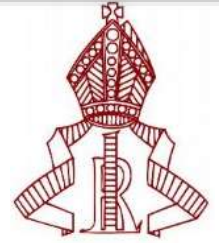


Bishop Luffa School

2023-2024 Issue 3
February 2024



Dear friends of Bishop Luffa School,

The time between Epiphany and Lent brings back some challenging memories. Four years ago we had students returning from the Ski Trip to Italy who had a temperature and a nasty cough – our first experience of Covid. Two years ago, at a similar time, we started to get messages from individuals and from local churches to say that they had signed-up to sponsor Ukrainian families who were displaced by war. We started to work with those families and have been blessed by having these wonderful students in our school: their cheerful resilience has put our own lives into perspective. Today, two of our staff, Rasa Bagdoniene and Olena, were presented with Civic Awards by the Mayor, Councillor Craig Gershater, and the Chair of the City Council, Councillor Clare Apel. This award was for the incredible work that they have done to support those children through the last two years. We were very grateful to have the awards presented in school, so that our students could share this moment with them. We are very proud of them and grateful for the work that they have done and the example that they have shown to others.

‘Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God’.

Best wishes,

Austen Hindman.
Head Teacher.



Story House support Dementia UK

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 Story House, and supported by other students and staff in the school, dressing up as elves and donating 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 some who went "full-on elf"! On the same day, 7 Story organised and ran a cake sale. There was such an offering of biscuits and cakes that catered for all taste buds and were mindful of allergies etc. that they even continued selling their wares at lunchtime, with Mr Hindman purchasing the final slice! The day was a great success with the House raising £417.82 for the charity Dementia UK.



Story House also took their charity endeavours out into the community and were welcomed back to Manor Barn 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. One resident who is unable to speak was able to sing along with us, which made his visiting wife cry with happiness. Story House owe a big thank you to Mrs Bowen-Melfi for her support with this venture.



Mrs S Charge, Head of Story House & Mrs S Callaghan, 7Story Tutor

Boys Dance Showcase

At the end of the Autumn term our Boys Dance group performed at The Showroom at the University of Chichester. They performed as part of a Dance Showcase hosted by the University alongside groups from 12 other schools. The curtain raiser was performed by Zoie Logic Dance who have been advocates for boys dance for over 20 years. Their performance piece was choreographed by Beth-Anne Hollyhurst and was based on different characters from popular online games. The group performed really well and were a credit to the school.



Jo Lawlor, Head of Arts Faculty and Team Leader for Dance

Year 7 History students get creative

In History Year 7 have finished off their studies of the Norman conquest by looking at castles. To put the students' creative talents to use, some classes have been busy making a realistic Motte and Bailey castle for their homework. These have included collages, interactive computer models, a sandcastle on the beach (brave and chilly at this time of year), a song about castles, as well as these wonderful 3D models and cakes.



were enjoyed by the class - they were delicious!

**Mrs L Fowles,
Teacher of
History**

Sporting News

Our students have had some amazing sporting achievements this half term:

Congratulations to Hannah Day (11Ridgeway) who competed in the Welsh Winter National Swimming Championships. Hannah did extremely well; over the course of three days of competition, she took part in six heats, four finals and two long-distance finals and came away with a National Silver medal in the 1500 metre freestyle and three Bronze National Medals in the 400 Metre freestyle, 100m freestyle and 100m Butterfly.



Huge congratulations to the cross-country runners that competed in January at the Sussex Schools Cross Country Championships in Brighton. Ben Stewart (9Andrewes) has qualified for the English Schools Cross Country Championship, and Elodie Hill (9King), Max Gayle (8Burrows), Stanley Wilkes (10Burrows), Sam Wyatt (11Otter) and Harvey McGuinness (12King) have qualified for the Inter Counties round. The Inter girls came 4th, Junior boys 2nd, and Inter boys 2nd.

Interhouse Art Competition

Over 200 entries were made into our Interhouse Art competition before Christmas across all year groups. The brief was 'Structures' and students produced a range of amazing artworks in response to the theme including moon photography, etching, portrait painting, digital landscape drawing, comic illustration, collage, tonal drawing, ink drawing, oil painting and many more. The standard of work was incredibly high and we were very impressed with all the students who took part. Students across the whole school voted for their favourite artworks in each category during their art lessons and the results were as follows:

Otter - 464 votes
King - 391 votes
Andrewes - 307 votes
Burrows - 254 votes
Wilson - 198 votes
Story - 134 votes
Ridgeway - 113 votes
Sherborne - 83 votes.



Congratulations to the following students who were the overall winners:

Sixth Form

1st place: James Bell (12Story) with his Pomegranate painting.
2nd place: Harvey Cook (13Andrewes) with his large ink study.
3rd place: Gina Rizzo (13King) with her drawing of a girl in water.



GCSE

1st place: Theo Kus (11King) with his comic book illustration.

2nd place: Charlotte Lewis (11King) with her landscape painting.

3rd place: Tabatha Procter (11Burrows) with her portrait drawing with her cat.

Years 7 - 9

1st place: Layton Bone (8Otter) with his architectural drawings.

2nd place: Vika Kravets (8Wilson) with her digital game illustration.

3rd place: Lara Cook (8Andrewes) with her tonal portrait drawing.

Miss L Thorpe, Team Leader of Art



Year 11 Art Trip to London

Year 11 students enjoyed a trip to London to start off their exam project. They saw work by the artist Antony Gormley, famous for his 'Angel of the North', at White Cube and then journeyed on to The Saatchi gallery to appreciate the work of husband and wife duo Christo and Jeanne-Claude whose works include ambitious, large scale projects such as wrapping The Arc De Triomphe in fabric.



They all produced some beautiful drawings on the day and will use the experience to help inspire and develop their own work back in the classroom.

Miss L Thorpe, Team Leader of Art

Sports Studies trip to Twickenham

On Thursday 18th January Year 10 and Year 11 Sports Studies students travelled to Rugby HQ. The students experienced a fantastic tour of Twickenham stadium, having the true VIP treatment exploring the royal box, boardrooms, changing facilities and pitch side access.

Afterwards they sat down for a personalised workshop focussing on how England Rugby link to commercialisation and external stakeholders, all of which directly links to different units both groups study with, modern and purposeful examples. This was the first trip for the Sports Studies PE route way and we are positive it will not be the last. The students represented the school very well. A special thank you to Mr Cook for accompanying the cohort. Which sporting arena might we venture to next?



Mr T Blewitt, Teacher of PE & Sports Studies

Sparx Maths Reward Bowling Trip

It was an exceptionally cold morning, but we wrapped up warm and headed off on our walk to the bowling alley. An incredible 96 students managed to complete every single “XP Boost” and “Target” tasks on Sparx Maths, in addition to the compulsory homework they are set each week. They had managed this from the start of September up until the Christmas holiday.

Mr Healy set the route – it’s a lot easier to navigate when the leading teacher is so tall! We were very happy to reach the warmth of the bowling alley, and the students wasted no time in getting on with their games. They were very competitive - particularly the Year 7s who also took great pleasure in using the machines to add a selfie to their names on the screens! We had some incredible scores and the students were amazing.



We will be running this trip again in the Summer Term. If students would like to be invited, they will need to have done ALL XP Boost and Target tasks on Sparx from Week 19 (January) until May half term!

Mrs H Kettle, Head of Maths

The Arts Society A Level Art Competition

One of our very talented A-level students who left last year has had his work shortlisted for a competition with The Arts Society.

Robbie Phillip's fallen angel painting is currently hanging in Reception and he has kindly gifted it to school. If you enjoy the work then we would really appreciate your support in voting for it so that Robbie can be recognised for his hard work and talent. It takes two seconds, you don't have to register and you can vote as many times as you wish.

<https://theartsociety.org/level-art-competition>

Miss L Thorpe, Team Leader of Art



A Fantastic Burns Night Celebration

What a night! Bishop Luffa's Burns Night 2024 was a huge success. With a wonderful atmosphere, tartan bedecked hall, an enticing selection of raffle prizes on offer and excited, happy guests, it was definitely a great night and one to remember. 'The best one yet' was heard uttered by many guests.

There were many people involved in the background that made this event happen. They gave up their time and energy for free and we are very, very grateful to have such supportive families in the school.



A big thank you to all of the PFA for their support, and in particular Simon and Greg for their involvement in the organising, and for securing the services of our chef, Sven from Wellies, and our fantastic Maître d', Ethan from The Landing Place. A special mention from setting up and on the day and our profound appreciation for giving up so much of your time and energy is to our parent helpers, in particular Susan, Beth, Sylvie, Lisa, Katharine, Tara (and family), Amanda, Hester, Sally, Becky, Helen, Nikki, Kristi and Alex.



A big thank you to all the wonderful Year 10 helpers who stepped in and made the evening a really fabulous event - they were just fantastic. They did us proud and worked so hard. Thank you to them all for their diligence and wonderful attitude to the job undertaken. They seemed to have fun too!



And lastly, if you attended the event, our immense thanks to you for supporting our quest to raise funds for the school that provide our children with the 'extras' to enhance their school experience, as well as our ambition to foster our wonderful school community spirit. We hope you had a great evening. See you next year – the date for everyone's diary Saturday 25th January 2025.

Sharon Quail and Julie Howard, Co-Chairs Bishop Luffa PFA

A Day for Design

As part of the Design and Technology GCSE programme, we organised a trip to the Design Museum and Tate Modern Gallery in London.

For part of the GCSE NEA project work our students are expected to be able to respond in depth to the works of Designers/Design movements and/or Art movements. The trip fully met that and provided the students with valuable experience of this important component, working from primary sources.



At the Design Museum we saw the exhibition 'Rebel'- 30 years of London Fashion sponsored by Alexander McQueen. This landmark exhibition is one of the most wide-ranging surveys of contemporary fashion culture ever staged in the UK, offering an unprecedented look at how careers in fashion are forged, and the multitude of opportunities London's fashion scene offers young creatives. Other exhibitions also visited were the first major UK exhibition to map the design evolution of the skateboard from the 1950s to today – a story of design, performance and communities progressing together. The Eco Architecture exhibition and the Designer Maker User exhibition was also seen on this fully packed day of activities.

After a tour of the Design Museum we took a sight-seeing walk along the Millennium Bridge and the South Bank and had some lunch, before visiting the Tate Modern Gallery. This was a fantastic, inspiring creative experience for our students who had a blast!



Miss M Witherow, Team Leader of Textiles

Computer Science Department Excels in Various Competitions and Engaging Events

The students have been very busy recently in the Computer Science department.

Winter Cyber Choices Challenge 2023: Matthew Ritchie Emerges as Grand Prize Winner

In a remarkable achievement, Matthew Ritchie (12King) secured the grand prize in the Winter Cyber Choices Challenge 2023, organised by Cyber Security Challenge UK and the National Crime Agency.



Matthew's success earned his class an online cyber learning experience by Immersive Labs and for himself a Bose Soundlink Flex. This victory showcases the outstanding talent and dedication within our Computer Science department.

DressCode's Halloween Coding Competition: Sibling Duo Clinches Success

A dynamic brother-sister duo, Hannah Carr (11Sherborne) and Jacob Carr (13Sherborne) earned accolades in DressCode's Halloween Coding Competition. Their separate entries in game design earned them prizes, with each receiving a "Tobbie the Self-Guiding AI Robot." This achievement highlights the creativity and innovation fostered within our Computer Science students.



BEBRAS Competition Champions Announced

Congratulations to our "Best in School" winners for this year's BEBRAS competition:

- Juniors: James Botham (7Sherborne)
- Intermediates: Benjamin Welch (8Story)
- Elite: Max Sydenham (13Andrewes)



Furthermore, Bishop Luffa had an outstanding 62 students ranking in the top 10% nationally, out of 408,339 participants. These students were invited to compete in the Oxford University Computing Challenge, with special commendation to Austin Belderson (9Wilson) for achieving a Distinction certificate.

Perse Coding Team Challenge: GCSE Students Showcase Programming Prowess

Our GCSE Computer Science students recently participated in the Perse Coding Team Challenge, testing their programming skills against teams from across the UK. The competition aimed for the prestigious Braben Cup, showcasing our students' dedication to excellence.



DressCode Christmas Coding Competition Winners Announced

Celebrating further triumph in DressCode competitions, we are delighted to announce the success of Dasha Holoshchapova (7Burrows), Lidiia Sydorenko (11Story), Solomon Sutton (10Ridgeway), and Nathan Goodge (10Otter). Each of them secured a prize for their outstanding entries in their Christmas Coding Competition. Their innovative contributions earned them the coveted "Tobbie the Self-Guiding AI Robot" prize,

showcasing their creativity and proficiency in coding. Congratulations to these talented individuals for their remarkable achievements!

CyberCenturion Competition Success: Max Holben and Theo Lane Shine



Max Holben (13Andrewes) and Theo Lane (13King) demonstrated exceptional skills in the CyberCenturion Competition. Their team, navigating through three challenging online rounds, excelled in identifying security vulnerabilities within various operating systems. Their remarkable performance earned them a high score in the competition.

BETT Show Highlights Technological Exploration

At the recent BETT Show, our Digital Leaders delved into the world of Robots, MetaQuest3, and AI. The 20 invited Digital Leaders explored cutting-edge technology and will share their findings through a series of presentations, aiming to integrate valuable insights into our school partnership.



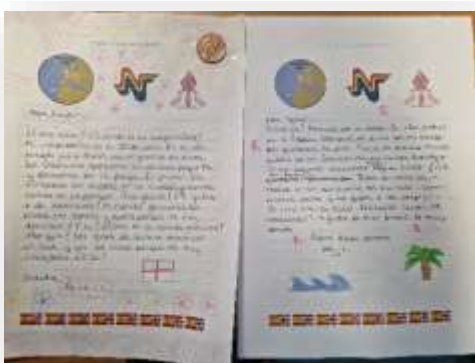
A Level Students Connect with Jaime Sanchez from Digital Sagas

Our A Level Computer Science students engaged in an inspiring online conversation with Jaime Sanchez from Digital Sagas, all the way from California. Jaime shared insights into his background, career, and upcoming game launch plans, providing our students with an exclusive glimpse into the world of game development. This experience enriched their understanding and fuelled their passion for their A Level Computer Science projects.

Mrs H Williams, Team Leader – Computer Science

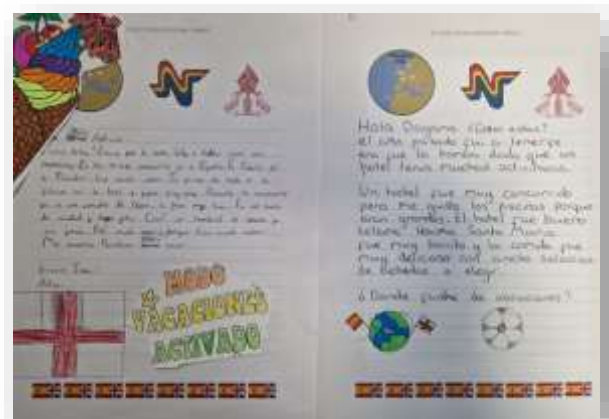
Pen Pals Letters

When we returned to school after the Christmas holidays we had a lovely surprise. Our pen pals' letters had arrived!



Our Spanish friends had been very busy last term writing lovely letters to us about their

Christmas traditions. We learnt a lot about how Spanish people celebrate Christmas, what food they eat and when they give each other presents.





This term it was our turn to write to them. For the Year 8 students this was the first time they wrote a letter in Spanish so their letters were about themselves. They told their Spanish friends what personality they have, what type of activities they do in their free time even the colour of their hair and eyes. Spanish lessons have been really exciting these last couple of weeks! For the Year 9 cohort, this was the third time they wrote to them so we talked about our holidays. Where we like to go in the summer, what we do when the weather is nice and even what flavour ice cream we prefer. All in Spanish of course!

Ms E López Gamero, Team Leader of Spanish & International School Coordinator

Bishop Luffa marks Holocaust Memorial Day

Over the last few weeks, Bishop Luffa has spent time reflecting on the horrors of the Holocaust, as we approached Holocaust Memorial Day. Students had assemblies that explained the importance of Holocaust Memorial Day (Saturday 27th January), including genocides that have occurred since 1945, and also the persecution faced by other groups within Nazi Germany. Students also heard from Harry Appleby and Tom Miller (both Y13) about their recent visit to Auschwitz with the Holocaust Memorial Trust, and the significance of this site.

Beyond this, all students have helped to create a piece of display work that celebrates the freedom that we often take for granted. Once complete, this will hang in the Bartlett Hall as a reminder of the freedoms we have, and that others lost.



We were also fortunate to gain places for a screening of the animated film "Where is Anne Frank" at New Park Cinema, which was attended by a group of Year 9 students led by Mr Petts and Mrs Shuttleworth. As some of them wrote, *'Our trip to New Park Cinema for 'Chichester Marks Holocaust Memorial Day' helped grow our understanding of the damage that the Nazis did to average people's lives during the Holocaust. We will be open minded and be able to notice situations where people's rights are threatened, and be able to try to stop it. We thought the film was moving and it also made us more emotionally aware of the experiences of the Jews and other groups that Hitler tried to discriminate against and persecute.'*



It is important that we reflect on the horrors of the past so that we can strive to help avoid such things happening again. Students were attentive in assembly, and showed a great sense of maturity at the screening of the film, and my thanks must go to all the staff who have supported the important work we do to help remember these terrible events.

Mr J Barnett, Head of Humanities

Alice! The Musical

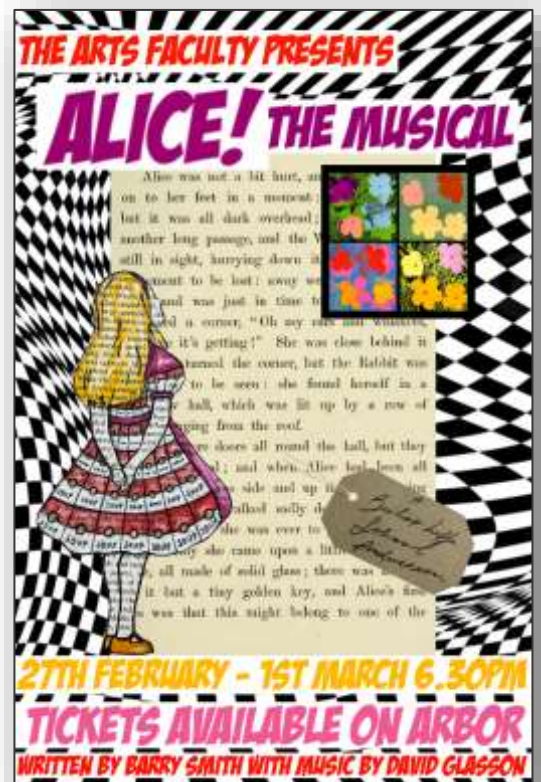
The Bishop Luffa Arts Faculty are proud to present 'Alice! The Musical' for our annual school production. The show is part of our 60th Anniversary celebration and is our first ever in-house production. This adaptation of Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* is written by Barry Smith who previously worked at our school, with original music composed by David Glasson.

The performances run from Tuesday 27th February until Friday 1st March 2024 in the Bartlett Hall at Bishop Luffa School. Performances start at 6.30pm with an approximate running time of 2hrs plus a short interval with refreshments provided by the PFA.

Tickets are £7.00 full price and £5.00 concessions (child/student/senior).

If you would like to attend 'Alice! The Musical' please pay electronically by logging onto your Arbor account and go to 'School Shop' where you can select the date of the production and complete the payment. We look forward to seeing you in the audience!

Nicky Furnell, Jo Lawlor, Jane Bowen-Melfi and Alfie Sharp



A thought-provoking trip to Berlin

On Thursday 1st February, 50 History students from Years 10-13 travelled to Berlin for a four-day visit. After attending period 1 and 2 as normal, it was off by coach to Heathrow. A trouble-free flight saw us land at the new airport in Berlin in the early evening, and then it was a coach trip to our hotel in a converted factory in old East Berlin (which was a lot better than it sounds!) Takeaway pizzas were the ideal 'comfort food' after a day of travelling, and allowed students to settle in before the visits ahead.



On the Friday we were out for 13 hours. We started at Wannsee, visiting the villa where the Nazis decided, in 1942, on the Final Solution. To stand in the room where such a terrible decision was made brought a chill to many, as did the accompanying information. The peaceful lakeside setting was in stark contrast to the reason why the house is known. After an early lunch it was off to the Olympic Stadium, built for the 1936 games.

Expert guides gave us a tour that covered both the history of the site and its current use as a sporting venue. Conflicted opinions abounded as students realised that the building was impressive, but that this was also what the Nazis intended visitors to believe. From there it was off to the Brandenburg Gate and then up into the dome of the Bundestag building, to admire great views of the city at dusk, and amazing architecture. Finally we headed to Mercedes Platz for a chilly visit to the Berlin Wall, and some shopping time, before a hearty meal and a tram journey back to the hotel.

Saturday dawned damp and drizzly, perfect weather in fact for a visit to Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp. The weather set the tone perfectly, and fitted the sense of misery that hung over the site. It was a sobering experience to hear about the death rates, and to visit the remains of a gas chamber amongst other things.

After lunch, we went back to the hotel for some free time, including the option of exploring the local area. Our evening meal involved another tram journey and a German-themed meal at the foot of the iconic tv tower in Alexanderplatz.



A later start on Sunday eased us into another day of travel, as we returned home, and it was a tired group of young people (and staff!) that returned to School on Sunday evening.

There was obvious academic value in the trip, supporting as it did our studies in GCSE and A Level History. However, beyond this, it was an important visit to help students understand just how important it is that we don't forget the horrors of the past. They saw sites that bring home the fragility of freedom, and will help them realise the importance of the subject for a whole range of reasons.

My thanks must go to the students for exemplary behaviour (often remarked upon by guides), and to the staff (Mr Jackson, Mrs Grove, Ms Lawlor and Mrs Syms-Evans) who accompanied the visit and helped ensure that it was a great success.



Mr J Barnett, Head of Humanities

Students enjoy visit from popular author Stewart Foster

On Thursday 8th February Year 7 and 8 students had a visit from popular author Stewart Foster. Stewart has published several books for young people to inspire empathy and kindness.

Stewart draws his inspiration from his best friend who has OCD who he has based his character named Alex on in the book *All the Things That Could Go Wrong*. Stewart shared his writing process and answered questions from students about his writing journey and what inspires him. Students then had an opportunity to have their books signed by the author. Thank you to Portsmouth Schools Library Service and Hayling Island books for supplying copies of Stewart's books.



Mrs V Shuttleworth, School Librarian



Study Capture

We are encouraging students in all year groups to develop a habit that aids memory called 'Study Capture'. It is from the *Action Your Potential* programme that we have been following for the past two years. The programme uses theories from neuroscience to make us more effective learners. As we start to approach exam season it is important that we maintain this routine and consider methods that will help prepare for exams.



Next half term teachers will focus on encouraging your child to use flash cards as part of their homework. The process that we would like students to follow is known as the 'three-box method'. The link below will take you to a Youtube video that guides you through both the study capture and flash card processes as parents and carers, so you can encourage and support your child at home.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rn2FjnxxLFQ>

Mr Tim Brown, Assistant Head – Teaching & Learning

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-corpc@bishopluffa.org.uk)

The following subjects are being covered.



Year 7	Drugs Smoking Vaping Energy Drinks Online Gaming	Year 8	Online Safety Drugs	Year 9	Drugs
Year 10	Forced marriage Modern Slavery Knife Crime Contraception	Year 11	Cosmetic Surgery Festivals Digital Footprints		



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 February & March:

- Alice! The Musical
- Charity Week
- Our new Chaplain
- Students preparing for exams
- Year 6 students waiting to hear about school places

School Calendar

Monday 12 th – Friday 16 th February	HALF TERM
Monday 19 th February	INSET Day
Tuesday 27 th February – Friday 1 st March	School Production of <i>Alice</i>
Monday 4 th – Friday 8 th March	Year 11 Mock Exams Week
Wednesday 6 th March	Year 8 HPV Vaccinations
Wednesday 6 th March	PFA Meeting (6.30pm)
Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day
Monday 11 th – Friday 15 th March	Charity Week
Monday 11 th March	PFA Uniform Shop Open (2.00pm – 3.30pm)
Thursday 14 th March	Year 8 Parents' & Carers' Virtual Consultation Evening
Friday 15 th March	Fancy Dress Friday (part of Charity Week)
Thursday 21 st March	Andrewes House Charity Event – Odd Sock Day
Monday 25 th – Thursday 28 th March	Science Week
Tuesday 26 th March	Interhouse Dance Finals
Wednesday 27 th March	Evening of Dance
Friday 29 th March – Friday 12 th April	EASTER HOLIDAYS
Monday 15 th April	Start of Summer Term