

Charles W Hunt (OS 1945)
died 05/2020

Frank R Huxley (OS 1951)
died 07/07/2020

Philip Kershaw (OS 1958)
died 10/11/2019

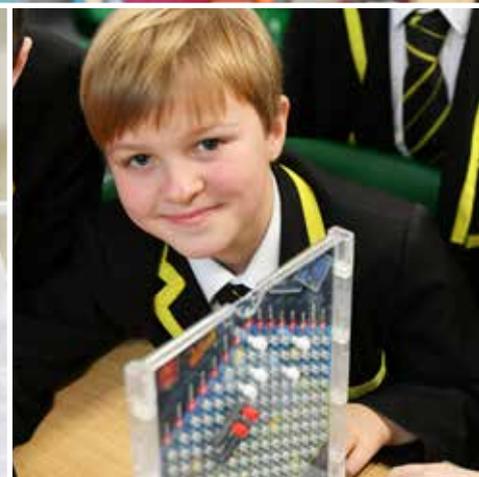
Philip J Lund (OS 1960)
died 08/11/2019

John C Milner (OS 1950)
died 25/12/2019

Keith Naismith (OS 1945)
died 07/10/2019

David W Price (OS 1951)
died 15/07/2020

Robert D Whittall (OS 1962)
died 13/10/2019



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