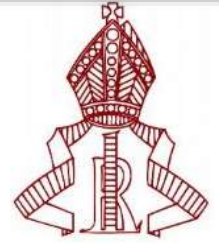


Bishop Luffa School

2024-2025 Issue 2

December 2024



Dear friends of Bishop Luffa School,

Christmas can be hard work, but the rewards are special. This week we have had three days of Christmas dinners: every year group has come together, prayed, eaten and sung their hearts out. It was definitely hard work: our catering team, for instance, served over 1200 meals and there were so many people involved, working flat out to make it a success. But our reward was seeing young people enjoying spending time together, regardless of their backgrounds, beliefs and opinions. It shows you that with a little effort we could all live in a peaceful world. I hope that you, too, see light in the darkness this Christmas.

I hope that you enjoy reading about another term at Bishop Luffa School and have a very Merry Christmas!

Best wishes,

Austen Hindman
Head Teacher.

Head Teacher Awards

In this morning's Whole School assembly Head Teacher Awards were presented to a student from each House for their work in the local and school community.

Andrewes: Alfie Acquah (10Andrewes)
Burrows: Kai Lendrum (11Burrows)
King: Alex Hickey (9King)
Otter: Freddie Hollingworth (9Otter)
Ridgeway: Charlie Duncan (8Ridgeway)
Sherborne: Juniper Palmer-Bullock (7Sherborne)
Story: Jennifer Fitzgerald (11Story)
Wilson: Thea Roberts (8Wilson)



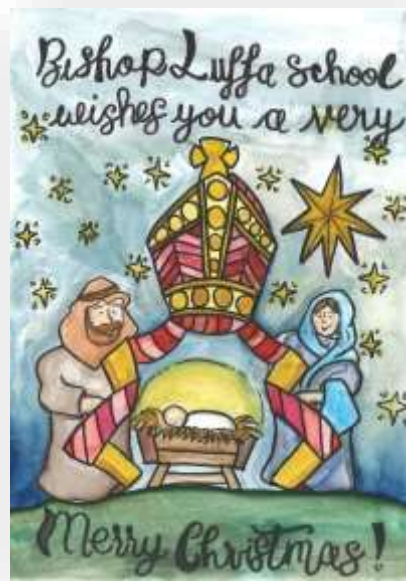
Christmas Card Competition 2024

We had some fantastic entries for our Christmas Card competition and the winners were:

1st Prize: Bella Page (9King)

2nd Prize: Grace Wallis (7King)

Runners up: Jonah Kus (7King) and Alexander Petrov (9King)



Story House Charity Events

In the lead up to Christmas, Story House were full of the spirit of goodwill and were keen to get involved in several charity based adventures. This began with members of the House and supported by other students and staff in the school dressing up as elves and making a donation in the form of money, food or prayers. Some chose to exchange an item of school uniform for a red or green alternative, others wore an elf hat, there were also



who went "full-on elf"! On the same day, 8Story organised and ran a cake sale. There was such an offering of biscuits and cakes that catered for all taste buds. Altogether this event raised over £250 for their House charity *Dementia UK*. Story House also took their charity endeavours out into the community and were welcomed at Homelands Nursing home where our Christmas Choir sang to the residents, most of whom have dementia. All the students enjoyed themselves as did the residents and carers.

Shona Charge, Head of Story House

Bishop Luffa falls silent for the Armistice

At 11am the whole School fell silent for 2 minutes to mark the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month.



Each year we come together as a School community to pause and reflect, and to mark Armistice Day, and this year was no different. At a few minutes before 11.00am the School met on the field for a formal service of commemoration, led by Mr Hindman. Readings were heard from our chaplain, Father Phillip Amey, still himself in the naval reserves, and from School Captains, Aaron and Matilda. Mr Bonney read the Kohima Epitaph.

The two minutes silence at 11.00am was bookended by Last Post and Reveille, superbly played by Freddie Lynas (assisted by Mrs Bowen-Melfi), on a bugle from the First World War. The sound of these notes cutting through the air gave us a solemn reminder of why we pause and reflect.

Wreathes were also laid on behalf of the School by Mr Bonney and the School Captains. A guard of honour made up of students who serve in uniformed organisations (coordinated by Year 13 student, Zoe Smyth) helped complete the picture of formal commemoration). The service also included the release of 20 white doves by members of our International Team, as a symbol of hope for the future, as well as a poem for peace read by Veronika Zavarzina (Year 12).



We finished with Aaron blowing a whistle from the First World War trenches. Along with the bugle, we had a tangible link to those who served in that terrible conflict, and heard sounds that echoed across the battlefields, a poignant way to help the School to mark this important moment of national commemoration.

The students behaved extremely well, and clearly understood why this moment of coming together really mattered. Edward Knott (13Ridgeway) did an amazing job of recording the event on his drone and has put together a [video of the event](#).



My thanks must go to all of those who helped make the service run so smoothly, including Mrs Christopher, the Site Team, Mr Green and Mr Brown, Mrs Lopez-Gamero, Mrs Cooke and the International team, Father Phillip, Miss Sutton, Mr Hindman and Mrs Fowles (who linked us up with the team that provided the doves). Thanks also to all of the students who spoke to so clearly in this very special event. Teamwork makes such events run smoothly, and today illustrated that perfectly.

Justin Barnett, Head of Humanities

A Historic Splash: Bishop Luffa Swimming Team's Unprecedented Achievement

Hannah Day (12Ridgeway), Florence Ingram (12Ridgeway), Eloise Joubert (11Burrows) and Libby Johnson (11Sherborne) qualified out of their medley and freestyle to qualify for the English Schools National Finals, competing against school swimming heavyweights and Olympians.



On Saturday 16th November Bishop Luffa School competed at the English Schools Swimming Finals at Sandwell Aquatic Centre in Birmingham, where the 2022 Commonwealth Games were held, following qualification from the county round. It was the third time Bishop Luffa had qualified for this competition, but the first time we had ever qualified multiple teams. During the opening of the competition, team captains Alex Wilkes and Hannah Day were warmly introduced to the crowd of over 500 people, along with captains from all schools. The

National Anthem gave goose bumps for our

athletes in this incredibly proud moment for them and the school. Kick starting the event for Bishop Luffa was Max Stanton (8King), Alex Wilkes (8Burrows), Derin Cowley (8Story) and Curtis Jacobs (7Sherborne) competing in the junior medley relay. The team gave every ounce of effort and finished 18th out of 30 teams, with a team personal best by more than 0.6 of a second.

In our second event of the day the senior girls were preparing for their freestyle heat. We were hoping to qualify but were not highly confident in doing so, and we felt our success may come later in the day in the medley final. We finished 4th in our heat beating schools we did not think we would come near. With two more heats to go we were unsure if we had qualified. The suspense of the wait was tantalising and when the result came through that we had qualified, jubilant celebrations broke out. The girls' knew coming into this final that we were up against the nation's best swimmers, with much greater resources than we have. We finished 9th and history was made. This was the first team from Bishop Luffa to have made an English Schools National Swimming Final.

In the boys' second event of the day, Harry Peregrin (7Andrewes) came into the freestyle team, and in a tough lane draw, competed valiantly throughout the race finishing 19th between the three heats. The team swam a 4 second personal best, this was extraordinary to save so much time! Harry, Max, Alex, Derin and Curtis swam together for the first time at the Sussex qualifier in October 2024 and have trained together once, for one hour, in the build up to these finals. For these boys to get into the final is no mean feat and, in the future, we will certainly be hearing more about this team in their bid to qualify out of their heats.



For the senior girls' medley relay, we believed they had the chance to qualify but knew they had to all swim personal bests to have a chance of doing this. The girls swam a personal best by 0.3 seconds which allowed them to squeeze into the final inscribing their names into the Bishop Luffa history books, qualifying for a second national final. In the final the team were again underdogs but fought valiantly, Eloise showed determination through illness to give us a good start with her backstroke, Florence's elegant breaststroke kept us with the pack, Libby flew through their air with her butterfly leg before handing over to Hannah to come within half a second of 8th place as she hits the finish. Even at the teams sixth race of the event the girls made a substantial personal best from their time in the heat of 2.07.57 to their time in the final 2.06.82.

A big thank you to Chichester Chiropractic Health Centre (CCHC) who have supported and sponsored the team to train before the event for the first time and bought the team memento tops of the day. Both teams did incredibly well and we are very proud of everyone's achievements. Bishop Luffa student's do what Bishop Luffa students do and when the moment comes they stand up and are counted, but this time they are history makers.

Tim Godfray, Team Leader of PE

Bishop Luffa PFA Prom Dress Sale News

Saturday 19th October saw months of preparation come together as the Bishop Luffa PFA opened their doors for *The Annual Pre-Loved Prom Dress Sale*. Set inside the school's dance and drama studio, this event provided a selection of high quality, prestigious dresses one would normally only see in the popular boutiques, offering the biggest selection of gowns to date across a range of sizes, styles, colours and budgets.

Since the last event in February 2024, the PFA team worked hard to source a wide selection of quality gowns for the 2024/25 Year 11 students. With record levels of interest from prom dress sellers, the PFA prom team had their work cut out working late into the Friday night logging, pricing and displaying the stunning gowns up for sale. The team created a beautiful prom dress showroom with over 200 gowns on offer, ranging from £20 to £350.

The hard work paid off as there were queues waiting to get the first glimpse of the stock available. The first purchase was made just 15 minutes after the doors opened with the lucky young lady picking up a brand new gown with 50% off the original ticket price. With a qualified dressmaker on site, Lo-Lo from Chichester Tailors, who kindly donated her time and expertise, this event had everything needed to find the gown of their dreams, within the budget of their parents' dreams!



Having advertised the event across the whole of Hampshire and Sussex, families travelled from as far as Southampton, Alton and beyond. With record sales, the Bishop Luffa PFA raised three times the amount of profit compared to the sale in February 2024, with £358.50 raised for St Wilfrid's Hospice. A cheque was presented to Ryan Grist, St Wilfrid's Retail Manager, in the October half term, with Bishop Luffa Year 11 student, Bella, who played an integral part during the sale preparation and on the day of the event itself.



This year's event organisers, Anna and Naomi said, "this event was started by a former parent, Sam, a few years ago, and based on the amazing foundation of work she poured into the previous events, we have been able to grow this event into the incredible success it was in October. We are hopeful we can continue to grow this event for buyers and sellers alike, creating a fantastic value and eco-friendly option for Year 11 families in the future, and in years to come this will automatically be the place to come for prom gowns.

“We are so pleased with the success of this event, but we could not have done it without the support of the fantastic team of PFA volunteers who helped put this event together. Also, our thanks go to the sellers who put their trust in us to sell their stunning gowns, and to buyers for giving us a chance. We are delighted all the hard work has paid off and were blown away by the standard of stock we curated for this event.”



If you are interested in keeping up to date with future sales, to buy or sell at, make your way to the Instagram page @BishopLuffaPromDresses and give us a follow.

Year 12 Residential a Great Success

The Year 12 residential to Chateau Broutel in northern France was a great success. The Sixth Form team had the pleasure of taking students on a journey that encouraged new friendships and personal growth.

Each and every student truly embraced the spirit of the trip. They participated wholeheartedly in a range of team games and outdoor activities, finding joy and camaraderie in the simplest of experiences and challenges. It was inspiring to watch them support each other, laugh together, and make connections that we hope will last well into the future.



The staff at Château Broutel expressed their admiration for our students, describing them as the best group they have ever hosted. This praise is a testament to the students' enthusiasm, respectfulness, and kindness towards one another and those around them. They represented our school with pride and made us, their teachers, incredibly proud.

We are confident that this experience has had a positive impact on each student, leaving them with treasured memories and friendships that will enrich their Sixth Form journey and beyond.

Special thanks to Stella Richi (Deputy Head of Sixth Form) for leading and managing the trip, plus the Year 12 tutor team (Mr Clarke, Mr King, Ms Lawlor, Ms Langstone and Mrs Williams) and support staff (Ms Labeledz, Ms Thomas, Mrs Cooper and Miss Dickinson) for giving up their time and being such positive role models throughout.

Jamie Saunders, Head of Sixth Form

Making Lava Lamps

At STEM Club we investigated Alka-Seltzer Powered Lava Lamps and how long it took the tablet to disappear, how vigorous the bubbles were, and the differences in how the reaction happened in the colder liquid versus in the hotter liquid.

The ingredients in Alka-Seltzer combine with water to form a gas called carbon dioxide. The oil and Alka-Seltzer do not combine in this way though. The Alka-Seltzer tablets sink through the vegetable oil until they reach the layer of coloured water. There the Alka-Seltzer dissolves in the water and forms carbon dioxide. The gas is lighter than the water and oil, so it bubbles up, taking a bit of coloured water with it as it moves through the oil layer. You will see those bubbles, looking like colourful blobs, floating through the oil layer to the top of the jar. At the top the



bubbles should have burst (releasing the carbon dioxide gas), and then the colourful blobs sank back to the bottom (now without carbon dioxide gas). The effect was reminiscent of a lava lamp. Click on this [video link](#) to find out more.

The chemical reaction that causes the carbon dioxide to form happens more quickly in warmer water. For this reason, the Alka-Seltzer tablet dissolved more quickly in the hot water. This resulted in lots of rapid bubbling and an energetic lava lamp display. In contrast, the Alka-Seltzer tablet in the cold water dissolved more slowly, with most of it disappearing in the first two to three minutes, resulting in a calmer and longer lasting lava lamp effect!

James Bonney, Head of Design & Technology

Multiple Teams Achieve Mammoth Success at Cross Country

On a soaking wet day in Brighton, Bishop Luffa cross country runners showed great resilience and determination to shine and four teams qualified for the regional finals.

Outstanding performances from all teams, particularly the junior boys, intermediate boys and girls and senior boys as they march on to compete on Wednesday 13th November at The Judd School in the regional finals competing against schools from Hampshire, Surrey, Kent and Sussex.

Team and individual results are below but results that stand out are the intermediate boys where Max Gayle (9Burrows), Ben Stewart (10Andrewes), Zac Robst (10Wilson) and Joe Stewart (9Andrewes) all finished within the top 5 to guarantee qualification for the team, blowing the rest of the field away. Well

done to Elodie Hill (10King) who finished third in her race against very stiff opposition to get on the podium. Good luck to all of our teams in the regional finals.

English Schools Cross Country Cup - County Qualifier

Junior boys - QUALIFIED FOR REGIONAL FINAL

1st - Brighton College - 30 points

2nd - Bishop Luffa - 44 points - 7th Alex Wilkes (8Bu), 8th Isaac Page (7Sh), 12th Max Stanton (8Ki), 17th Maddox Matthews (7Sh), 22nd Seb Berger (7An).

3rd Hurstpierpoint College - 53 points



Junior girls

1st - Dorothy Stringer - 30 points

2nd - Mayfield - 36 points

3rd - Hurstpierpoint College - 71 points

9th - Bishop Luffa - 138 points - 25th Rebecca Jolly (8St), 26th Erin Brooks (8Bu), 42nd Annabelle Papathanassi (7St), 44th Sophie Platt (8Bu), 59th Rebekah Bishop (7Sh).

Intermediate boys - QUALIFIED FOR REGIONAL FINAL

1st - Bishop Luffa - 14 points - 2nd Max Gayle (9Bu), 3rd Ben Stewart (10An), 4th Zac Robst (10Wi), 5th Joe Stewart (9An), 28th Reuben Shewan (9Wi).

2nd - Brighton College - 53 points

3rd - Christ's Hospital - 70 points

Intermediate girls - QUALIFIED FOR REGIONAL FINAL

1st - Brighton College - 24 points

2nd - Bishop Luffa - 30 points - 3rd Elodie Hill (10Ki), 4th Isabella Lendrum (9Bu), 7th Isla Hill (9Ot), 16th Lily Keates (9Wi), 19th Amber Haig (10Sh), 43rd Kitty Goodband (10An).

3rd - St Oscar Romero - 71 points

Senior boys - QUALIFIED FOR REGIONAL FINAL

1st - Hazelwick - 31 points

2nd - Bishop Luffa - 37 points - 7th Sam Wyatt (12Ot), 9th Noah Collins (12Bu), 10th Ethan Hill (13Ot), 11th Kai Lendrum (11Bu).

3rd - Brighton College - 47 points

**Tim Brown, Toby Buck and Tim Godfray
PE Department**

Thea creates stunning artwork to support The Nest

Thea Roberts (8Wilson) is involved with the Chichester Festival Theatre Nest fundraising and her artwork was selected to be displayed as part of a fundraising exhibition in aid of the Nest Appeal, which aims to build a space to nurture arts and creativity for young people.

Thea has written this about her piece, which she has called 'Turtle's Dreamscape'. *"I sought to blend elements of nature with the serene essence of dreams. The Turtle, a symbol of wisdom, represents the journey of life, moving slowly yet purposely through its environment. I chose to depict it in a Dreamscape to highlight the beauty of imagination and the importance of taking time to reflect."*

"I really wanted to take part in this competition as I love art and also because it would be helping create The Nest which, of course, will be an extension of our theatre. By participating in this competition for The Nest I aim to raise funds that support local arts, fostering creativity and community spirit. Supporting The Nest means investing in a space that inspires and entertains, enriching lives through artistic expression."

One hundred artists have created their own individual, decorative egg. From Gavin Turk to Philip Jackson CVO, along with competition winners from our Youth Theatre members and local artists - the range is stunning. The Nest Eggs have been on display in various galleries and Chichester Festival Theatre, before being auctioned off to raise money for The Nest.



Shakespeare School Festival 2024

Congratulations to all students who were involved in our Drama Club performances of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in November, as part of the Shakespeare School Festival. It was a wonderful celebration of Shakespeare with a



lovely Key Stage 3 company directed by Sixth Formers El Kiryzan and Tabby Cooper.



Thank you to all parents and friends who came to support at both the school performance and the professional performance at The New Theatre Royal, Portsmouth along with other schools.

Nicky Furnell, Team Leader of Drama

Debate Club Competition

Our Debate Club took part in a Debate Competition and Joel Blamire (12 Wilson) shares his thoughts on the event.

“On Monday the 11th of November our Bishop Luffa Debate Team departed from Bishop Luffa to Christ Hospital to debate on the motion “the house would ban facial recognition in public.” Our team delivered incredible speeches, and did the school proud. Our team consisted of nine students, however we had only three that were allowed to speak during the debate.

These three students were Rupert Reddington (12Otter), Ginny Yonge (12Story) and Ella Blamire (9Ridgeway). Unfortunately, we didn’t get through to the next round, however we are massively proud of the team, and all its members, and we hope to win next year!”



Our special thanks go to Joel for his strong leadership and hard work in getting the team ready. Joel, it has been a pleasure to see all your skills come to the fore and infectious enthusiasm at work

Mx G Thomas, School Librarian and Ms F Langstone, Teacher of Law

Year 8 get a glimpse into a Tudor World!

Over the course of the week commencing 18th November, all of Year 8 got the chance to visit the Mary Rose Museum in Portsmouth as part of their History studies. This visit slotted in perfectly to the work they are doing at present on Tudor England, and more specifically, the reign of Henry VIII.

As well as seeing the ship itself, students were able to study many of the artefacts 'up close', marvelling at the superb state of preservation of everything from combs and shoes, through to the remains of the ship's dog!



The students also got the chance to experience what it was like to dive down to the Mary Rose through the '4D' cinema experience, and undertook a workshop, where they either planned out Tudor military strategy and acted out the role of a Tudor gun crew, or got a gory insight into Tudor medicine.



This was a superb opportunity to visit a world-class museum right on our doorstep, bringing local (and national) history alive, and supporting our learning in the classroom. It also helped shed some light on the lives of ordinary people in Tudor times, something that helps to give a richer view of what the past was really like.

My thanks must go to the many members of staff who helped make the visits such a success, and to the pupils for their behaviour, which was often praised by museum staff and members of the public.

Justin Barnett, Head of Humanities

Sporting News

Congratulations to the following students on their sporting achievements.

Well done to Francesca Dumitriu (8Story) who competed in the South East Levels Women's Artistic Gymnastics competition. Francesca was placed second on Vault across all ages on Cooper level representing The Academy of Gym club. She was one of the youngest gymnasts out of 64 girls aged up to 16 years old.



Well done to Frederick Cullen (7King) who travelled to Telford International Centre for the English Trampoline and DMT Championships. He qualified for this event after two preliminary rounds earlier in the year, and the top 24 boys in each category made it to the English Championships. After his preliminary rounds (two jumps) he made the final, where the top eight boys jump one final time for the chance of medals. Frederick was in 3rd position going into the final and came away in Silver Medal position, meaning that he is 2nd within England for his trampolining.



Congratulations to Elsie Huxtable (8Ridgeway) who took part in the Sussex Winter County Championships recently and did extremely well. She is Sussex Champion with Gold in eight events (50m Freestyle, 100m Freestyle, 200m Freestyle, 100m Breaststroke, 200m Breaststroke, 50m Butterfly, 100m Individual Medley, 200m Individual Medley) and Silver in the 50m Breaststroke event.

Well done to Millie Malcom (7Ridgeway) who took part in the Junior Great South Run and raised over £400 for her church. She did this alongside Grace Bragaglia (7Otter) who was raising money for Portsmouth Downs Association.

Congratulations to Oliver Rutter (7Story) and Rory Parrett (7Otter) represented Chichester Rugby Club as part of a team taking part in the Harlequins Defender Premiership Rugby Cup in Guildford. There were 24 teams from clubs across the South East and Chichester won the tournament!

Huge congratulations to Ayla Tran (7Ridgeway) who took part in her first Gala with Chichester Cormorants Swim Club and set her times for butterfly, freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke and individual medley.

Within her groups she came second in four races and first in freestyle. We look forward to celebrating more of Ayla's success in the future.

At the recent awards ceremony for The South East Triathlon Series this year that Ben Stewart (10Andrewes), Stanley Wilkes (11Burrows) and Levi Pearce (8King) came 1st, 2nd & 3rd in the overall standings for TriYouth and TriStar2 having all won or podiumed in a number of this year's events. Ben and Stanley have also been selected to train with the GB team along with Levi, who was selected earlier this year in a younger age group.



Max Gayle (9Burrows) and Joe Stewart (9Andrewes) have also been selected for the Southern Endurance Squad following their achievements in running and cross country. Huge thanks to Chichester Tri and Chichester Runners & Athletics Clubs.



Well done to Maddox Matthews (7Sherborne) who won the T2 under 13s Hedgehog Triathlon Series.

Congratulations to Rory Parrett (7Otter) and Oliver Rutter (7Story) who both represented Chichester Rugby Club Under 12s 1sts at the Land Rover Cup, a Premiership Rugby tournament hosted by Harlequins RFC at their training ground in Guildford. The tournament brought together the best 19 teams in the South East for a one day Cup Competition. With Rory playing at scrum half and Oliver as a 2nd row forward, Chi won their first two games against Teddington and the

much-feared Battersea Ironsides with convincing victories. A third match against Worthing proved tougher but again bought a win, with Rory scoring a pick and go try from the bottom of a ruck close to the Worthing try line.

With three wins under the belt for Chi, next up were Tonbridge Juddians – this last match was effectively a knock out game with winners going into the semi final – Chi won by two tries to one, meaning they were through to a semi final against Haywards Heath. After another exciting match they won, going through to the



final against Sutton & Epsom. Chi fought admirably in a tight final which was 0-0 until the last minute. Chi made drive after drive for the opposition line with S&E defending admirably until they finally succumbed to the onslaught with Chi going over for a winning try with the last play of the game!

The boys were absolutely elated, as were the parents and coaching team - a wonderful end to a fantastic day for 16 lads from five different schools who have been playing together every Sunday for 6 years in the case of some. As winners, Oliver and Rory got to have their photos taken with the Premiership Trophy and won tickets for them and the rest of their team to attend the Premiership Final at Twickenham in June.



Well done Eddie Lake (11Andrewes) who competed in the British Down Syndrome Swimming Championships at K2 in Crawley in November and came second in the U16 25m freestyle, and first in the 25m breaststroke, a great achievement in his first swimming competition.

Congratulations to Frederick Cullen (7King) who has qualified for the South East England zone British Schools Trampoline Championships in first place. He will now go onto to compete against athletes from Hampshire, Surrey and Sussex in January.



Well done to Libby Johnson (11Sherborne) who came 96th out of 115 of the country's best swimmers in the National Winter Swimming Championships in Sheffield in the 50m freestyle.

Year 11s inspired by St John's College, Oxford

Our students had the opportunity to visit St John's College, University of Oxford and this is what they thought of the day.....

"We were recently given the chance to visit St John's College at the University of Oxford. It was a great experience and gave us the opportunity to learn about life at university and at Oxford specifically, for example the collegiate system. We spoke to students currently studying at the university and got to ask questions about the application process, and their first year at Oxford. It was a really informative day and gave us all much more insight on our possible post-16 options. We had a tour around the college and got to have lunch in the dining hall and look around the Laudian Library and the Old Library. We



also went to the Natural History Museum and were given a presentation on insects - and got the chance to hold live Madagascan cockroaches. We all had an amazing day and really enjoyed the experience." *Eva Herilhy (11Otter)*



"My favourite part of the day was the Q&A with current Oxford students because I got to ask any questions that I had about the university and the application process in a way that I wouldn't have had without this trip." *Maria Coutinho 11Otter*

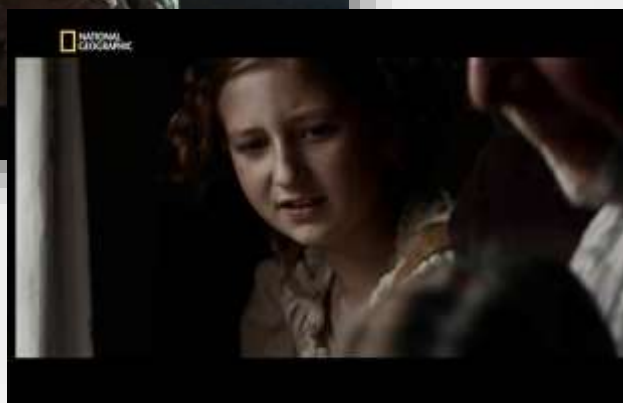
"I found the day very insightful because we got to learn not only about current life at Oxford but also about the vast history of the university." *Maria Hawkes (11 Sherborne)*

"The day made me consider Oxford as being one of my possibly options for the future, especially learning about the increasing number of state school students attending the university, but also because I really loved the atmosphere." *Tom Vosper (11 King)*

Jamie Saunders, Head of Sixth Form

Hollywood beckons for Gracie

Earlier in the year, Gracie Huxtable (7Ridgeway) filmed for a series called *Witches – The Truth Behind the Trials* which is now available on National Geographic. It is the story of the infamous Salem Witch Trials from the 17th Century in Massachusetts, USA. Below is a picture of Gracie in her outfit and some stills from the filming.



Bishop Luffa Careers Fair 2024

The recent Bishop Luffa Careers Fair was a great success, bringing together students, employers, colleges, and universities under one roof. The event aimed to inspire and inform students about a variety of career paths, further/higher education opportunities, and vocational training options. With a buzzing atmosphere and a variety of engaging activities and equipment for the students to handle, the fair gave students the opportunity to envision their future with confidence.



A diverse range of industries was represented by employers such as Lockheed Martin, NHS, Pallant Chambers, Market House Dental Surgery, Creations Hair and Beauty, Taylor Wimpey, the Armed Forces and many more. These employers showcased their organisations, providing insights into job roles, work experience and apprenticeships. West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service joined us for the first time, bringing along equipment and uniform for the students to try out and midwives from NHS Portsmouth University Hospital encouraged students to try on a 7-month fake pregnancy bump, with students commenting on how heavy and uncomfortable it was! Representatives from colleges and universities including Cardiff, Sussex, Bath and Sparsholt offered detailed information about courses, entry requirements and student life. Students across all year groups actively engaged with exhibitors, with exhibitors commenting on how polite they were and how insightful their questions.



One highlight was catching up with Freddie Laing, Zak Leahy and Sebastian Cunningham who were representing Rolls Royce. Having joined Rolls Royce after GCSEs at Bishop Luffa, they are months into their apprenticeships, having enjoyed team building, college lectures and time at the plant in their individual departments. They advised students about recruitment processes and progression within Rolls Royce and were all thoroughly enjoying their apprenticeships.



We would like to say a huge thankyou to all exhibitors who attended. We are always happy to hear from organisations who can offer employer experiences to students, such as work experience, employer talks, attendance at the careers fair – if any organisation would like to be involved in future careers events, please contact Mrs Hopp on hoppa@bishopluffa.org.uk

Angie Hopp, Careers Coordinator

Computer Science Students inspired by Cutting-Edge Tech

In November thirteen of our A Level Computer Science students had the privilege of attending the Computer Science in Action event at the Emmanuel Centre, London. This engaging and interactive day featured talks from leading academics and industry experts, offering students an exciting insight into the latest advancements in technology and computer science.

The event began with a thought-provoking session by Professor Matthew Leeke, exploring the evolution of computers and how foundational concepts taught in GCSE and A Level Computer Science underpin today's cutting-edge supercomputers. Dr. Emma Byrne then delved into the complex world of large language models (LLMs), examining how these powerful AI tools are built and the ethical challenges surrounding them.

The importance of good software design was highlighted by Paul Curzon, who shared fascinating examples of how thoughtful programming can prevent human error and save lives, particularly in healthcare. Students were also captivated by Amber Shand's inspiring talk about her unconventional path into the tech industry. With no formal computer science background, Amber learned to code and became an award-winning software engineer, proving that a successful career in tech is accessible to anyone willing to take the leap.

The day concluded with Dr. Kate Devlin's exploration of AI in our daily lives, sparking meaningful discussions about how AI affects and relies on us, even when we don't interact with it directly. Students also enjoyed interactive polls, quizzes, and a special workshop designed to boost their exam success. This inspiring trip left our students motivated, curious, and eager to apply their knowledge as they continue their journey in computer science.

Helen Williams, Team Leader of Computer Science



Celebrating Summer of Code Winners!

Congratulations to Solomon Sutton (11Ridgeway) and Megan Crow (8Burrows) who have won *DressCode's Summer of Code* competition. Their innovative coding projects impressed the judges, earning them each a fantastic tech prize and recognition among entries from across the UK and Ireland. This achievement showcases their creativity, skill, and passion for computer science.



Well done, Solomon and Megan—you've made us all proud!

Helen Williams, Team Leader of Computer Science

Luffa Students take part in Stonepillow Fashion Show

Ivy Revell (8Andrewes), Reuben Revill (8Burrows) and Indigo Clark-Lyons (8King) recently took part in the Stonepillow Fashion Show. It was a great night raising money for the charity and our students created their own costumes in an after-school club *Sleeping Bags to Glad Rags*. Congratulations on all your hard work.

Melissa Witherow, Team Leader of Textiles



Economists agree that Gold is Heavy!

On Tuesday 3rd December, Year 13 Economists visited the Bank of England Museum in London. Such a museum is obviously highly relevant to their studies, and as well as touring the museum (and agreeing that the gold bar they were able to try and lift was indeed valuable and indeed heavy!) they were fortunate to attend a presentation by a member of the museum's staff. The talk outlined the Bank's history, and its role in the economy, including such complex topics as Quantitative Easing, and Tightening.



In an ever-changing economic situation, such a visit really helps students to visualise some of the institutions and strategies that are used to influence the economy, and which have a significant impact on everyone's lives, whether we realise it or not.

My thanks go to Mrs Grove for organising the logistics, to Mr Luff and Mrs Gleeson for accompanying the trip, and to the students for their good behaviour.

Justin Barnett, Head of Humanities

Bishop Luffa awarded The International School Award

We are very pleased to announce that our school has been awarded the British Council's prestigious International School Award for the second time. The International School Award celebrates the achievements of schools that do exceptional work in international education.



Scott McDonald, Chief Executive of the British Council, said: *'The school has earned this prestigious award through its inspirational international work and links with schools abroad. The International School Award is a chance for schools to be recognised for their important work in bringing the world into their classrooms. The desire to build on their international work shines through and it is with*

utmost pride that we celebrate their achievements. By embedding an international dimension in children’s education, these schools are preparing their students for successful lives in the UK or further afield, empowering them to be global citizens, and are creating vital opportunities in an increasingly global economy.’

A huge congratulations to all the students in the International Team and all teachers, staff and parents involved in our International Projects in the last year years!

Elizabeth López and Susie Cooke



PSHE Topics

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

Year 7	Gangs Staying safe online Alcohol Smoking Energy drinks	Year 8	County Lines Substance abuse Cyberbullying Grooming
Year 9	Drug classification War on drugs Consent FGM Relationships Delaying sexual activity	Year 10	Honour based violence Forced marriage Modern day slavery Knife crime
Year 11	Screen addiction Social media/Real Life CV writing/Personal statements/College applications		



Prayers

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

Prayer List:

Every month:

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

For December & January

- Year 13s sitting Mock Exams.
- Year 11s making decisions about Sixth Form.
- Year 9s choosing Options.
- Preparations for our school production of *Bugsy Malone*.
- Sixth Formers making plans for Charity Week.
- Year 10s preparing for Work Experience.

School Calendar

Monday 23rd December – Friday 3rd January 2025

Monday 6th January 2025

Monday 13th – Friday 17th January

Monday 13th January

Wednesday 15th January

Thursday 16th January

Thursday 23rd January

Tuesday 28th January

Thursday 30th January

Monday 3rd February

Thursday 6th February

Monday 10th – Friday 14th February

Wednesday 12th February

Thursday 13th February

Monday 17th – Friday 21st February

Monday 24th February

Tuesday 25th February

Christmas Holidays

First day of Spring Term

Year 13 Mock Exams Week

PFA Uniform Shop Open (2.00pm – 3.30pm)

PFA Meeting (6.30pm)

Year 9 Options Evening

Sixth Form Winter Ball

Year 10 Eucharist

Year 9 Parents & Carers Virtual Consultation Evening

PFA Uniform Shop Open (2.00pm – 3.30pm)

Year 7 Parents & Carers Virtual Consultation Evening

Year 10 Work Experience Week

Year 9 Exams Week

PFA Meeting (6.30pm)

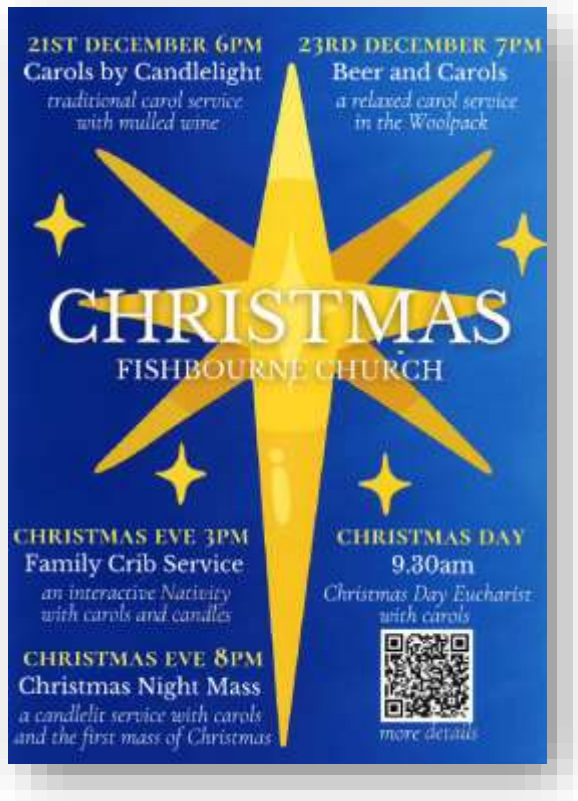
Year 13 Parents & Carers Virtual Consultation Evening

Half Term

INSET Day

School open to all students

Local Community Events



Christmas Carol Service at Grace Church

Join us for our annual carol service on Sunday 22nd December at 4pm, in one of three locations.

Chichester – Grace Centre, Terminus Road, PO19 8TX

Bognor Regis – Southway Primary School, South Way, PO21 5EZ

Havant – Warblington School, Southleigh Road, PO9 2RR

We are also together for a shorter meeting on Christmas Day morning at 10am at the Grace Centre in Chichester (Terminus Road, PO19 8TX), where we will sing carols together and hear from the Bible.



Christ Embassy, Havant – if you would like to attend this event please complete the form below:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf4dyhi1MfLilAHvc0Ez-QZIGrz36OQmm0pwKvDKica25mtEw/viewform?usp=header>