

7<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **House Plays**

The annual house play competition took place on Wednesday and Thursday of last week. The performances by all six houses were exceptional and really highlighted the time and effort that students from all year groups had put in to their performances.

This year three of the plays were written by the students themselves. They were Phantom Whisper by Ryan Drummey (Croft) which also achieved the Adjudicator's award, Firefly by Nathan Gunnell and Leo Homer (Hale), and Shutdown by Oscar Williams (Kinman). The adjudicator, Kim Barker, was particularly impressed by the quality of the writing, especially the narrative twists of Croft and Kinman, and the humour in Hale.

Winners of the Best Actor awards were to Ben Davis and Fredrik Mitchell O'Reilly (both of the overall winners Wallace). Other stand out performances as mentioned by the adjudicator were Sam Newby (Hale), George Kimberley (Hale), Ryan Drummey (Croft), Freddie Masters (Kinman), Sam Ward (Wallace), Ben Fruin (Page), Amelia Brown (Croft), and Fred Forde (Croft). Full details of their stand out performances will be in the Winter edition of Hale News.

The winner of the Sayer plate for technical excellence was Croft who went on to come second overall.

I would like to thank a huge number of staff for their support in organising this competition: The Heads of House for guiding the students throughout the whole process, Miss Maughan for providing excellent costumes and props for the students, Miss Hore for stage managing, Mrs Bradbury for co-ordinating the programme, Miss Baldwin and Miss Eagles for their helpful advice at the dress rehearsals and for hosting the competition. I would also like to thank Mr Andrews for overseeing the whole event.

### Final Results

1<sup>st</sup> - Wallace

2<sup>nd</sup> - Croft

3<sup>rd</sup> - Kinman

4<sup>th</sup> - Cowper

5<sup>th</sup> - Page

6<sup>th</sup> – Hale

### **Year 12 Scholars' Society: Oxford University talk**

This week we were delighted to welcome back former student Mackenzie Robb to talk to our Year 12 Scholars' Society about his first term at Oxford University. Mackenzie, who was our Senior Scholar last year, gave a detailed insight into how much he is enjoying life at Oxford, from his evolution essays, tutorials and lab sessions, to rowing and playing rugby for his College, to making friends everywhere including on his college staircase which was once home to Boris Johnson! He answered many questions from our Year 12s which included advice on

how to make a successful application and how he has achieved a positive work-life balance during a very busy term with a heavy workload.

### **Year 13 EPQ Presentation and Celebration Evening**

On Tuesday evening 27 Year 13 EPQ (Extended Project Qualification) students gave presentations and produced display boards of their projects to an audience of their families, friends, mentors and Year 12 students. They gave fantastic presentations which showcased the work they have been putting into their projects since May. Participation in the EPQ programme is voluntary, and students work over several months on a project of their own choice, learning and developing a vast range of skills including planning, creativity, time management, and researching and evaluating sources. Each student has a member of staff as a mentor who they meet with regularly to support and guide them through their project. This year's titles were a wonderful range including 'Quantum Computing and Artificial Intelligence: The Effect On Cyber Security'; 'What are the impacts of disabilities on family dynamics, and what can I learn about ways to mitigate these challenges?'; 'How can companies use colour theory in marketing?': and 'How has the Thalidomide Scandal affected Modern Day Clinical Drug Trials?'. Many congratulations to all the students who have truly reflected our school values during these projects.

### **Richard Hale Rugby Results and Fixtures**

The link below provides both fixtures and results for the 23/24 academic year. Please note venue and teams may change nearer to the scheduled date. However, all students will be notified in advance via Google Classroom and/or their timetabled Games lesson.

[https://www.schoolssports.com/school/Fixtures\\_Teams.asp?Id=535&S=20232024&SID=24](https://www.schoolssports.com/school/Fixtures_Teams.asp?Id=535&S=20232024&SID=24)

#### Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December - Schools Cup

RHS 1<sup>st</sup> XV Won 32-17 against Nottingham HS to reach the semi-final of the U18 Schools Cup competition.

U15 lost 32-7 against Sir William Borlase's Grammar School in Rd 4 of the U15 Schools Cup competition.

#### Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December vs Haberdashers Boys School

U12 Australia and England will travel to Haberdashers. Both matches will kick off at 2.15pm. All details regarding the fixture have been posted on the Year 7 PE Google Classroom.

#### Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December vs Haberdashers Boys School

1<sup>st</sup> XV and U14A matches will be held at Hertford RFC

U13's will travel to Haberdashers, WD6 3AF. All matches will Kick off at 10.00am

### **Sport Leaders**

Year 13 Sport Leaders attended a Primary School inclusion events this week, where they were helping engage young people into sport who do not regularly compete or represent their school. They were joined by our Year 9 and 10 Inclusion Champions, who displayed excellent leadership skills working with young people with different learning needs.

Year 9 students - Reggie Loveitt-Morgan, Austin Clay, Kaydn Dam, Albert Rogers, James Butterfield, Charlie Palfrey, Ben Fruin.

Year 10 students - Jack Power, Fin Murray, Dylan Irving, Francis Lovett, Jack Farthing. All pupils were praised by multiple schools and created a real positive environment for the young people to enjoy sport.

### **Staff News**

Mr Smith will be running the London Marathon 2024 in aid of Teenage Cancer Trust. Every day, seven young people aged 13-24 hear the words “you have cancer”. Cancer doesn’t just devastate their health, it threatens to take away everything they care about, their identity, their independence and their dreams. Teenage Cancer Trust funds specialist nurses, youth support teams and hospital units within the NHS to provide the very best care and support during treatment and beyond, making sure cancer doesn’t stop young people living their lives.

Any donations would be greatly appreciated by Mr Smith.

[https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/alex-smith1901?utm\\_source=copyLink&utm\\_medium=fundraising&utm\\_content=alex-smith1901&utm\\_campaign=pfp-share&utm\\_term=355184e32eb947668120b0969612dde1](https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/alex-smith1901?utm_source=copyLink&utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=alex-smith1901&utm_campaign=pfp-share&utm_term=355184e32eb947668120b0969612dde1)

### **Christmas Lunch – Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December**

Christmas Lunch takes place on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December and needs to be purchased in advance so that we can cater accordingly. Meals cost £3.50 and can be bought at any of the Dining Hall tills and the deadline for ordering is Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December. Please note that this will be the only food available that day so students who have not purchased a Christmas Lunch will need to bring their own food. Free School Meals students are automatically included and do not need to order a meal.

### **Student News**

Congratulations to Jaxon Clarke, Year 11, who played at the U17 National Badminton Championships at the NBC in Milton Keynes and won bronze medals in both the Men's Doubles and Mixed Doubles a year young.

Ian Hawkins  
**Headteacher**

### **December 2023 Calendar**

Friday 8 <sup>th</sup>	BTEC Mock Exams
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup>	GCSE Mock Exams – to the 20 <sup>th</sup>
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Year 13 Geology Trip
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Sixth Form and Staff Christmas Jumper Day
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Lunch

Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Senior Presentation Evening
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup>	White Gloves & Founders Day End of Term, School finishes at 12.30

### January 2024 Calendar

Monday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Spring term begins
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup>	BTEC exams start Junior Ski Trip Parents Information Evening
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Senior Ski Trip Parents Information Evening
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Year 13 Mock Exams Week Year 11 MFL Mock Speaking Exams
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Junior Ski – Gosling
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Junior Ski – Gosling
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Year 12 Mid Term Tests week
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Year 9 Immunisations BTEC exams end
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Sixth Form Politics talk
Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Burns Night
Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup>	Intermediate Maths Challenge

### Weeks

Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Week 2
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Week 1
Christmas Holidays	
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Week 2
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Week 1
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> Jan	Week 2
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Week 1

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