



KNOLE  
ACADEMY

REVIEW 2022/23





# FOREWORD

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**David Collins**

Welcome to our review of 2022/23. It has been an exciting and successful year with a vast array of activities that enhance our academic studies and also provide fantastic opportunities for all students to engage, participate and develop skills that widen their experience and encourage learning.

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# OVERVIEW

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# HEADTEACHER'S REVIEW

## 2022/23

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### David Collins

I have been remiss in the last two Knole Reviews in that I usually start my summary of the past academic year with the exam results we receive at the end of August. However, I should have started with the Year 6 to 7 transition week that takes place before these results are published. Once again, a fantastic week was experienced by all participants which included three days at school and two days engaging in outdoor activities.

It was almost an enjoyable experience on the Tuesday 23 August 2022 when, at midnight, the school were given the embargoed GCSE results. This sleepless night and feeling of trepidation is one that many teachers at Knole Academy suffer every year about 24 hours before the students have the same fate. Due to Covid it has been an absent experience for the past three years, but I was delighted with the outcomes for many of our GCSE students who produced the best examined set of results in the history of Knole Academy.

We are spared the same sleepless night with the IB results for the Sixth Form which come out in July in the afternoon. This set of results were outstanding with many subjects significantly outperforming the global averages. These students have progressed onto a full range of universities, apprenticeships and employment and we wish all of them the very best for the future.

In September, we welcomed another large cohort of Year 7 who have settled in extremely well and are making full use of the opportunities afforded to them. I start every Year 7 with essentially the same assembly: it focuses on the premise that while Knole Academy is a great school, where I hope students will enjoy their lessons and make excellent progress, students really only get the most from Knole Academy when they engage in the wider activities that the school offers.

There was a considerable curriculum change in the Sixth Form as the first cohort of International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme students embarked on their studies. This is a challenging academic pathway of study which involves courses in English, maths, science, languages, and humanities as well as a core programme of skills. I am delighted to report that the students who have undertaken this course are flourishing, and a larger cohort are signed up for next year.

A group of Year 11, 12 and 13 students visited Iceland on a Geography trip in October, as well as the planned itinerary of lava fields, glaciers and geysers they were treated to a spectacular show of the Northern Lights.

November also played host to the first visit of the Ofsted inspection team for five years to Knole Academy. I would like to thank parents for the time they took to complete the Ofsted parent questionnaire and the overwhelmingly positive comments they left.

I would like to thank the many emails of encouragement that we received preceding and during the inspection that made such a difference to everyone's mindset during the inspection.

The Winter concert was again a quality event, and I would like to thank all the music staff for their contribution to the production, not least Mrs Lawrie who I was concerned would be driven into early labour by the stress of the event. The musical content of the Christmas concert has certainly become more eclectic over the last few years, it is fantastic to see students playing music they enjoy with such passion.

The winter term house competition was won by Lee house who scored 7 points more than Attenborough house to record the narrowest margin of victory yet.

In February, the largest ever Ski trip left Knole Academy for Austria, almost 90 students attended and were once again blessed with amazing snow and beautiful blue skies. Everyone made amazing progress and despite some spectacular falls, there were no significant injuries.

In March, the Year 9 history students also visited the French and Belgian World War 1 battlefields, a sobering trip whenever it is undertaken but the requisite winter weather gave an even more effective image of the horror of the conflict.

The Easter house competition was won by Rudolph house, their second success in a year after a period of drought.

In April, a record number of Knole Academy students attended a Buckingham Palace gathering to receive their Gold Duke of Edinburgh awards. We also have the largest cohort of silver and bronze students undertaking the qualification at present and I would like to thank the many staff who give up their time to support the course and particularly the expeditions.

The dance show in June was another spectacular evening which showcased the work of students. On this occasion I would also like to pay tribute to several Knole Academy staff who attended a medical emergency before the show that led to the use of one of the academy defibrillators. I am very pleased to say that the patient is making a good recovery.

At the start of June, the Year 10 and Year 12 students undertook their work experience week. The feedback we received from multiple employers demonstrated that the students were a credit to themselves, and the school, and I hope many have much clearer ideas of their future career direction now.

In July, we received the Year 13 International Baccalaureate results, and these were very pleasing with most students attaining or exceeding their predicted grades. It was a particularly stressful time for the Year 13 who had not had the experience of terminal exams when they completed their GCSE courses.

The Year 11 and Sixth Form prom took place in June at Salomons and Redlibbets Golf Club respectively. It was lovely to see all the students in their finest livery and I hope a fantastic evening was had by all.

Little Shop of Horrors was the school production in 2023 and after a huge amount of work and stress the production played for four performances across three nights with two casts and was an enormous success. It was nice to be able to do a large-scale production with a spectacular set for the first time in a number of years with relative confidence that it would not be cancelled.

Throughout the year, we have had a record number of students engaged on the KAN, Kent Academies Network programme which is sponsored by some of the larger independent schools in Kent such as Sevenoaks, Benenden and Tonbridge School. These students have received some amazing academic experiences, residentials and visits to universities. I would encourage the next cohort of potential students to make applications when offered, as it provides experiences that are not offered to most students.

Sports Day as seems the norm, was cancelled due to poor weather but eventually took place on the last Tuesday of term. Thank you to the PE department and, for the first time, the music department for making the event memorable.

As we entered Sports Day the inter house competition was a tight affair with only 5 points separating the top three houses. Whoever won sports day was pretty much guaranteed to win the house competition for the summer term.

I am aware that if any of my staff read this narrative there is a risk that I offend because I have missed out on the many contributions that they have made to the Academy. I hope the rest of the review provides a more complete narrative to all that is offered at Knole Academy. I would like to thank the staff for everything they do for students, I can assure you, having worked at many educational institutions, this is not the norm, but it certainly makes a huge difference. I would like to thank parents for your continued support of the Academy both academically and the many times that you have supported the early departures and late arrivals of trips and visits.

# HEAD STUDENT REVIEW

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## Josh Arbenser

It was an honour to be selected by the Senior Leadership Team and Governors as Head Student for my final year at Knole Academy. It has been a wonderful seven years and becoming Head Student put the icing on the cake of my school experiences. I have had many responsibilities this year, not least representing the student body at school council and governor meetings. I had already been a prefect and senior prefect earlier in my school journey but to be selected as Head Student was a privilege. My position has given me the opportunity to advocate for pupils, thus enabling me to have a positive impact and be a good role model to my peers.

At the beginning of sixth form, I enrolled onto and graduated from the National Citizens Service programme with honours, which involved many team building activities and community service. In our final team building activity, I was nominated as group leader. I co-ordinated the creation of cards with positive messages to be positioned around my school and raised money for the mental health charity Mind which was a huge success.

School is not just about academic pursuit. If you are wise you take advantage of all the things outside of the classroom that the school offers. It is these opportunities that have made my school life so fulfilling; the school's Combined Cadet Force (CCF) has been a big part of my school life, and currently am the Cadet Company Sergeant Major (CSM) within my contingent. Being CSM, I've had the opportunity to organise lessons, parades and team building activities across the year. I've led not only my contingent but others in the past, which has further enhanced my punctuality, assertiveness, and management capability.

Through my school, I found a passion for hiking across mountains which ultimately led to my successful completion of the Bronze, Silver, and Gold Duke of Edinburgh award scheme.

I am a holder of a grade 8 certificate on the piano, and I am an accomplished guitarist which has allowed me to perform countless solos and band performances in both England and Scotland. I have also participated in numerous group dances and solos along with playing a pivotal role in the creation and running of dance shows as part of my role as a dance captain. Theatrically, I was responsible for creating props and played Big Joules from the famous play *Of Guys and Dolls* in my school's annual drama show. My journey now continues into adulthood. I can honestly say that I couldn't have been prepared any better. Thank you to all my fellow students, the teachers and support staff who have helped along the way.

## Lilah Herbert

My exams are completed and my time at Knole as a student is nearly over.

My dream for a long time has been to study Music Production at university and I am almost there. School has helped me to attain the necessary knowledge and experiences across the music skillset, including performance, composition, music technology, and music theory analysis. I have had the opportunity to develop as a vocalist and guitarist; the wonderful facilities at school, amongst them the music recording studio, have helped my songwriting and recording of my own music. I have gained experience at each step of the process, from conception and composition of musical ideas, performance rehearsals and recording and editing the final track. I can now confidently use a variety of digital audio workstations such as Logic Pro X, Garage Band and Ableton.



In addition to this, during my sixth form studies, I have developed experience of using notation software such as MuseScore for composing and arranging notated music. In sixth form I take individual weekly music production lessons with a peripatetic teacher. This has enabled invaluable time in the recording studio, learning how to use equipment and record various instruments, as well as vocals, and how to edit tracks using effects such as reverb and panning. So why am I telling you all of this, and please forgive my indulgence? The point is that music is my love and Knole has helped me to develop the skills necessary to succeed in this field in the future. Every student is encouraged to find their own love, and Knole Academy will be there to help you fulfil your dreams too. If you work hard and dedicate your time, you can achieve what you set your mind to. Believe in yourself, use the expertise all around you and reach for the stars.

# HOUSES



Illustrations  
by Alfie

# ATTENBOROUGH HOUSE

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## Carolyn Walker

Attenborough House has had a busy year competing in many different events and those that have represented our house have done so with pride and maturity. I would like to say a big thank you to our year 11 Attenborough students who have supported and participated in many events for our house over their five years at Knole. They are now planning their next steps and we wish them much success for the future and congratulate them once again on the successes they have had at Knole.

Particularly well done to Daisy S, who has taken every opportunity to represent Attenborough, the school and her county team at sporting events over the years, she has now been selected to represent England in the heptathlon.

Year 7s got off to a good start in representing our house, with second place in their first sports challenge and third in the selfie challenge; a great way to start their career at Knole, a photo taken in all the main locations on the school site.

Science week was an excellent opportunity for some of our year 8 Attenboroughs to showcase their design and physics skills making marble run roller coasters. The following students excelled in the task, Henry J, Adam H, Jess S, Alana, Maia C, Harry W, Teddy M, Sidney E, Tiwa F and Ruby N and represented us in the finals.

At Christmas, Scarlett B had achieved the most house points for the Autumn term for her year group and won £100 and Andrew A won the most house points in English. In the Spring term Alana C had the most house points for Attenborough and she too won £100 and went on to win the English award for most house points jointly with Syd C.

Not only does this show how our students are excelling in the academic studies, it demonstrates how Knole rewards hard work and a positive attitude – well done to all who received prizes. I will look forward to learning who has won in the summer awards, which unfortunately will be announced once this has gone to press.

Organising teams is a challenging task, our Sports Leaders have done an excellent job this year with all the events fully represented in each year group. Being a Sports Leader is a responsible position in the form and without their help I wouldn't be able to put together such strong teams. A particular thank you to Daniel D, Luca O, Beau H and Jack S, Sports leaders who have given up lunch times and breaks to help organise teams and our representation at sports day.

Interhouse competitions throughout the year have been well supported and competition has been tough. In October Attenborough were second place overall for the cross-country, Sam H won first place for year 9 boys earning an amazing 10 points, whilst in year 7 Gabriella L came second, in third place for their year groups, Beau H and Freya S. In November, year 10 and 11 Attenborough boys had great success with the football, both the A and B team winning first place. In March the year 8 and 9 boys basketball and girls football teams did us proud, winning first place. The rounders and softball competitions in June were challenging, but our year 7 and 8 team came in second place. Well done and thank you to all of those who have participated and helped their Sports Leaders to organise the teams.



The House and Sports Leaders have also attended termly meetings, discussing issues raised by their forms and giving suggestions on how they would like to see the academy progress, they have taken their responsibilities very seriously and shown great maturity. At the Academy Council our representatives, Kaylin B, Joshua S and Santino N have debated these helping to shape how our school is managed.

Another academic year draws to a close, we have all been exceptionally busy and there have been many successes and great persistence on the part of Attenborough House students. It is lovely to see such pride our young people have in themselves and their house. Thank you, to all you Awesome Attenboroughs for your continued hard work, support and enthusiasm.

# KHAN HOUSE

## Frank Toomey

Since taking over Khan House in November 2022 I have been constantly reminded of what a true legend Caroline Nimmo is and how difficult it is to follow such a force of nature, after she first run Khan House firstly in old form as one of the Elements; Earth, Wind, Fire and Water and then as the Khan House we all know and love.

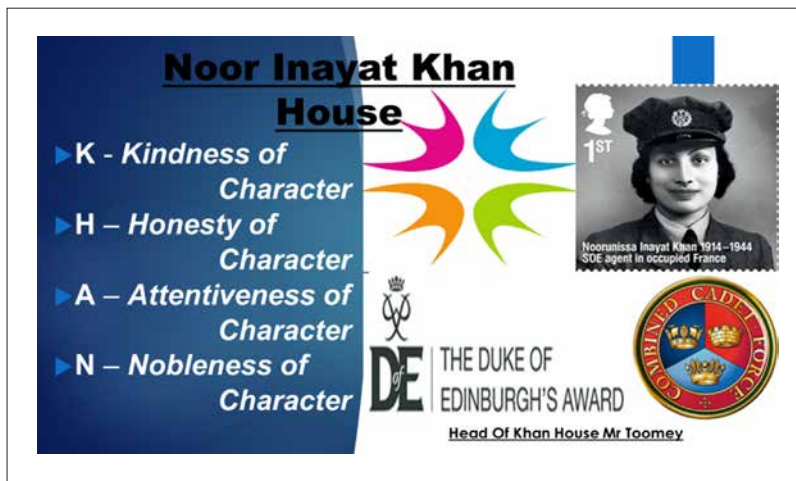
As I said I took over Khan House last November and what a brilliant 7 months it's been but before being in Khan House, I was for, four years a form tutor in Rudolph House and after four years like that you can't drop your allegiances that quickly, and I there will always be a small part of me that is Rudolph. But, saying all that within my first term we had interhouse and what really brightened my morning was when a young man in Khan shouted to 'Our Team'. "Hay it's the head of Khan House" and the whole groups of boys cheered. At that moment any worries about being in 'Khan' were dispensed and from there I came up with the Khan Creed.

K – Kindness of Character

H – Honest of Character

A - Attentiveness of Character

N – Nobleness of Character



So far it's been a productive year, and as I write this in this article in June 2023 we have over 900 house points, and thats without the annual School Sports Day which I'm sure we are all looking forward to, (and also to loads of House Points), then there are the Khan students doing Gold, Silver and Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award well-done guys.

I've also enjoyed seeing year 9 on a Tuesday afternoon doing 'DofE training', and not to forget to mention the Khan members going with both Ms/Lt Nimmo and me to CCF annual camp in the Midlands.

All in all a good year let's make it a great year and hopefully we will have loads of memories and memories and achievements to look back on.

GO KHAN!

# LEE HOUSE

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Stuart Ereaut



This is a bittersweet moment as I write this article as this is my last term as head of Lee House. I have handed over the reins to Mrs Hughes as I am taking up a new role as Head of Co and Extracurricular. That means I will need to be non-biased in the future. It has been an absolute pleasure to be a head of the house since its inception and I can't thank the students and form teachers enough for their hard work these past few years. There are so many incredible people who make up the house and I have enjoyed working with students and staff alike.

This year has had mixed success for Lee House. We won the Winter Term and just got pipped at the post for Spring Term success. As I write this article, we are just behind Rudolph house with everything to play for on sports day.

We started off the year strong with our year 7's coming a close second in the first competition of the year finding locations around the school.

In October every year the students in year 7, 8 and 9 compete in a cross-country event during their PE lessons. The year 7's had fantastic success winning overall with 41 points. Bea S, Max T, Sullie B, Dolly T, Angelina L, Maddi C and Scarlett G all made the top 10 in year 7.

In year 8 we had no boys place in the top 10 however our year 8 girls were incredibly strong with Phoebe D, Mia D, Amelia P, Hattie B and Lily B all placing in the top 10 dragging Lee in to first place. The year 9's had a much tougher run of it with no boys placing in the top 10 but two girls, Sonya N and Grace E grabbed some points for Lee. Overall, we were placed first on 91 points, 8 points clear of the next highest house score.

The first large interhouse competition during the winter term was boys' football and girls' netball. We had brilliant success in these rounds of competition with our best results of the year. We came 2nd in year 7 football and netball, had a 1st, two 2nd places and a 3rd place in the year 8 and 9 combined and then three seconds and a 3rd in the combined year 10 and 11 competition. This placed us first overall by a considerable margin in this term.

Kennide H won the most house points for Lee before Christmas. We came second as a house in the creativity award, we won the engagement award with the most students winning at least 1 house point, we won the most academic house points, and we also won the DoE award for the most students completing their award that term. It was a phenomenal term which had us win the overall house trophy by almost 200 points.

The second large interhouse competition in the spring term was interhouse boys' basketball and girls football. The year 7's performed stunningly well winning both basketball and football. The mixed year 8 and 9 teams struggled losing 2 but coming second in the 3rd. Overall though we were placed last for these two year groups, we brought it back in year 9 and 10 mixed coming 1st, 2nd and 3rd and placing 2nd overall in these year groups. We therefore were placed second in this day of activities which was a fantastic achievement by all.

Rozana H-D won the highest house points in the Spring term leading up to Easter. As a house we again won the creative award as well as academic award.

The third large interhouse event was mixed rounders and softball. We came 3rd overall placing 3rd in year 7 and 8 mixed and 3rd in year 9 and 10 mixed. We had great success in the softball coming first or second in every round, but we did very poorly in rounders losing almost every round. The sun was out, and the competition was fierce and even though we only came away with third place I was proud to see several students who hadn't competed this year in a house event taking part and doing the best they could.

# RUDOLPH HOUSE

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## Maisie Stock

This year has been an even better year than last, once again Rudolph have stepped up to the plate and proved how successful we really can be.

We had a slow start to the year finishing 4th in the Autumn term, but once again we persevered and reached 1st by the end of the Spring term. A big well done to our Rudolph champions Thea C and Anuk R for gaining the highest number of House points in KS3 and KS4 that term. In fact, we saw the most engagement from Rudolph in KS4, with all our other rankings finishing close behind the top spot. 7R2 and 11R2 also contributed to our termly success by achieving the highest number of house points in their year group.

We continued to stay in pole position after starting off the summer term on a winning streak. This term we witnessed our biggest achievement yet in interhouse, with many of our team's finishing 1st in either softball or rounders. It was great to see the celebration from all those involved when we were announced as the overall winners.



Although, to finish the term with Sports Day still on the agenda, this year's winner was really all to play for.

Well done to all those that have contributed to Rudolph's success this year, including everyone who has achieved house points and got involved in various House competitions/ events that have taken place.

This has been Rudolph's best year yet and evidently, we just keep getting better- bring on 2023/24.

# ACADEMIC REVIEW

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# 2021/22 ACADEMIC AWARDS

2021/22 YEAR 11 ACADEMIC AWARDS	
Attainment in Drama Attainment in English Progress in Physical Education	Abbe Clarke
Progress in Music	Iain Cochrane-Billo
Progress in Child Development	Jasmine Deacon
Attainment in Sociology	Paige Foster
Progress in Fine Art Attainment in Photography	Paula Garceran
Attainment in Triple Science	Ben Hall
Attainment in Music	Fred Havill
Attainment in Mathematics Attainment in French Attainment in Geography	Bodhi Holland
Progress in Drama	Phin Hollidge
Attainment in Textiles Progress in Mathematics Progress in Business Management	Rose Ing
Progress in Graphics	Beatrice Manole
Progress in Spanish	Harry O'Connor
Progress in Geography	Jasmine Owens
Attainment in Child Development Progress in Combined Science	Molly Parker
Progress in Media Studies	Robbie Reynolds
Progress in Triple Science	Alex Stevens
Attainment in Media Studies Progress in French	Callum Waterton
Attainment in Business Studies Attainment in Combined Science Attainment in Graphics Physical Education	Freddie White

2021/22 YEAR 12 ACADEMIC AWARDS	
Progress in Photography	Samuel Bond
Progress in Finance Attainment in Biology	Charlie Boughton-Harris
Progress in Biology	Molli-Anne Bradley
Progress in Health & Social Care	Shannon Coombs
Progress in Geography	Macey Cosby
Attainment in Law	Keir Evans
Attainment in Graphics	Taeler Ferreira
Progress in Law	Joe Gray
Attainment in Geography	Tilly Green
Progress in Textiles	Will Harrison
Progress in Graphics	Lilah Herbert
Progress in Geography	Alex Laker
Attainment in Textiles	Amelia Maidment
Attainment in Photography	Mia Russell
Progress in Chemistry Attainment in Physics	Archie Scott-Inglis
Progress in Criminology	Emelia Sears
Attainment in Fine Art	May Smith
Progress in Sport & Physical Activity	Megan Tow
Progress in Business Management	Samuel Vick
Progress in Physics Attainment in Chemistry	Daniel Vickers
Attainment in Social & Cultural Anthropology Attainment in Health & Social Care	Hannah Watson
Attainment in Finance	Matthew Wellard
Attainment in Criminology	Sophie Weller
Attainment in Sport & Physical Activity	Thea Willmore
Progress in Fine Art	Lucy Wilson

# SPECIAL AWARDS

2021/22 YEAR 13 ACADEMIC AWARDS	
Progress in Photography	Sophie Clapton
Progress in Law	Eman Batool
Attainment in Chemistry	Lisa Chawira
Attainment in Business Management	Zoe Parsons
Progress in Graphics	Roman Reeves
Attainment in Photography	Anais Stuart
Attainment in English Attainment in Global Politics	Robbie Woodhams
Attainment in History Attainment in Geography	Iona Keenan
Attainment in Finance Attainment in Biology	Elina Voinarovska
Progress in Information Technology in a Global Society	Chloe Marlow
Progress in Fine Art	Elina Voinarovska
Attainment in Music Performance	Druhan Wilson
Attainment in Information Technology in a Global Society Attainment in Physics Attainment in Law	Robbie Woodhams
Attainment in Textiles	Ami Wybrow

Best Cadet	Joshua Arbenser
Singing Quaich	Grace Bickerstaffe
Creativity Art Award	Danni Bridle
Silver DofE	Kionna Chapman
Silver DofE	Sophie Clapton
Drama Award	Abbe Clarke and Phin Hollidge
Outstanding Sports Achievement	Chloe Cleaver
Silver DofE	Gabrielle Granville
Media Award	Fred Havill
Music Cup	Lilah Herbert
Key Stage 3 Dux	Robin Hobbs
Key Stage 4 Dux	Bodhi Holland
Hospitality & Catering Award	Joshua Lelean
Silver DofE	Lucy M'Grady
Bronze & Silver DofE	Morgan Moroney
Gold DofE	Henrijs Muiznieks
Gold DofE	Zoe Parsons
Head Student Vocational Award	Jagtar Singh Taak
Head Student Key Stage 5 Dux Humanities	Oliver Sillett
Bronze & Silver DofE	Tia Vara



# BUSINESS STUDIES

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## Nicola Blunden

As we move towards the end of the academic year, we are again celebrating the successes of the year 13's who leave us as they move to ventures new. Students have celebrated successes in both the Certificate and Diploma in Finance, BTEC Law and IB Business Management and we are proud of all their accomplishments. The year 13 IB Business Students delivered interesting, thought-provoking academic projects using all the skills they had gained across the course. They demonstrated skills which will set them well as future business leaders, researching, collating, and coming to well-formed conclusions across a variety of industries. We wish them the best with everything they go on to do in the future.

On a very hot, sunny day in June, twenty of our year 12 finance students visited the London Institute of Banking and Finance based in the City of London. Students were all given an extremely informative walking tour of the financial district of the city of London. This brought to life elements covered in the course such as Lloyds of London and the Stock Exchange. Students have since completed work experience where they worked in some of the key landmarks that were discussed and experienced the real operations of these financial institutions. We were then treated to around 2 hours of lectures from members of the LIBF university staff, that infused and informed our students on careers, university selection and the courses offered at the LIBF.

A little quiz at the end checked that this knowledge was all cemented and the winning student, Callum, came away with a little goody bag.

The Business department are looking forward to introducing our new LIBF Level 2 Technical Award in Finance in the academic year 2023/24. The course gives an introduction to personal finance, finance in business and the wider world, building into our successful level 3 courses in Finance. The importance of financial understanding for the future is paramount in an ever-changing economy and this course provides our students with a solid foundation for this.

# CATERING & HOSPITALITY - CULINARY SKILLS

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## Ken Arnott

This year, the Catering and Hospitality Diploma in Culinary Skills was chosen by 4 keen year 12 students. They have been working extremely hard each day in the kitchen, honing their basic knife skills and learning about the extensive range of cooking techniques and produce we cover on the two-year course.

The students quickly passed their level 2 Food Hygiene Certificate and found placements in local pubs and restaurants. The work experience days are essential for learning new tips of the trade while acting as great ambassadors for the Academy.

The young chefs are now confident in all sections of the kitchen and have run a few services with good speed and accuracy.

The final challenge for the students was on Wednesday 28th June, when we welcomed the full Board of Governors on their annual Strategy Planning Day. The lunch was well received by all attending and empty plates were a good sign. The food was well seasoned and beautifully presented and it was pleasing to see the confidence the young chefs have developed.

It only remains for me to wish future chefs' good luck, and hope they continue to develop and produce great food in which ever establishment or country the industry takes them.



# CHILD DEVELOPMENT

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## Caroline Hurley

What a year we have had. Firstly, I am so proud of all the students in year 11 and 13 who made it to the end producing the best results we have ever had. There have been some fantastic achievements from year 13 with Thea, Megan, Leah and Hannah all achieving A\*s and heading off to university in September. The year 12s are a strong cohort having completed half the course already and pushing on with year 13 work. I am pleased to say the majority of the class have completed work experience in a nursery or primary school, which will help with their career in Health and Social Care.

The year 11s finished and continued to push right till the end having completed their GCSE exam last summer. With the amount of coursework produced, the girls did not give up and produced some outstanding work with was reflected in the moderation report we received. This is the legacy specification, and we are ending on a high, looking for 100% at grade 4 and above. You were a pleasure to teach and hope to see you in sixth form studying Health and Social Care.

The year 10s have started a new specification this year having already submitted coursework this summer, and halfway through the new unit of coursework, completing 60% of the course already.

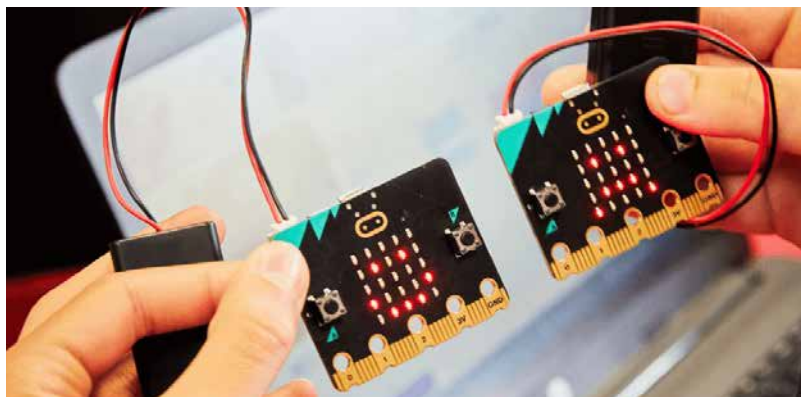
The students have worked extremely hard this year and it shows through the work they are producing. We completed a few interactive lessons which included making bracelets for the menstrual cycle made salt dough reproductive systems which was a lesson they will never forget. We even had a prize for the best designs which won Easter eggs, judged by Mrs Hollidge.

January 2024 – Health and Social Care/Child Development trip to Disneyland Paris – who is coming, who is excited? Get ready for a trip of a lifetime.



# COMPUTER SCIENCE

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## Lance Challenor

It has been an exciting and eventful year for the Computer Science department at Knole Academy, marked by innovative learning experiences and engaging activities. The students have not only gained valuable knowledge but also had fun exploring the world of computer science.

## Key Stage 3

In Key Stage 3, our students embarked on a diverse range of activities that fostered both learning and enjoyment. As part of their exploration, the students had an exciting opportunity to experiment with the BBC Micro:bit, a versatile microcontroller. They enthusiastically created interactive games and even engaged in communication by sending messages to one another using the Micro:bit's built-in radio receiver. This hands-on experience not only developed their programming skills but also fostered collaboration and creativity.

Furthermore, our students delved into the fascinating realm of computer graphics, learning how to create captivating visuals and animations. They gained insights into the fundamental concepts behind computer graphics and explored various techniques to produce their own mini applications. Through this journey, the students honed their programming abilities and unleashed their imagination to bring their ideas to life.

As always, our curriculum encompassed the critical topic of online safety. The students received comprehensive training on identifying hazards and understanding the risks associated with social media. Through interactive sessions and real-life scenarios, they developed the necessary skills to navigate the digital world safely. This knowledge culminated in the creation of an engaging and informative e-safety project, where the students showcased their understanding and creativity.

## Key Stage 4

For our GCSE Computer Science students, this year has marked the beginning of an exciting adventure. To support them on this journey, we introduced learning journals as a valuable tool. These journals have proven to be instrumental in aiding their learning and understanding of essential topics. The students have utilized these journals to delve into the fundamentals of algorithms, programming with Python, data representation, and computer systems.

By reflecting on their progress and documenting their learnings, they have enhanced their comprehension and reinforced their understanding of these crucial concepts. This structured approach has empowered our GCSE students to excel in their studies and prepare effectively for their upcoming exams.

## Clubs

At Knole Academy, our commitment to fostering a passion for computer science extends beyond the classroom. We are proud to offer a variety of clubs that provide students with opportunities to explore their coding abilities, collaborate with peers, and engage in exciting projects.

During lunchtimes, students have the freedom to come in and work on their coding projects or practice their coding techniques. This open-door policy has allowed our students to immerse themselves in their coding endeavours and hone their skills in a supportive environment.

One of the highly anticipated clubs this year was the Minecraft Club. To the delight of our students, the Minecraft server was up and running by September, and it quickly became a hub for students from all year groups.

Collaborating in the Minecraft Universe, students unleashed their creativity and coding skills, working together to create new and exciting activities. Led by the students themselves, this club not only enhanced their coding abilities but also fostered teamwork and problem-solving.

In addition to the Minecraft Club, we also introduced an online chess club. Riding the wave of the resurgent fever for chess created by Chess.com, this club attracted enthusiastic students eager to challenge their strategic thinking skills. Through friendly matches and strategic discussions, students experienced the thrill of chess while developing their analytical and critical thinking abilities.

These clubs have provided a platform for our students to pursue their interests and engage in meaningful coding experiences beyond the curriculum. We are proud to see their dedication and enthusiasm, and we remain committed to nurturing their passion for computer science through these extracurricular activities.



# ENGLISH

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## Gareth Hughes

Always looking to bring both consistency and invention to the English curriculum, this year's offering to students has been characterised by continuing with some well-established schemes of work, while introducing others – all aiming to provide them with the skills and knowledge required in later years of study, as well as each being enjoyable in their own right.

Again, Year 7 started the year with a novel, *'A Monster Calls'* which both in content and style challenged them but nonetheless, offered a flavour of how to approach analysing a piece of prose and moreover, navigating some difficult themes and issues. Next came an exploration of Myths and Legends, culminating aptly in those surrounding Christmas; the calendar year began with an *'Introduction to Shakespeare'* which offered students background knowledge to the work of English's most famous playwright, using a variety of extracts from his plays. The *'Poetry of Childhood'* module aimed to show students that many of their feelings and emotions, if not the actual experiences, were shared by poets.

Moving into this summer term, Year 7 students have embarked on a unit focusing on improving those skills required to become effective creative writers, the idea being it is best to practise these skills over a number of years in preparation for this crucial element of the Language GCSE. The year has concluded with studying another novel, *'The Girl of Ink and Stars'*.

Year 7 students have engaged with this year's work extremely well, demonstrating real enthusiasm and flair.

Year 8 also began with a novel, Steinbeck's *'Of Mice and Men'*, again requiring students to engage with some demanding issues, which although based almost a century ago in California, still holds relevance today.

In the second half of the autumn term Year 8 appropriately studied *'Literature of World War I'*, based around a core text of *'Private Peaceful'*, forming an introduction to and better understanding of our Remembrance Day commemorations.

This time building on the previous year's work, another unit improving creative writing, then a module introducing Year 8 to studying drama, specifically *'Noughts and Crosses'*, yet another text promoting discussion and cultural awareness.

Finally, this term students have been looking into the language of *'Powerful and Inspirational People'*, obviously a rich vein in this day and age – developing their own skills of persuasion. Another novel to complete the year's study, *'Welcome to Nowhere'*, a moving story of a boy's experiences of the ongoing war in Syria; once again, we aim to introduce students to texts which will inform them about topical issues, while increasing their powers of empathy.

Using the work from the previous two years, Year 9 began the year studying an entire Shakespeare play, a challenge made considerably easier when applying prior knowledge.



In the unit *'Writing like a Journalist'* students took on the role of reporters, researching and collating information before practising their transactional writing skills, in articles, reviews and features – a module which will be further developed next year. Another module, this time focussing on *'Poetry of Power'*, before the final unit of the year exploring how examples of the crime and thriller genre have been adapted for television, in preparation for the study of Priestley's *'An Inspector Calls'* in Year 10. Here students have not only identified conventions of the whodunit but have created their own TV detectives, taking inspiration from examples ranging from Agatha Christie's *Poirot* to US television detective *Columbo*.

To begin Year 10, and Key Stage 4, the autumn started with Charles Dickens' *'A Christmas Carol'*, obviously able to apply some of their contextual knowledge from the previous term's work when studying examples from the Victorian period. Then onto another GCSE Literature text in Priestley's *'An Inspector Calls'*, both with clear and moreover, relevant, messages about social responsibility.

A focus on preparing the students for the poetry element of their Literature GCSE has marked the end of the academic year, as has preparation for the Speaking and Listening assessment, in which students both write and ultimately present a speech on a topic of choice. Year 11 began with studying Shakespeare's *'Macbeth'* in detail, then the review and consolidation of knowledge of previously studied texts before facing their GCSE assessments this summer; they conducted themselves superbly throughout this period, rising to the challenge with enthusiasm and maturity. It goes without saying that we wish them all the best in their results and the pursuit of their future objectives.

In the sixth form, with the IB in English Language and Literature's primary focus on global issues, the texts studied have taken on a truly international and intertextual flavour ranging from *'Purple Hibiscus'*, a novel written by the Nigerian author Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie to American playwright Arthur Miller's 20th century masterpiece *'Death of a Salesman'*. We have also studied more traditional texts such as Shakespeare's *'The Tragedy of Hamlet'* to Frayn's novel *'Spies'*.

Students delivered some superb presentations on that which they have learnt, including a study of gender in Tennyson's poetry and the use of anthropomorphism in World War II propaganda. The IB encourages students to read a variety and breadth of text types with an objective of identifying connections which cross boundaries of space and time, truly exploring the human condition. Students have also studied linguistics and semiotics, exploring more conceptual concerns such as the nature of reading and what is meaning?

While it has continued to be a period of change and adaptation, a constant has been the effort and application made by students in consolidating and improving their study of English. We all look forward to the challenges offered by the next academic year, building on the successes of the last.

# FOOD PREPARATION & NUTRITION

Mary McGauley

## Year 11

This year we returned to the full specification with the reintroduction of the NEA 1 science investigation task.

### Task 1: Food investigation

Students spent 10-hour task working through practical experimentation and investigation, evaluating the working characteristics, functional and chemical properties of ingredients to gain a deeper understanding of how ingredients work and why. Erin B, Amelia R-S and Emily W absolutely excelled with the task.

### Task 2: Food preparation assessment

Students were asked to prepare, cook and present a final menu of three dishes within a single period of no more than three hours, planning in advance how this would be achieved. They chose from two tasks.

- 1) Present a range of dishes that include a good source of calcium that contribute to good bone health.
- 2) Present a range of dishes that are based on North and/or South American cuisine.

Students showed very good knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to the planning, preparation, cooking, presentation of their food and application of nutrition related to the chosen tasks.

Students who worked exceptionally well were William C, Thomas N, Madison P, Ethan T and Adam T, demonstrating a creative flair for practical work.



## Year 10

Students have completed a mock practical exam in preparation for their NEA 2 task next year. Student's showed determination and approached the task independently with pleasing results. Special mention goes to Oliver B for his fantastic fish filleting skills and Alexander for sectioning and deboning a chicken with precision. Ellie S and Mackenzie M displayed excellent evidence of time management skills and their three dishes were produced very successfully within the three-hour period. Oliver S-Q followed his time plan closely using the correct sequence with excellent linking and application of food safety.

## Year 9

Eight groups opted for food this year. Students demonstrated a range of food skills, increasing in complexity and accuracy, to cook a wider range of dishes, safely and hygienically, and to apply their knowledge of nutrition and food provenance. Special mention must go to the Turncock's Tea cake challenge which students approached creatively.

## Year 8

This was led by Ms Green, and pupils explored the relationship between diet and health. Students were able to develop and demonstrate a range of food skills, increasing in complexity and accuracy, to cook a range of dishes, safely and hygienically, and to apply their knowledge of nutrition.

## Year 7 Food and cooking

Students build upon their learning in Key Stage 2 Design and Technology. They were able to demonstrate use of basic equipment and tools, basic practical skills, origin and simple functions of ingredients, healthy eating and The Eatwell Guide, food choice. Pupils tracked their progress using the My Learning Journey booklet (cooking, nutrition, food provenance, ingredients and creativity).

Students especially enjoyed making ice cream as they embarked linking products with food science.



# GEOGRAPHY

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## Natalie Croucher

During the summer term year 7 have been examining the causes and effects of climate change. They have been learning about the impact that people are having upon our climate and how this is enhancing the natural greenhouse effect. Students have been working on different ways that we can mitigate against climate change, in particular focusing on what we can do at a local and individual level. They have been coming up with some excellent ideas.

Year 8 have been focusing on resource use and exploitation this term with particular focus on water insecurity. Students have been examining the factors that affect water supply on a variety of scales and have been considering the impacts of having water insecurity.

This term year 9 have been learning about coasts. This has involved learning about the coastal processes that occur along the coastline and how they create coastal landforms. 9GK have been using this knowledge to create a coastline made from playdoh. They had to create a headland with a range of coastal features and then explain the processes that led to the formation of these features. They produced some outstanding work.

At key stage 4 our geographers have visited two different locations to collect fieldwork data for their 3rd GCSE skills paper.

## Herne Bay

Year 11 spent the day on the sunny North Kent coast investigating the effectiveness of the coastal defences. A variety of fieldwork techniques were used to assess whether the new £4.5 million groynes were protecting the beach from being eroded away. Herne Bay has historically suffered intense storms and large waves from the North Sea, making it an ideal location to conduct fieldwork (along with the fact Herne Bay gave students the opportunity to have a tasty lunch of fish and chips on the beach). Students used ranging poles and clinometers to measure the gradient of the beach, signalling whether the beach was being protected. Students then moved onto measuring the speed of Longshore drift. This was achieved by counting the waves along 3 different locations along the beach over a 60 second period. Finally, students conducted a land use survey to assess the quality of the environment along different locations of the sea front. It was found the new groynes were effectively protecting the beach from being harmed by coastal processes.

## Sevenoaks High street

During the Autumn term the Year 11 Geographers took a trip to Sevenoaks High Street, this was part of an investigation into if and how urban change in Sevenoaks created social and economic opportunities?

Blighs Meadow was a fantastic site to study as the shopping centre opened in 2002 and previously to that was a greenfield site, showcasing the urban change and development Sevenoaks has experienced. Students conducted land use surveys to collect data on how the land was being used from residential to retail. Environmental quality surveys were also carried out by students, who had to use their own judgement to score the area on a range of indicators including litter and safety features. This short but sweet trip gave students a fantastic opportunity to hone their human geography fieldwork skills as well as a chance to personally contribute to the local economy with a trip to one of the many cafes for a well-deserved warming hot chocolate.

## IB Geography

This summer our IB Geographers spent three hot days in different parts of London to examine the impacts and successes (or failures) of urban renewal and its associated gentrification, key elements of the IB Geography curriculum. London provides a perfect environment in which to study these topics, with numerous examples of successful urban renewal of previously deprived and derelict areas.

For contrast we visited a different location each day – The Barbican Estate in the heart of the old City of London, The London



docklands in what was formerly London's centre of colonial trade and The London Olympics regeneration in Stratford, a superb example of integrated redevelopment of sport, leisure, retail, residential and culture. Our students carried out a range of fieldwork and research techniques to ascertain 'To what extent has urban renewal led to gentrification in different areas of London?'

On day one we walked through the City of London passing Monument and the Bank of England en route to The Barbican Estate and Cheapside. The students noted the contrast between old and new, appreciating the impact of the second world war blitz on urban renewal. One student found what they hope will be their future home!

On day two we were in the London Docklands. After an interesting visit to The Museum of the London Docklands, we explored Canary Wharf and all the associated developments then crossed over to Poplar. Here the traditional community was in stark contrast to much of the Docklands indicating that gentrification has not occurred because of the Docklands.

Day three found us at Stratford's Westfield Centre. Here the amazing Olympic Park and all associated sports, retail, cultural and residential developments show what can be achieved on former brownfield sites. In East Village, the former Olympic athlete's village, our students enjoyed a climb on challenging climbing frames, made from eco-friendly recycled materials. Evidence of the Olympic legacy abound in the area although just a mile from the Olympic Park in Maryland, it is much less visible.

As ever our students were a credit to the academy and learned a great deal about London and how it is a dynamic entity.

## ICELAND

### Day 1

We met at Gatwick Airport early and excited. The Icelandair flight was at 13.05 and after a few hours we landed at Keflavik airport in the South-West of Iceland at 15.15. We were met by our coach driver who took us to the bridge between continents. An opportunity to drive past lava fields and crater rows and end up stood on and under a bridge which spans the gap between the North American and Eurasian plates. After this we drove on to the capital where we checked into our hotel and following a mystery tour of Reykjavik we ate at the Grillhusid restaurant.



### Day 2

We began the day with a dip at the secret lagoon. A geothermally heated natural pool with water at 38 degrees and even a natural geyser. From there we visited Geysir itself where the springs were very active and pushing water about 30m into the air. After Geysir we visited the beautiful two stage waterfall at Gullfoss and ended the day with a visit to the site of the island's original parliament was held at Thingvellir. We then went to our hotel in Akranes, where we also enjoyed our evening meal. A few lucky people who couldn't sleep, got to see the Northern lights.



### Day 3

We spent the day travelling around Iceland's western most peninsula, Snaefellsnes. We saw many fishing villages, a fishing museum and spent a lot of time admiring the formations on the black sand beach at Djupalonassandur. In the evening we returned to our Akranes hotel and ate our evening meal. Before bed, we were all treated to the most incredible show by the northern lights with a display that went on for hours. Definitely the highlight of the trip for most of us.

### Day 4

We started the day by visiting Iceland's largest and most powerful hot spring, Deildartunguhver. We also visited Hraunfossar, a fascinating series of waterfalls. We then took our huge all-terrain vehicle to the summit of Langjokull, Europe's second largest glacier where we donned our crampons for a visit "into the glacier". We then spent a sunset visit to Grabrok, a huge volcano and crater. We then took our coach to our final hotel, near the airport.

### Day 5

A very early start for our 7:45 flight back to Gatwick

# HAIR & BEAUTY

Debbie Webb

Year 11 took a trip to Ancient Egypt for their exam this year. Having studied ancient practices and the influences these have had on now, the technological developments since that have shaped services, products and equipment for use in the Hair & Beauty industry today.

Creating their own interpretation of the look, using this to promote an event using a magazine article

The new year 9 taster option introduced in September 2022 was a great success and there has been an increase in numbers for September 2023. The course will see some minor adjustments having evaluated the first year of implementation.

Year 10 Level 1's and 2's have made a good start to their VRQ and Technical Award qualifications. The year 10 Level 1's will end the year having completed a client assessment for Manicure and three of their qualification units. The Level 2's have been creating looks for the Ancient eras and studying the science of Hair & Beauty during their first year.



The salon continued to be run successfully by the post 16 students this academic year, they took in their stride the changeover and additional training that was required to implement and become a Wella salon, achieving good results in their final exams and gaining employment straightaway upon leaving school in their work experience placements.

There will be a change to the way we deliver and charge for some services for September 2023, please see right. We now have a direct line to the salon 01732 448089 but you can still email on [hair@knoleacademy.org](mailto:hair@knoleacademy.org). We are open across the week Monday - Thursday & Friday we are open to take bookings.

### HAIRDRESSING & BARBERING SERVICES

<b>Conditioning</b>		Prices for the services below can vary depending on hair length, density, the techniques implemented and the amount of colours added.	<b>Curl / movement services</b>		
Specialist conditioning treatment	£5.00		Standard perm short hair	£30.00	
<b>Styling</b>		The price structure provided below will give you a general idea of how much your treatment will cost.	Long hair perming	£40.00	
Blow dry	£5.00		<b>Smoothing / straightening service</b>		
Shampoo & set	£5.00	Partial head		£30.00	
<b>Cutting</b>		<b>Colouring (excludes drying service)</b>		Full head	£45.00
Ladies cut and finish: short hair	£9.00	Parting section/half head of regrowth application	£23.00	<b>Cancellation policy</b> Please give the salon a minimum of 24 hour's notice prior to an appointment. Failure to do so may result in a £10 charge being added to your next bill/service.	
Ladies cut and finish: long hair	£12.00	Full re-growth application	£28.00		
Gents cut and finish	£7.00	Full head application	£40.00		
Wet / dry trim	£6.50	<b>Colour correction / Creative Colour</b>			
		Colour correction (included during consultation)	From £28.00		
		Creative colour (included during consultation)	From £28.00		
		<b>Highlighting / Lowlighting</b>			
		Foiling per slice	£2.50		
		T-zone of foils	£25.00		
		Partial 50% head application of foils	£35.00		
		Full head of foils	£45.00		
		Toner	£16.00		
		Demi-permanent full head colour	£16.00		
		Semi-permanent colour	£12.00		
		Temporary colour	£2.00		

# HISTORY

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**Charlotte Kilby**

2023 saw the return of international trips for the first time since 2019. 46 students and 5 members of staff set off from Knole Academy for a 2-day tour of the Battlefields of Belgium and France. Having left Sevenoaks just before 3am, students spent the first day exploring the battlefields of Belgium before a ceremony at the Menin Gate closed off an incredibly moving day. The second day saw a focus on the events of the Battle of the Somme and the involvement of the British Empire in the infamous battle. Students spent time learning the stories of just a few of those who are memorialised. A true highlight of the trip was the placing of the poppy wreath at Thiepval Memorial Cemetery where students heard the last post as they looked out across the Battlefields on the Somme. Returning to school students were able to reflect on the two days and the significance of the War for their historical study as part of their GCSE at the end of year 11.

The key stage 3 history club continued to grow from strength to strength undertaking another project that focused on the events of local and national history. 2022 and 2023 saw monumental changes to British history and the role of the monarchy. To celebrate the coronation of King Charles III, students worked alongside the Royal Historic places team at the Tower of London to research and design a bench. Students explored the monarchs from William I up until Elizabeth II, reflecting on the most memorable aspects of each monarch's reign. This culminated in the design of 41 symbols to detail the bench with a blank space left to reflect the chapter that Charles III will create. The final design was submitted along with 25 other schools and was framed as part of the coronation of Charles III.





Within the classroom students explored topics ranging from the Norman invasion of 1066 to the events of the Cold War. For year 7 students this included the study of the Black Death where they were tasked with designing their own Black Death subscription boxes with preventions and treatments that were used during the 14th Century. Year 8 focussed on the changing role of power and how ordinary people challenged the status quo. This was reflected in their Spring term study of the Transatlantic Slave Trade and the role of ordinary people in the resistance against oppression. Year 9 explored the changing influence of alliances starting in the Autumn term with the First World War before moving on to the impact of the War for the wider relationships between countries.

# ICT

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## Caroline Shea

As another academic year draws to a close, we wanted to take a moment to reflect on what your children have accomplished in their ICT (Information and Communication Technology) classes this year. It has been an exciting journey for them, filled with a range of practical skills and knowledge that will undoubtedly benefit them in our increasingly digital world. So, let's dive into the highlights of what each year group has learned.

### KS3

**Year 7:** This year, our Year 7 students focused on essential topics that laid the foundation for their ICT journey at Knole. They delved into online safety, learning how to navigate the digital landscape responsibly. They also explored databases, understanding how to organize and manage information effectively. Additionally, they were introduced to programming concepts using Flowol, Scratch, and microbits, fostering their creativity and problem-solving skills. When using the microbits they created a variety of different games including but not limited to rock, paper scissors, snake and snap the dot.

**Year 8:** Building on their previous knowledge, Year 8 students embarked on web development, honing their abilities to create websites using Serif Web plus and introduced HTML. They also explored using Microsoft Excel and discovered how it can be used for a variety of different scenarios. We looked at the fundamentals of hardware and software. Furthermore, they continued their programming journey with Python, expanding their coding skills.

**Year 9:** In Year 9, students expanded their understanding of ICT by delving into various multimedia aspects and completed mini projects which link to the GCSE. They explored video creation, learning how to shoot and edit their own videos. They also delved further into web development, enhancing their website creation skills.

Additionally, they explored graphics, understanding how to design and manipulate visual elements effectively. Furthermore, they continued to build their proficiency in using spreadsheets for work-based scenarios.

### KS4

**Year 10 ICDL:** This year, Year 10 students took a significant step towards their GCSE qualification. They successfully completed the International Computer Driving License (ICDL) examinations, passing the PowerPoint and Word modules. This achievement marks 50% of their GCSE in ICT. Additionally, some students followed the WJEC curriculum, focusing on theory and coursework elements.

**Year 10 WJEC:** In the WJEC vocational ICT course, students have engaged in a curriculum that combines both practical skills and theoretical knowledge. Alongside practical applications, students learned about important theoretical concepts to develop a comprehensive understanding of ICT. Here are some of the theoretical topics covered in the WJEC vocational ICT course: ICT Systems and Components, Security and Legislation, Ethical and Legal Issues.

**Year 11 ICDL:** Alongside this, many students completed the ICDL qualification, specialising in spreadsheets and improving productivity. Their dedication and hard work paid off as they completed and passed the qualification.

**Year 11:** Creative iMedia: Our Year 11 students embarked on the Creative iMedia course, where they successfully completed the website unit. They had the opportunity to create websites related to gaming or Angela's Travels, showcasing their creativity and web design skills.



### POST 16

**Year 12:** This year, our Year 12 students began their studies in the new IB course called "Digital Society." This course delves into the impact of technology on individuals, communities, and societies, encouraging critical thinking and analysis. Through various assignments and projects, they are developing a deeper understanding of the role of digital technology in shaping our world.

**Year 13:** The Year 13 students successfully completed the previous IB course for ITGS (Information Technology in a Global Society). They explored the impact of technology on individuals, communities, and societies, examining ethical and social considerations. Their comprehensive understanding of ITGS will undoubtedly serve them well as they prepare for their future endeavours.

### LUNCH CLUBS

Throughout the year Miss Shea has run a well-attended lunch club that revolves around the use of computers. This club allows students to complete homework/coursework or just use the computers for a bit of break at lunch.

This club provides students with a fun and interactive space to explore various activities and games while harnessing the power of technology. One of the highlights of the club is the opportunity to play educational games such as Scratch, wordle and recently the New York Times Connections.



# MATHEMATICS

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## Jonathan Cason

The Mathematics department has run 4 successful house challenges this year for years 7, 8, 9 and 10.

The house challenges are now more interactive and fun for participants and audience alike and rounds include questions for the audience, relays, team activities and number order games keenly contested with year 7s and 8s.

There are preliminary rounds which give all students the chance to represent their house.

Using Scratch, an interactive programming language, students have been using their creativity and problem-solving skills by creating their own games, animations. We have also known to complete other word games online such as Wordle, Quordle and Connections.

Beyond the games, the lunch club serves as a social platform where students can interact with like-minded peers who share an interest in technology. In addition, this club offers a chance for students to develop their digital literacy and fluency. By engaging with computers and educational games, they are becoming more adept at navigating technology, enhancing their proficiency in using software applications and online platforms.

We hope this review provides you with a glimpse into the ICT journey of your children this year. From foundational knowledge to practical skills, they have gained a diverse set of competencies in various ICT fields. We are immensely proud of their achievements and look forward to their continued growth in the field of technology next year.

The results for this year are:

### Year 10

First	Khan	31
Second	Rudolph	30
Third	Lee	29
Fourth	Attenborough	23

### Year 9

First	Khan	29
Second	Lee	22
Third	Rudolph	15
Fourth	Attenborough	13

### Year 8

First	Khan	31
Second	Lee	25
Third	Attenborough and Rudolph	14 points each

### Year 7

First	Kahn	26
Second	Lee & Rudolph	21 points each
Fourth	Attenborough	15

This year we adapted our year11 booster sessions as we did not have year 11 tutor groups. We ran three after school groups for students in year 11 on Tuesdays from 3.30 for an hour. Each group catered for a different level of ability, and we were staggered by their popularity. In some weeks there were over 100 students attending. We plan to run this again next year for the current year 10 students.

We are very pleased that we continue to have two maths specialists from Sevenoaks school, tutoring selected students, once a week, in year 8 and year 11 to help them improve their maths skills. Both teachers enjoy their time with our students as much as our students enjoy the small groupwork they undertake.

# MEDIA

## Kieran Kyle

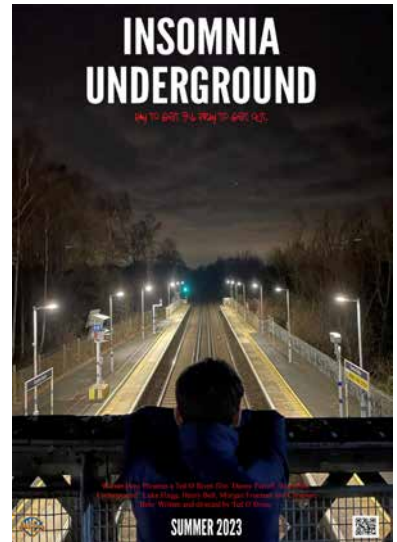
This year has seen the department welcome Year 8 technology classes into the media family. Since there is no formal curriculum to follow prior to Y10 GCSE, I have had the pleasure and privilege to give relative artistic freedom to the year group once they had learned the media tech skills necessary. It never ceases to amaze me how quick young people are to learn and excel when new technology is introduced to them. The initial tasks were to create a film trailer and a poster for any film idea they may have within their groups. Other tasks included making a soft drink brand, complete with designer label on plastic bottles, and making both a print and a television advert for that drink brand.

Once they had completed that set of tasks, students were given further liberty to use the photographic and filmmaking skills learned and take those skills in any direction they saw fit. As would be expected from young and energetic students, they took the ball and ran with it, with extraordinary work coming in on a weekly basis. Much of their film posters, magazine covers, and product ads are proudly displayed on the classroom wall. The gold standard film and television work they have done is kept safely on my hard drive, treasured as if it were gold in Fort Knox. An example of the level of creativity within the year group is the one group that is undertaking an ambitious full-length Agatha Christie murder mystery TV series parody, complete with a Benny Hill Yakety Sax chase (though, thankfully, without the Hill's Angels).

Next year we are expanding further to include both Year 7s and Year 9s, which will mean that students could possibly study film and media technology through to the IB film qualification in Year 13. The level of ambition and scope that comes with the expansion of the department is such that it will mean, by the time they take IB Film in Year 12, that the students will be skilled to a media industry-level of technical sophistication that would be the envy of other schools and colleges.

The Year 10s, as ever, have had a very creative year since it is the year in which they undertake the practical component of the GCSE Media course. This year, students had to either make a special interest magazine (such as a football, fitness, gaming or travel magazine, amongst other ideas) or make a film poster and DVD sleeve for a thriller movie idea of their choosing. Like the Year 8 work, the results have been proudly displayed in the classroom. The recently departed Year 11s can be proud of the hard work they undertook, with wonderful memories of the fun and laughter we had during the coursework season. They came out of the exams, too, with a healthy confidence that they did very well indeed. As well they might, since not only did their mock exam results bear witness to this earned self-confidence, the examination papers themselves had no surprises since we covered every single question that came up every which way!

Year 12 is the first year of the two-year IB Film course. The Year 12s have already completed two out of four units already. These are the textual analysis and the film portfolio. The TA is an essay where they analyse a film. The technical language they learn is used full throttle in the remaining practical units. The film portfolio consists of mini-short films (no more than 3 mins each), and the students themselves cherry-pick the best three short films to submit for assessment. In the second year, students do a video essay based on two films of their choice. Then, the piece de resistance, the final 7 min epic short film. All in all, it can be said that the paradise I envisioned all the way back in 2016 has come to fruition. I made sure the blossomed fruit would be the sweetest on the tree. With all due modesty, one day generations will scarce believe a man such as I ever, in flesh and blood, walked upon this Earth.



# MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

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## Stephanie Beaumont

On the 26th September, the MFL Department celebrated the European day of Languages with all of our classes. Our students completed various activities focusing on the many benefits of learning different languages and it was a very successful day for both students and staff.

The Department continued with its pen pal exchange with our French counterpart in Le Vesinet, near Paris: this year some of our year 7, 8 and 9 students had the chance to exchange letters with their French counterparts from College Le Bon Sauveur and enjoyed writing about their school, family and how they spend Christmas.



The exchange is always very popular with all of our students, and we aim to increase the number of classes involved in this enjoyable way of developing our language skills.

Back in March, we celebrated 'La Journée de la Francophonie' when students discovered a range of French-speaking countries and their culture through varied activities including research and presentations.

More recently, students in years 7, 8 and 9 completed history research work, more specifically on Bastille day and the French Revolution as well as D-Day at the beginning of June. In Languages lessons we always try to combine cross-curricular activities so students develop a better understanding of the French culture.

As IB learners we strive to be open-minded and appreciate not only our own culture but other world cultures and their traditions and values.

# PSYCHOLOGY

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## Olivia Martin

### Hands on

There have been many opportunities for students to get hands on in Psychology this year, from class experiments with paper chains in the exploration of social loafing, to testing their memories and learning about factors that can improve or hinder their recall.

Students have been crafty in creating neurones and our 6th form students have designed and carried out their own experiments into cognitive psychology.

### Consolidation

This year the Psychology department offered consolidations on Friday lunchtimes where students could come in, have some food, ask questions to further their understanding, catch up on any gaps in their understanding or revise to keep things fresh. Lots of students made great use of this time and it will be making a return next year to give all students the best chances of reaching their potential.



### Academic Outcomes

The results of the IB Psychology course are in and we're extraordinarily proud of the achievements of this cohort. 100% of students gained a grade 4 or higher and 100% of students reached their target grade while a whopping 60% surpassed their targets. It's an incredible accomplishment and we're delighted by the hard work put in and how it paid off for everyone.

# SCIENCE



## Science – Mr Deighton

I would first like to congratulate all the year 11 and 13 students who have now completed this stage of science, well done. I would also like to thank the members of the science department who went above and beyond in their support of students both inside and outside the classroom. No matter what you decide to do in the next stage, science will always be a part of it, so remember this quote from the science legend Marie Curie *'Nothing in life is to be feared, it is only to be understood.'*

Now that we are coming to the end of the year, we can reflect on all the enrichment activities science has offered to the students this year. Below are some short reflections on some of these so enjoy.

## Science club – Miss Franklin

This year in science club, year 7 and 8 students have been carrying out investigations for biology, chemistry, and physics.

In physics, students have created balancing bird toys to investigate centre of mass, investigating whether fruits can produce a current, and building motors with the help of our year 12 physics students.

For chemistry, students have carried out flame testing to investigate whether different chemicals burn with different coloured flames. They have also been experimenting with exploding lunch boxes.

In biology, students have been practicing their microscopy skills by identifying structures in animal and plant cells. The students have been fantastic throughout. If anyone wants to join the science club please see Miss Franklin in September.

## British Science Week 2023 – Mrs Kalis/ Mrs Odeyemi

Science is all about innovation and working to create a better future for all. Year 7 students were encouraged to design an apple annihilator while Year 8 worked on marble run competition for the British Science Week 2023. The students engaged well, developed team spirit, shared their knowledge with their peers, and have learned a lot about Newton Law of Motion (Physics).

Mr Collins and Mrs Slade came to judge the best three designs based on creativity, the number of glue sticks knocked over and stability. The students were extremely enthusiastic on the final day of the competition and participated well with their models.

Out of 10 designs from each Year 7 class the top 3 winners for Year 7 British Science Week 2023 at Knole were:  
**Thea C , Tabatha G , Lily C**

The winners of Year 8 for marble run were:  
**Ruby W, Niamh A, Isla E**

Well done to all of them who have participated in creating the apple annihilator and marble run competition



## GCSE Science Live – Mrs Odeyemi

We had the opportunity to take up to 30 students from years 10-11 to GCSE Science Live at the Aldwych Theatre in London where our students were able to listen to various scientists who were very inspiring. There were 2 sessions with an experienced science examiner who gave them tips on answering exam-styled questions and the pitfalls to avoid. Our students found it very beneficial and enjoyed all the sessions.

## KS3 Science Live – Mrs Kalis

Science Live ran this event for the first time for KS3 students and 30 students from years 7 & 8 went to the Emmanuel Centre in London. The purpose of the event was to get students engaged in science and to see where it can take them through listening to the different scientists who spoke about their journeys to their career paths. There was a Q&A session and some of our students were brave enough to ask questions. Most students were particularly impressed with Professor Robert Winston who had some challenges as a young boy in school but pioneered the IVF treatment. The students were well-behaved and would like to go again next year.



## Research Club (Year 8) – Mrs Odeyemi

A new club supported by the Institute for Research in Schools (IRIS) was started this academic year. The purpose of the club is to develop critical thinking, collect and analyse data with the opportunity to contribute to the wider scientific community. Six year 8 students took on a research project - 'How is the size of a tree's crown affected by where it is planted in a school zone?' The students presented their findings at the IRIS conference in London in front of hundreds of other students from different schools, had their work displayed and were given certificates. The data collected was also logged onto Treezilla's website.



## Blean trip – Miss Moore

If you go down to the woods in July, you're sure of a bit of science. More specifically the Wilder Blean project within West Blean and Thornden Woods, where some intrepid Year 10 scientists visited to put their ecology skills to task. While on the lookout for the reintroduced bison population, the students set up their own transect lines to investigate the British woodlands and observed the long-reaching effects felt by Roman tree-felling and coppicing.

Skills were learned that will be vital for the Biology GCSE, and toes were dipped into IB subject knowledge, as well as the occasional puddle. While the bison did not make an appearance, a picnic lunch in the sunshine and some final ecology sampling before heading home made for a very enjoyable day.

## Gardening club – Mrs Walker

Gardening club has had a busy year on our allotment plot, despite another cold and wet spring followed by intense heat we have done well with our produce. We have successfully grown tomatoes, spinach, broccoli, cabbages, potatoes, carrots, courgettes, cucumbers and leeks as well as adding colour with pelargoniums and love-in-the-mist. We have allowed some of the broccoli and leeks to go to seed and have had a beautiful display of flowers, the leeks (alliums) were spectacular. The club has had a steady number of volunteers helping each week from the different year groups. As the months have become warmer, and there has been more to do, we have extended to two lunch times per week. It is great to see the enthusiasm and hear what the students are growing at home and how they garden with their parents and grandparents. With true allotment spirit we share ideas, tips and produce. Thank you to everyone who has participated.

## Sea Cadets Marine Engineering STEM Workshop – Mrs Odeyemi

60 students from both years 7 & 8 attended this workshop learning about the principals of buoyancy; mass and weight, density, Archimedes Principal and water displacement, and what engineering is all about. They took part in the "Build a Boat Challenge" working in groups of 2s and 3s. The winning boat (made only of foil, card and masking tape) had to carry the most cargo before sinking. One of the year 7 groups won with their boat carrying 201 marbles which wasn't too far off the record of 213 from another school.

# SOCIAL SCIENCES

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Natalie Croucher and Charlie Foreman

## SOCIOLOGY

Year 10 sociologists have been focusing on understanding the social processes and theories that underpin sociology. They have particularly enjoyed studying the family unit, examining how family structures have changes overtime and how that has affected the functions that a family fulfils, both for individuals and society. They have also been studying how these changes vary across different ethnic groups and social groups.

Year 11 sociologists have worked hard this year consolidating their understanding of sociology. They have really enjoyed studying the crime and deviance unit where they can examine the different sociological motivations for crime. Many of our sociologists are planning to study Criminology in year 12 to examine the criminal justice system further.

## SOCIAL AND CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Year 12 have had an excellent first year in Anthropology exploring the topics of conflict and communication and technology. They have been using a range of ethnographic material to support their studies and have particularly enjoyed using *In Search of Respect* by Philippe Bourgois. This text focuses on conflict in a Puerto Rican immigrant society in New York that is troubled by heavy drug dealing.

This year our year 13 cohort have been producing some excellent internal assessments, which involved students creating and analysing their own research question that linked to one of the four areas of inquiry that we study at Knole.

One student produced a fantastic research project focusing on how far teenagers change their behaviour to feel included in their friendship group, this related to the area of inquiry Belonging. For belonging our anthropologists have studied a heavily patriarchal tribe in Papua New Guinea, and how different attitudes to females are in the tribes compared to life in our society.

## CRIMINOLOGY

### Year 12

As ever, criminology has been a popular choice as a subject for 6th formers. For the first half of the year the students were introduced to how we study crimes, criminals and criminology. This included different types of crime, reasons why certain crimes, such as honour crime, might go underreported to police and how certain awful crimes can lead to campaigns for change in laws and policies, for example how the murder of Sarah Payne led to the introduction of the Child Sex Offender Disclosure Scheme. Most students prepared well for their controlled assessment and received results they should be proud of. In the second half of the year the classes learned many different theories about why someone might become criminal from psychological, sociological and biological viewpoints, as well as different policies for the prevention of crime that have stemmed from these theories. Some prevention policies, such as aversion therapy and eugenics, have been deemed ineffective or immoral, and year 12 could well justify why this was.

### Year 13

Year 13 continued to enjoy criminology and many students worked to an outstanding level for their controlled assessment, in which 40% of the cohort received A or A\*. During the first half of the year, they learned about what happens through the Criminal Justice System, from when a crime is first discovered, all the way through to when a person is convicted of a crime. Throughout this unit the pupils analysed the validity of many different case studies, from local cases like the Stephen Lawrence murder to well publicised global cases, such as OJ Simpson. In the last 5 months year 13 have been taught about what happens to a perpetrator after conviction. Students have learned to be consistently critical of the criminal justice system in the UK, which has many failures, and many were shocked to find out that the UK has the highest per-capita incarceration rate in Western Europe and that our reoffending rates over a lifetime are more than 80%, proving how ineffective our rehabilitation system is. This has inspired many students to continue to study or work in the criminal justice sector when they leave school.

# CREATIVE KNOLE

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# ART

## Tanya Sarton

We have had a fantastic year of Art and Design at Knole. Our students have demonstrated a passion for creativity and taken part in a varied selection of art-based clubs, competitions, workshops, and trips.

Our array of extra-curricular experiences kicked off with our visit to the Warner Bro's Studio Tour in the Autumn term. It is always a pleasure to see students explore the sets, costumes and graphic design used in the Harry Potter films, and understand that the work they are doing now could lead to a career in that industry.



We launched our Innovate club, where students responded to prompts given by the Victoria and Albert Museum. Innovate is a national schools challenge where students work in teams to design a solution to a real-world problem. This allows them to apply STEAM skills to real life scenarios. They think of ways to better people's different experiences. This involved researching their topic, coming up with a range of designs and then testing prototypes.

This has been a fantastic experience; we look forward to more budding designers taking part in next year's challenge.

In the Spring term our creativity club turned into a year 7 Textiles club this year as they were so keen to continue developing their skills from their Monster's project. They added monster friends and food characters to their project. The students were able to work on new skills in a relaxed atmosphere with their friends whilst having fun being creative.

We ran Knole Portrait Artist and Knole Photographer of the Year competitions and had lots of fantastic entries. As always, the standard has been incredibly high. The winner of the competition was Jack with a lovely nighttime shot of train tracks, followed closely by Calvin with a beautiful macro shot of a leaf. Third place was awarded to Angus with a great shot of his dog that showed excellent shallow depth of field. Lastly in fourth place was Evangeline with her scenic and tranquil landscape shot of the sea.

The standard of work in Portrait artist of the year was equally high, with an impressive level of skill on display from our young artists. The winner of the competition was Emily with a stunning black and white portrait of Harry Styles. Second place was Alfie with an excellent digital illustration of Wednesday Addams. Second place was Anna with a beautiful mixed media portrait drawing of a young boy, and fourth place was Deni with a great tonal pencil portrait of Hermione from Harry Potter.

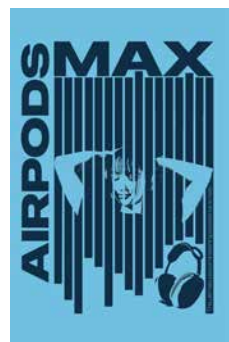
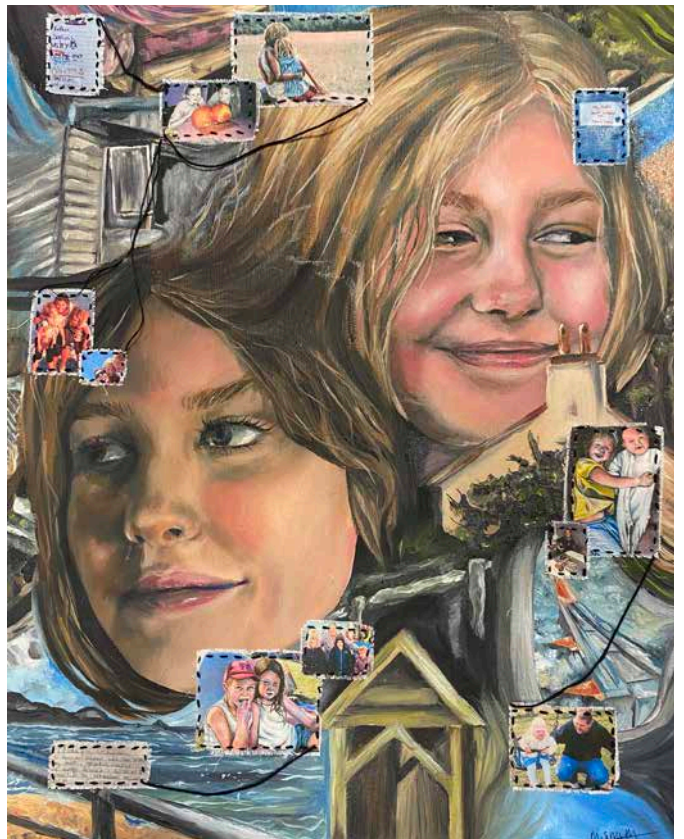
The Summer term has been a hive of activity in the Art and Design department. After our GCSE and A Level examinations we had our summer exhibition in May. It was a fantastic evening showcasing the talents of our year 13 students at the end of their school career. They thoroughly enjoyed showing their family and friend the work they have been doing this year, and it was a real pleasure to celebrate their achievements.



At the end of May, a group of Year 10 Art students spent the day at Hadlow Rural Community School working with younger students. The group worked collaboratively to create art that explored the theme of identity. They focused on the artist Claude Cahun's work and how Cahun explored gender identity through photography and collage. The students had discussions and debates around what gender is, and how it links to a person's identity. They then made their own collages using found imagery.

We were delighted to welcome renowned illustrator Georgina Luck into the Art and Design department this summer. She ran a workshop with our year 10 and 12 students, experimenting with inks and watercolours to produce their own illustrations. The workshop was an excellent starting point for the students to build on in their lessons and provided them with a chance to see how drawing and painting skills can be utilised for a range of graphic design purposes.

Towards the end of the summer term our Year 12 Art and Design students visited the National Portrait Gallery and an installation at Somerset House. They explored all the exhibits, soaking in the culture and taking lots of photos to be used in their own artwork. They found inspiration from both the traditional and contemporary artwork on show and has been a fantastic source of ideas to start year 13 with.



# DANCE

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## Holly Page

This year the dance department has been focussing on a dance platform and competing in local competitions.

The Platform 'Dance Express 2023' showcased the best of student and teacher led choreography. There were around 100 students involved, and the variety of dances was fantastic. We truly have some very talented and enthusiastic dancers at Knole. I am very proud of all the students involved and always look forward to the yearly productions. The dance captains were brilliant at supporting the preparation and running of the event.

The students have also competed in a Dance Championships at The Stag Theatre in Sevenoaks. For the dance department this event was a real highlight of the year and I hope to keep competing as a school. The students were amazing and thrived off the competition.

It is wonderful to see the students' receiving medals and recognition from professional judges. It goes to show the standard of dance at Knole is something special to be celebrated. Students Placed 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in most dances. Brilliant work dancers!

Extra-curricular dance clubs have been busy this year. Particularly the Cascade companies (entry by audition) and the open street dance club. This July, there were auditions to join the Cascade companies and next year I look forward to welcoming even more students into the clubs and companies.

I think the students will agree that as a dancer it is these clubs and performance opportunities which stick with us and hold a special place in our memories.

It helps us to remember the hard work put into honing our dance skills, but it also helps to build confidence, make friends and of course be ready for the dance performances to follow.

## Final Thoughts

There is no doubt that dance makes an enormous contribution to our physical, social, and creative health and well-being. At Knole Academy, we wholeheartedly value the Arts, seeing its importance in culture and in the workplace. For me, it is wonderful to see the exploration and progress our students make from their first lessons in year 7 right to their chosen Dance in year 9 and then some continuing for GCSE. They develop a range of transferable skills and an appreciation of Dance. I look forward to welcoming new students next year as they start their journey at Knole Academy and hope to see them embrace the chances to be open-minded and creative.



# DRAMA

## Tor Hollidge

The Year 10 GCSE Drama students kicked off the year by throwing themselves headfirst into a production of Dennis Kelly's "D.N.A.". Themes such as bullying, gang membership, social responsibility, morality and leadership. This play focuses on a group of teenagers who do something really bad, then panic and cover the whole thing up. When they find that the cover-up unites them, where is the incentive to put things right. For some, it was their first performance in front of an audience, and they handled the experience with great aplomb. It is an important learning curve for our students to experience an audience response, different to their peers, and the parents and friends who joined us for our performance, the impact was felt by every cast member.

LAMDA speech and drama exams were soon upon us and we welcomed Ms Briony Lohrey to Knole to examine our first set of candidates. Results, as usual, were excellent, with high merits and our usual abundance of distinctions awarded. LAMDA has been an extra-curricular offering for many years and students have the choice of preparing acting (scripted), devised (improvisation), public speaking or mime as a solo or duo candidate. Now, year 10 students can choose Lamda as an option at KS4, completing the level two exams, grade 4 and 5.

Then came a trip to the Churchill theatre, Bromley, for our GCSE drama students to see a production of "Blood Brothers" by Willy Russell. With this play being our GCSE drama set text, the opportunity to see a live production could not be missed. What a fantastic production it was; given a complete overhaul by the creatives Bill Kenwright and Bob Tomson, our students thoroughly enjoyed this superb performance. As always is the case, the Knole academy students behaved impeccably.

Mr Simon Lowe was welcomed in July to preside over the examination of more Lamda candidates, most of whom were taking their first exam.



With an array of acting and devised drama, the candidates, apprehensive at first, enjoyed their first experience of taking a lamda examination. As well as an opportunity to share their theatrical talents, these exams develop self-confidence and self-belief.

This year, the school production was "Little Shop of Horrors", a musical by Howard Ashman. Telling the story of Seymour, an overworked and under-appreciated florist, who nurtures a "Strange and unusual plant". Calling it Audrey II after the object of his secret affection, his co-worker Audrey, Seymour must fight to stop the plant, with an insatiable appetite for human blood from taking over the world. Auditions took place in December and rehearsals began in January. It always seems like a long time to rehearsal but before you know it, we're in the Oak theatre and the audience is filling up. It is so important to offer our students the opportunity to push themselves out of their comfort zone. For many, they come alive in front of an audience; it's their passion. For some, it's scary but the sense of accomplishment by far outweighs any concerns. This production had its difficulties; A professional set and Audrey II puppets! With some guidance from Doug, the creator of all the fantastic plants, the cast were shown how to manipulate and bring to life each Audrey II and the student backstage team rose to the various challenges to ensure the plant grew and grew! Teamwork meant the dream worked.



Joining the "Little Shop" journey was Darren Tough, a good friend of Knole Academy, having previously choreographed "The Addams Family" in 2019. Having trained at Italia Conti Academy of Theatre Arts, Darren has numerous professional theatrical credits to his name, such as his most recent appearance in "Only Fools and Horses the Musical" at the Theatre Royal Haymarket. Darren, as a Swing, covered eight different roles (understudying Trigger, Mickey Pearce and Mike the Barman). As well as an exciting performing career Darren is the Principal of Italia Conti Chislehurst, a Saturday school for all things performing arts.

# KNOLE EXTRA

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## COMBINED CADET FORCE

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### Frank Toomey and Jonathan Cason

This year we have enrolled thirty year 10 students into the Combined Cadet Force. They have had a great time learning how to build shelters, live in the wild, stalk an enemy, and handle a weapon system along with first aid skills and problem-solving group work. All of these skills help to develop confidence and leadership and we have seen some very quiet students become highly competent leaders.

We held a very moving Remembrance Day parade in November, which was attended by sixth form students and the head teacher along with the chair of Governors.

At the beginning of July, the annual summer camp was held in Swynnerton, Staffordshire.

## **Knole Academy Combine Cadet Force Annual Camp Swynerton Training Camp, Staffordshire. 1st to the 8th of July 2023.**

Lt F.Toomey Knole CCF Army Section Commander.

This year's CCF camp was a peculiar one, for the last few years we've stayed close to home under the control of our local Cadet Training Team at Crowborough Camp in East Sussex, but this year we were given 17 cadet places with 160th Welsh Brigade Cadet Training Team Based at Brecon Wales. So we thought we would be going to a nice Welsh camp for change and we did, only Wales come to England by holding its camp at Staffordshire's Swynerton Training Camp.

We all duly met at 10-30am on the 1st of July, and after the waves of goodbye, good luck's and enjoy yourselves, we set off for camp. After around 4 hours we arrive at camp and set about finding our beds for the week. Swynerton camp is a funny little camp, with most of the accommodation being in one conjoined building, but when we were given our instructions on where to place our stuff the maze which is the accommodation initially confused most of us. The one exception was the girl's room which was easy to find as it was the 'Band Store', and yes it was the band store where bands leave their musical instruments. This was due to the lack of female accommodation resulting from a cadet unit from the previous week not leaving until the next morning, so our ladies had to stay in the band store. At first Lt Nimmo our School Staff Instructor (SSI), the girls and I were concerned about this living space, but our fears were quickly dispelled as the ladies all settled in and quickly became attached to this odd habitat, only to be moved into proper female accommodation the next morning and not before they had whinged protested and pleaded to stay in the 'Band Store'. Though the 'Proper' accommodation was the 'Camp Hospital'.

Sunday was our first full day at camp (following the girls room move). We again boarded a coach and set off for a day of Adventures Activity, climbing, abseiling, scrambling across rocks and navigating the fell. This wouldn't start until we had walked over a mile into the park area, as the coach could not negotiate the small bendy roads which went up steep hills. I think everyone had a good time, even though it was a little windy and a slightly chilly.

Monday, saw us all don our uniforms for the first time and prep for what the army calls field craft. This is where cadets are taught how to patrol, set up camps known as 'harbour areas' and live in the 'field'. These activities were broken up with recceing 'enemy' positions and mounting numerous attacks on this enemy which included our own Cadet E. Hurrell (and great enemy she was). These attacks were carried out over open land and in tightly enclosed wooded areas. Both cadets and staff had to live, eat and sleep for 36 hours on the field. But, as for anyone telling you that July is a hot and dry month our night in the field was far from dry or hot, yet again though our cadets rose to the challenge and not only survived in those conditions, they thrived.

The next morning, (Tuesday) we all set out to take control of a Forward Operating Base (FOB). Once we'd taken control of the FOB our cadets were then constantly attacked by the enemy from the previous day, and to quote the officer in command of the cadet

training team 'they fired obscene amounts of ammunition' which as a 25-year veteran of the British Army Reserve, I can whole heartily agree with. Suffice to say our cadets WON THE BATTLE, so we returned to camp to clean weapons and got ready for the next day's events. Unfortunately, one of our number had to return home to attend her mother's graduation ceremony and so we all bid farewell and safe journey to cadet S. Akintoye and Lt Nimmo on their trip back to Kent.

Then on Wednesday we were joined by 2Lt Ereat, and the cadets went into the 'Paint Ball Phase'. Paint balling seems on the surface simple, but it was far from simple. Our cadets spent the day raiding buildings, searching and clearing rooms, coming under fire and returning fire, just as the SAS store buildings, our cadets under the leadership of their exemplary Senior Non-Commissioned Officers (NCO's) Cadet Staff Sergeant J. Macleod, and Cadet Sergeants; C. Waterton and E. Tucknott were assigned to attack and clear a building under the control of some really bad guys, using night vision goggles, smoke, and paint balls to successfully rescue hostages and be home for tea and medals. Well done guys you worked so hard to achieve your victory.

By Thursday morning 2Lt Ereat had returned home, and we had Lt Nimmo (SSI) back with us, and we all again mounted a coach to attend the rifle range. On the range I took up my role as a safety adviser and shooting coach, but poor Lt Nimmo had to act as a safety officer at the end of a public path stopping civilians inadvertently straying into the path of live firing. No worries though she did a great job and at least 4 of our cadets gained a marksmanship badge and the remainder gained their L98A2 SA80 GP Rifle shooting badge. Once more well-done guys, and oh yes, I did relieve Lt Nimmo of her duties so she could have a shoot. We can't forget the final laser gun shoot in the evening which was a great end to the days training and allowed Cadet L/Cpl G. Madden to show off his shot gun skills.

Friday came, and we had to leave camp. Like the pervious Saturday the cadets didn't want to really get on the coach, but this time it wasn't fear of the unknown, it was that they didn't want to go home, after they'd learnt skills that they never thought they would, doing things in such short periods of time and under great pressure that were totally out of their comfort zones, and had taught then so much about themselves and what they are capable of doing when put in challenging and unfamiliar situations.

Finally, the Combine Cadet Force is about empowering the cadets to learn, think and lead and without the true leadership of our senior cadets over the younger junior cadets, all that I've talked about could not have been as successful as it was without finally citing our highest-ranking cadet. Cadet Regimental Sergeant Major J. Arbenser, who's hard work, character and leadership shone through, throughout the week to the point as the most senior cadet on camp. He was not only our cadet's leader but the other cadet detachments on camp from around the country sought his advice and followed his guidance. I know that the other staff and cadets here at the Knole Academy CCF (A) join me in wishing the utmost success to Cdt-RSM J. Arbenser, who is now leaving us to pursue a Law Degree at The University of East Anglian and will also be continuing his military journey by joining the Cambridge University Officer Cadet Corps.



# DUKE OF EDINBURGH

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## Stuart Ereaut

This year marked the announcement of a new Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Edward, brother of the King. This year marked one of the busiest times for DofE at Knole with students from years 9 -13 all completing a level of the award. During the year our students completed their awards as follows; year 9 students for the Bronze, year 10 for Silver and years 12 and 13 would complete their Gold Award.

In year 9 the students embarked on their first experience of DofE with 81 students completing their award. The award consists of completing a physical activity, learning a skill, and volunteering their time for 1 hour a week each activity for 3 months for 2 sections and 6 months for the third. It then culminates in 2 expeditions which were conducted in Ashdown Forest. It is wonderful to see the diverse activities students get involved in and I love reading the assessor reports on our students' successes.

*'She has been a brilliant volunteer; she's prompt, friendly and genuinely useful. She identifies needs she can meet and uses her initiative to get on and do so. We've loved seeing a different side to her and can honestly say her volunteering has made our lives easier. She's an excellent ambassador for the school, and for the DofE scheme.'*

The two expeditions took place in May and June this year for year 9. The practice expedition was a chance for the students to get to grips with navigating the countryside with only a map and compass and I thank the staff who took the time out of their busy lives to help guide and teach the students in this. They then took part in their assessed expedition in June in extremely challenging heat. I was incredibly impressed with their growth throughout the expedition. These wonderful memories from this experience will be with them forever.

There were 30 year 10 students completing their Silver DofE award this year at Knole Academy. It is always wonderful to see students continuing their DofE journey. They still have to complete a volunteering, physical and skills activity for their Silver DofE but for longer lengths of time. It is amazing to hear about their varied activities and these sections are often overlooked in the scheme. It allows the students to grow as people and get involved in the local community. The Silver DofE students undertook their program externally this year. Their expeditions took place in Essex near the coast and in the Chiltern Hills. They showed great maturity in their completion of the expeditions, and I hope they complete their Silver Awards ready for Gold in sixth form.



The Gold DofE students completed their practice expedition in April with fantastic but cold conditions on most of the days. On the last evening of the trip the students woke up to frozen tents and ice on the ground, but none were cold due to fantastic preparation from them. They completed a number of difficult routes over the course of the trip including a difficult ascent of Mount Snowdon off the beaten path as well as a difficult climb of Glyder Fach that really tested their navigational abilities. The students were incredibly resilient and learnt a great deal from Mr Patton, who I thank again for giving up his time to help our DofE program.

They then completed their Assessed Expedition in Dartmoor in late July. The conditions were cool with rain throughout and some poor visibility. The students all managed it exceedingly well. They chose Dartmoor as they wanted to wild camp in remote places away from civilization and I commend them on their bravery.



It is not easy carrying everything you need with you for 3 days and seeing very few manmade structures. They set up camp in some incredible locations that were difficult to access. One of the key requirements of wild camping is to leave no trace and the students did brilliantly and keeping a clean campsite and leaving no trace of their presence.

Knole Academy is very lucky to have several dedicated staff who help with the Duke of Edinburgh Award and devote their evenings and weekends to help our determined students with this life changing experience. In no particular order, I would like to thank Mrs Slade, Miss Nimmo, Mr White, Miss Stock, Mrs Walker, Miss Nixon, Miss Kilby, Mr Lewis, Mr Birmingham, and Mr Toomey. Special mention must go to Miss Law who has leapt at every opportunity to help DofE and Miss Stock who passed her Hill and Moorland award, not an easy achievement to accomplish.



Every year when I sit down to write this article I love looking back through the photos of the trips and remembering what a fantastic experience it is for the students. It makes children grow as a person during their expeditions but also while they complete their volunteering, physical and skills sections. While the expeditions are not easy for the students, I hope they can take away some fantastic memories and stories to share with those around them and look back fondly at their time doing DofE.

## SKI TRIP

### Russell Turner

Due to incredible demand once again this year, I decided to increase the size of the ski party to 97. Too big for one hotel, the party was split into two separate hotels, only a 10 minutes' drive from one another. It was Mr White's first time leading a group, so massive thanks to him for doing such a brilliant job.

Few schools offer the wonderful ski opportunities that our students have been afforded over the last 13 years. During that period, we have enjoyed fantastic skiing in Italy, USA, Canada and France. We chose Austria again for February 2023 due to the overwhelming success of previous visits. The Austrians are magnificent hosts; they treat our students as honoured guests where nothing is too much trouble.

Exceptional skiing for all abilities is provided on superbly groomed slopes accessed by an immaculate lift system. The sheer expanse of the ski area ensured that our students were afforded the opportunity to overcome new challenges every moment of our six days "en piste". Six hours dry slope practice before we ventured south to the Alps ensured that our 30 beginners quickly mastered the basics.

It was then the job of the world-renowned lift system to carry them across the vast ski area to experience some of the best skiing in Europe.

Split into 8 ski groups, our students benefited from over 7 hours per day with some of the best ski instructors in Austria. We adopt a ski-safari model where the group take breaks and lunch with their instructor, and in doing so build relationships they remember forever. By the time our students return to base camp they are shattered and thrilled in equal measures. The stories they have to tell on the coach as we return to our hotel are lovely to hear; the stacks, the jumps, the bumps, the thrills in equal measures.

The ski school instructors love taking our students; in fact, we have two instructors, a doctor and an engineer in their full-time jobs, who will only instruct one week per year, and only with Knole Academy. I can't tell you how proud that makes me. The trip is sold out again for February 2024. Every one of those 97 people will try and emulate the feats of Freddie White, the deserved recipient of our 2023 Mr Snow Award.



# KNOLE OPPORTUNITIES

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# CAREERS

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## Jonna Stevens

My name is Mrs Stevens and I am delighted to introduce myself as the new Careers Leader at Knole Academy. I have previously taught history and politics at the school, and most recently been the subject leader for Citizenship, Global Politics and Theory of Knowledge. I have always had a keen interest in raising the aspirations of students and helping students to see their options and future paths ahead whatever their academic achievements.

This year we have had a busy spring term. In March to coincide with the national careers week we hosted a successful careers fair, with more than 20 exhibitors including RAF, Army, the Fire Service, Hadlow College, Hamptons Estate Agent, Lavender Field Care Homes, and a local tree surgeon company Down to Earth, to name but a few. The event was attended by every single student from Year 7 to Year 13 and students had the opportunity to engage with prospective employers and training providers. The feedback from students was positive and we'll be working hard to get an even wider range of employers represented at the careers fair next year.

Year 12 and Year 13 students have had the opportunity to attend several university fairs and meet with representatives from a huge number of UK universities as well as attending talks on how to write personal statements and student finance.

We have relaunched our online platform Unifrog which contains a wealth of information relevant to all year groups from quizzes about what type of work you might like to do in the future and personality types, careers library to tools to help you write the perfect CV and find University courses. All Knole Academy students have an account and I highly recommend that you have a look at this fantastic resource as we are going to increasingly use it in careers related learning next year.

We have also launched an Instagram page where we post about upcoming events such as talks about apprenticeships, opportunities for work experience and volunteering (all important to build that CV or personal statement) as well as general information about what we have been up to. Why not follow us on #knolecareers.

The summer term culminated for us in our work experience week 26-30 June. Over 200 Year 10, and 60 Year 12 students successfully took part in various work experiences ranging in experiences as diverse as working in advertising and sound engineering to working in garages, the London Stock Exchange, and the Houses of Parliament. Thank you so much to all the students who were a credit to themselves and the school and thank you to all the parents who have helped and supported the work experience programme.

If you think your young person would benefit from careers advice or if you have any questions about options or careers paths, please do not hesitate to contact me. I have drop-in sessions every Monday and Friday lunch time for students, and I am happy to meet with parents after school. My email address is [jstevens@knoleacademy.org](mailto:jstevens@knoleacademy.org).

I am really excited for all the careers related activities that we have planned for the next academic year.

# KENT ACADEMIES NETWORK (KAN)

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## Jenny Corbett

Knole has been part of the Kent Academies Network since 2013 and are so proud to see more students than ever move through the programme and become mentors and successful graduates.

As part of the KAN commitment students are offered places on two residentials a year, online mentoring with university-based mentors and meet up days at Sevenoaks School. All opportunities allow students to meet with their mentors, socialise with peers and to attend a variety of workshops led by experts in their field.

This year we have the maximum number of brilliant year 9 students engaged in the programme, who have already joined in the first term as KAN students attending a full residential. Students from the five other academies making up the network stayed in the halls of residence at Sevenoaks School and enjoyed a trip to the British museum, a variety of law workshops and got started on their summer projects.

Meanwhile year 11 to 13 students enjoyed a summer residential at Cambridge University, with activities including punting, escape rooms, Latin and yoga classes.

The residential weekends have been a huge success and present so many brilliant opportunities for students to broaden their knowledge base, gain new understandings and experiences.

KAN is set up to remove barriers to higher education by developing pupils' confidence, knowledge, and agency so that they can set ambitious goals. They work with students from our school and five others from year 9 all the way through to university and beyond.

We will be recruiting from January onwards. The are two programmes, Core and Aspire are uniquely comprehensive four-year programmes of mentoring, meet-up days and Core residential weeks.



# WORK EXPERIENCE

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## Will C

**I have nothing but positive words for my work experience at Sevenoaks District Council, I would definitely consider working here permanently after school.**

My time here was spent under various departments run by Chief Officer and Deputy Chief Executive for Planning and regulatory services Richard Morris. 'Regulatory Services' includes many departments; I spent time in Planning administration,

Environmental Health, Building Control, Planning Policies and Enforcement. You may assume a council sounds boring or mundane but even areas like environmental health include going out to places like Brands Hatch and sitting in the control room or in planning policies you get to hear people's opinions on proposed plans and realise how different opinions such a small community can share.

For some reason people assume that an office environment would be down beat and awkward but here, everyone knows everyone and the atmosphere between everyone is amazing, you won't go 10 seconds without hearing a friendly chatter. My mind has been totally opened up to the intricate issues each little area faces every day and the opportunity of what I learnt this week for free is something I will never forget.

## Abbe

**My week of work experience within the governments legal department regarding transport**

From the 18th-23rd of June I was fortunate to complete a valuable week of work experience within the Government's DFT – Department For Transport associating and specialising in the legal department. As an aspiring lawyer the civil service is considered a potential career pathway regarding law therefore, I felt this past week as been extremely useful when making connections and networking with experts for my future desired career.

Throughout the week the organiser of my work experience week Matthew Eglinton went to many lengths to make the week as rewarding and beneficial as possible by providing many insightful opportunities for myself which demonstrate the appropriate and enriching skills for a law career.

The extensive experience consisted of attending Cabinet Office for business questions and meeting several MP's and ministers from my several visits to the Houses of Parliament. Furthermore, I had the pleasure of sharing the company of the Prime Minister for his P&M questions which was a superior, learning experience. Through the course of the week, I also attended a MOVE mobility conference which was an eye-opening experience

regarding transport technology and its recent innovations which was absolutely fascinating to be involved in.

Witnessing how technology has developed and the introduction to the beginning of driverless cars I found extremely remarkable. During the conference I also attended several presentation talks from successful stakeholders who invested their time and money into innovating technology to the next developing level.

I really appreciated Matthew arranging meetings with multiple government lawyers who allowed me the opportunity to ask a variety of questions as well as gain advice and knowledge from them regarding their specialised sector. This was fantastic as it allowed me to network with successful lawyers who gave me legal insights into my chosen career pathway.

From making these connections it has broadened my networking circle so now I can carry out further work experience within the legal sector.

Finally, I completed multiple legal policy training sessions on statutory instruments, infrastructure, correspondence and the future approaches for the regulations behind protecting the environment and decarbonisation which further broadened my knowledge.

On reflection of my work experience week, I feel privileged to have been given such a great opportunity and the extensive experience has given me the best possible insight into a future career of becoming a lawyer whether it is within the civil service or a private sector. I felt the experience was extremely valuable and I thoroughly enjoyed my week.



# KNOLE SPORT



# BASKETBALL

Tim White and Stewart Lewis

## KS3 BASKETBALL

This year has seen many ups and downs in basketball. During the Autumn term the students competing in the year 9 league had most of their players from year 8. This meant that every game was a struggle against much bigger and more disciplined players. The first few games were difficult, taking loss after loss. 37 – 14; 30 – 2; 26 – 19; 36 – 29. Tough scores, but they didn't give up. Improvements were happening as they got more and more game time. Because time is what was needed from us, and resilience is what we needed from them.

Come Spring term, time for the year 7s league. Another loss 31 – 9. We had a chat, we were fed up with losing, and it was time for a change. We established an after-school basketball training session and an extra lunchtime club with training for 7s and 8s to put together a team where we could work on a game plan.

Next game against another tough opponent. This time we were prepared, Luca dictating the pace of the game; Alfie grabbing constant offensive rebounds; Sam using his pace to get free from the defenders on quick attacks; Maxwell spreading out the defence by finding the space when attacking; Jacob preventing any quick attack with countless interceptions. Finally a win 27 – 21.

Further training, further improvements. Another win 28 – 18. It then got a bit quiet from other schools playing, but there was one extra game that we hadn't finished. A year 9 league game against a grammar school. We needed to finish the league season on a win but were the year 7s ready for a 2-year gap. Harry and Maddox would lead out the team. The plan was simple, play with space and pace. They were taller, but we were faster, and we used that to our advantage. The game finished, year 9 finally did it.

Participation from year 7 and 8 during lunch times has increased dramatically over the year and we have had a lot of interest for the love of the game. That has been noticed and this year we have included interhouse basketball into the spring term. The future is looking bright for basketball at Knole and next year there are some big plans in the works.

A massive thank you to those who have kept training, playing and most importantly, didn't give up.

**Maddox, Ollie, Armaan, Harry, Luca, Freddy, Sam, Maxwell, Alfie and Jacob**



## KS4 AND SIXTH FORM BASKETBALL

A great year for KS4 basketball and an opportunity to see Emerson in action before his GCSE moderation. The team played well and improved as the season progressed winning some big games against rival schools. Younger students had a chance to shine which is exciting in preparation for next year's competition.

Year 13 played their final season for Knole after 7 years on the court. Arguably the best and most consistent year group Knole have had for basketball. Sam V and friends took on the world, only losing a single game due to injuries. Huge shout out to Harry C for being the team manager and organising the fixtures and a new kit. I did my best to find an old photo of the boy's playing in year 7 but sadly no luck.

Gents, it was a pleasure to coach and play basketball with you through the years. Watching you fall in love with the game both on and off the court has been great. Chats about the NBA and pick-up games at lunch times will be remembered for years to come. Best of luck in the future, I hope you all continue to play. Perhaps I'll see you on a court again soon.

It's an exciting time for basketball at Knole Academy and I have a feeling things are about to get even better. Keep an eye out for new lunch time and after school sessions and an improved relationship with the Sevenoaks Suns basketball club. If you want to get involved, please speak to Mr White or Mr Lewis.

# CRICKET

## Tim White

Fixtures have been hard to come by this summer but it hasn't stopped us getting the bowling machine out during Monday's after school cricket club. For some it was a chance to hone their skills facing balls up to 75mph, for others, an opportunity to try on some oversized pads and give cricket a go for the very first time. Everybody has loved the sessions and is itching to play some more games.

With the popularity of cricket on the rise, the PE department drafted in Miss Kilby to support our future stars. When she isn't teaching history, Miss Kilby plays cricket for The Vine in Sevenoaks. It has been lovely to see her inspire so many students this term.



# GOLF

## Tim White

Wednesday afternoons at Knole Park have been fantastic. As the evenings became lighter our team were out preparing for this year's competitions. The Kent Championships were held at Pedham Place GC and our team of 4 all represented Knole brilliantly with Josh D bringing home the trophy.

In the final half term we introduced 10 new students to the game and it has been great to watch them improve week on week. I hope they all continue to practice and by registering an official handicap they can join the team competing for trophies next year.

I would like to take a moment to honour the Stoodley Trust and PGA pro Andy Holland for his time and patience with our students. The members and staff at Knole Park GC have always been incredibly generous and welcoming and we are truly grateful. So many of these students would never have the opportunity to pick up golf club without your support, thank you.

# FOOTBALL

## Russell Turner

A great season culminating in Knole reaching 5 Cup Finals!! Our Year 7 boys team, undefeated all season until the final, were incredibly unlucky to lose by the odd goal in a game we dominated; sticking to our belief in possession football and playing in all areas of the pitch, we were defeated by a couple of unlucky breaks and a centre forward for the opposition who will go on to play at a high standard. Player of the season – Freddie. Our Year 7/8 girls fared much better and had the luck on their side after a penalty shoot-out victory. An outstanding individual performance from Phoebe capped a wonderful team display. The Year 8 boys turned around defeat to the same opposition in last year's final to spring a brilliant victory we will all remember for a long time. Backs-to-the-wall stuff for much of the second half, resilience carried them through. A particular mention goes out to Santino who was breathtakingly good in the final and inspirational throughout the season. Our Year 9 and 10 teams battled hard all season and were rewarded for their efforts, and no little ability, with a chance to lift the Cup.



Alas, the last hurdle couldn't be overcome, losing to better teams on the day.

Year 9 player of the season goes to Harrison S, whilst our outstanding performer in Year 10 was Archie K.

The Year 9/10 girls team played well all season with Dolcie leading the way, but unfortunately, they missed out on the 6th and last Cup Final spot by finishing the league 1 point adrift. It is probably wrong to select some for individual praise as it was the strength of the team that carried us to 5 finals. It is that fraternal spirit that makes the team managers so proud of them all.

# INTER-HOUSE

Maisie Stock

## CROSS-COUNTRY

Once again we saw KS3 take part in the Interhouse cross country. It was great to see the determination from all those involved with our top runners displaying uncertainty against likely contenders. We were truly amazed by our Year 7 students who put in their best effort for their first annual run. We saw our top three Year 7 boys and girls achieve a time difference of 0.03 seconds with Spencer and Gabriella achieving first place for each. In fact Spencer was the joint top fastest out of all the KS3 boys that took part in the event. Despite Rudolph and Attenborough being represented in top spot, Lee were the overall Year 7 winners with nearly double the amount of participants finishing in the top ten.

In Year 8 the girls showed the boys how it was done as Phoebe ran a whole 2m 11s faster than the top Year 8 boy with Mia, Emilia and Isla still beating the fastest time achieved by Vinnie. This competitive spirit continued as the rivalry between the House became apparent, with Rudolph securing a total of six top ten finishes for the boys and Lee House obtaining five for the girls. However, this again didn't stop Lee from winning the Year 8 cross country as they secured better rankings.

For Year 9, Sam won the boys race with a time of 11m 48s ahead of Robin who finished in second place six seconds after. For the girls, we saw Vivien make her debut by

running a time of 9m 53s, the fastest run of 2022/23. This was a sensational performance, leaving a difference of 1m 40s between first and second place. Despite Khan reaching the top spot for the Year 9 girls, Attenborough took the lead overall for Year 9 by obtaining six of the higher positions in the top ten.

This year's cross country event was won by Lee House, with Attenborough and Rudolph finishing in second and third place with a one point difference. Everyone's efforts were well recognised and valued by the PE department, with the top performers in each year group being put forward for the Knole Run.

Place	Yr7 Boys	Yr7 Girls	Yr8 Boys	Yr8 Girls	Yr9 Boys	Yr9 Girls
1st	Spencer L 11.48	Gabriella L 11.54	Vinnie F 12.31	Phoebe D 10.20	Sam H 11.48	Vivien R 9.53
2nd	Charlie H 11.49	Dolly T 11.55	Harrison D 12.45	Mia J 10.30	Robin H 11.54	Sonya N 11.35
3rd	Beau S 11.50	Angeline L 11.56	Beau H 12.50	Amelia P 11.50	Luke M 12.00	Freya S 12.15
4th	Oscar A 12.10	Maja P 11.59	Charlie R 13.00	Isla G 12.09	Phoenia B 12.13	Annabelle R 12.50
5th	Frankie E 12.26	Maddi C 12.05	James S 13.01	Hattie B 12.31	Freddie H 12.15	Abi R 12.58
6th	Max T 12.36	Ettie J 12.15	Josh S 14.12	Maia C 12.31	Dante S 12.20	Emily C 12.24
7th	Freddie D 12.40	Imogen C 13.00	Alex A 14.27	Eily B 12.44	Freddie DVM 12.45	Charlotte B 13.00
8th	Freddie D (joint 7th) 12.40	Mia M 13.15	Rowan S 14.30	Jess S 12.55	Freddie S 12.51	Grace E (joint 7th) 13.00
9th	Luca O 12.45	Scarlett G (joint 8th) 13.15	James B 14.39	Bella D 13.02	Tristan E 13.00	Ruby S (joint 7th) 13.00
10th	Sullie B 13.20	Lucy D 13.33	Teddy M 14.45	Lia F 13.03	Bobby M 13.06	Eddie M 13.18



## BASKETBALL AND FOOTBALL

This year marked the first time the students competed in basketball instead of rugby and the level of competition was incredible.

Basketball is an extremely popular sport at Knole, and this came through in the interhouse games. The standard was high.

In Year 7 Lee won, with Rudolph second, Attenborough third and Khan fourth. In the combined Year 8 and 9 team competition Attenborough won, with Khan second, Rudolph third and Lee fourth. In the combined year 10 and 11 competition Lee won with Khan second, Rudolph third and Attenborough fourth.

Overall	Points
1st	Lee 91 points
2nd	Attenborough 83 points
3rd	Rudolph 82 points
4th	Khan 79 points

The girls football competition was very closely fought, and the quality of football was impressive. In Year 7 Lee took first place, with Khan second, Rudolph third and Attenborough fourth. The Year 8 and 9 combined football had two teams in each house which increase the participation which was fantastic to see.

Attenborough won first, with Khan second, Rudolph third and Lee fourth.

In Year 10 and 11 combined Khan won, with Lee second, Attenborough third and Rudolph fourth.

## FOOTBALL AND NETBALL

Once again, the PE department started off the interhouse sport competitions by delivering a football and netball interhouse competition. As always this is the most popular competition of them all, so it was great to see a good turn out and a high level of competition across all year groups. We saw our highly talented players compete against each other and some exceptional performances by all those that took part.

The event started with Year 8 and 9 combined. Each House entering A and B teams for both football and netball. For the football, Rudolph gained victory in the A team football league, with Lee securing first place for the B team. However, the results were very different for the netball as Khan dominated play, beating Lee in the A team final and Rudolph in the B. This created heightened rivalry between the Houses as Khan and Lee were on the same number of points entering the Year 10 and 11 tournament.

As play commenced for Year 10 and 11, it was fantastic to see full A and B teams that consisted of both year groups. Results were reversed in this round as Attenborough came out on top in the boy's football, with Lee and Rudolph finishing with equal points.

Luckily Khan was able to maintain their place in the competition for Year 10 and 11 as they gained 8 points by finishing top of both A and B leagues in the netball.

The event finished with our Year 7s playing in their own tournament towards the end of the day. It was all to play for as each House went head-to-head with one team. The competition was thriving, and the all-round quality of play was spectacular. The football was won by Khan House, whilst Rudolph competed and won against Lee House in the netball as they played each other in the final. However, this did not influence the current standings as the Year 7 results saw Khan, Lee and Rudolph finish joint first.



The competition was closely contested throughout the day and the overall winner could only be decided at the final whistle. The final results saw Lee House win the interhouse competition, ahead of Khan House with Rudolph finishing third and Attenborough fourth. Well done to all those that played a part in the event and represented their House.

## MIXED SOFTBALL AND ROUNDEES

The final term always involves the last sporting competitions of the year. In the summer term, we saw each House compete in softball and rounders for the remaining interhouse title. With Khan and Lee winning the two previous competitions, it was time for Attenborough and Rudolph to aim for glory.

The first competition involved both A and B teams for Year 7 and 8. We saw Lee House win the softball tournament as their A team achieved first place and their B team second. Unfortunately for Rudolph who won the B team tournament, their A league performance was not strong enough leaving them one point behind the top spot. For the rounders, Rudolph showed everybody how worthy they were of winning as both A and B team finished first, which put them as the overall winners of Year 7 and 8 followed by Khan, Lee and then Attenborough.

Next, we moved onto the Year 9 and 10 competition where Khan rose to victory again as both their A team's won the softball and rounders. In softball, Lee showed high levels of determination, acquiring themselves second place in both the A and B team. However, the other three Houses beat their competitors in rounders once again leading them to finish third above Attenborough, but behind Rudolph and Khan.

The combined results saw Rudolph win overall, with Khan finish in second, Lee third and Attenborough fourth. This was another fantastic event where we could recognise the talent from different individuals across the school.

## KNOLE RUN

Tyler Miller

The biggest cross country event of the academic year arrived as students made their way to Sevenoaks School for the eagerly anticipated Knole Run. Having participated in the interhouse cross country event a few weeks prior, students performed excellently and achieved the top times for their respective races, earning a place at this prestigious event. Since this, students had been preparing for the run and working hard throughout the term, ready to represent the academy against a wealth of other schools.

A strenuous 1.6 mile and 2.1-mile run awaited our athletes, who were eager to show off their talent to the big crowd that had attended at Knole Park. All students did themselves and the academy proud, running great races and getting some excellent times against some of the most renowned schools in the Southeast. Although it was a great group effort, a special mention must go to Knole's top runners, Spencer L who came 53rd in his race and Mia J who came 21st in her race.



A massive well done to all who competed.

# NETBALL

Miss Hurley

## TONBRIDGE SCHOOLS NETBALL LEAGUE RESULTS

What a season the girls have had this year. The training every Monday after school for year 7 and lunchtimes for years 8 and 9 on Wednesdays and Thursday lunchtimes for GCSE has paid off and the girls should be proud of their achievements.

The year 10 and 11s remained undefeated all season with impressive wins over St Gregs, Skinners and Hugh Christie, some games winning by 30 goals. Player of the season Erin Ellis kept the ball out the defensive end helping the team to win.

The year 9 squad also remained undefeated this season after turning it around from last season. With new additions to the squad they picked off wins against Hugh Christie, St Gregs, and beat Mascalls by 20 goals. The versatility from player of the season Taiyah Lucas whether it was shooting or defending helped the squad to key victories.



The year 8 squad carried on from where they left also remaining undefeated for the season. Only conceding 5 goals all season and scoring 42 shows their determination to succeed in every game. With Hattie shooting for the team and Bella dominating the centre court area were the players of the season for year 8.

The year 7 squad is growing in confidence with every game they play, even coming back down from a loss to Skinners Kent Academy early on in the season to winning the remaining games. They lost out on first place due to goal difference so well done to the year 7 squad. Training is the key so we need to make sure everyone can attend next season.



# SPORTS LEADERS

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## Maisie Stock

This year we enrolled another cohort of Sports Leaders which has been reflected in our increased provision of sports leadership within the community. This has positively improved the quality of knowledge and skills that they have been able to share with an increasing number of young people. It has also allowed for more experienced individuals to mentor their peers and improve the delivery of sport and physical activities.

The Year 10 Sports Leaders have primarily focused on building their leadership skills. This has been through the demonstration of leadership within different environments, including lesson time, extra-curricular clubs, intra-school competitions and events set up by the primary school sports network. The positive recognition that they gained through these opportunities even led them to be invited to support additional events organised by individual organisations.

For Year 11, they were able to extend their skillset further. In addition to the delivery of multiple peer-led sessions and external events, their biggest achievement was planning and delivering an Infant Agility Festival which was solely organised and led by them. This involved 120 KS1 and KS2 children from 12 local primary schools. Each leader displayed the desirable characteristics that secured their ability to lead independently.

It was great to see the positive outcome of their leadership and a pleasure for them to represent Knole Academy for the local community.

Both year groups have continued to show growth and development as leaders and hopefully the Year 11s that have left us can transfer their experience into their future.





# SWIMMING

**Maisie Stock**

## KENT SCHOOL SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

This was the first occasion where Knole entered a team of swimmers in the Kent School Swimming Championships. It was great to see the vast amount of interest and talent that was brought to our attention through the organisation of the event. All competitors on the day swam two individual events and it was a pleasure to witness an excellent performance from each of them that took part. This was reflected within the results of the competition as we gained some outstanding results. We hope that their commitment continues to complement their achievements and that we can continue to recognise their success within the sport.



**Imogen**

100m Backstroke - 4th place  
100m Breaststroke - 3rd place

**Evie**

100m Breaststroke - 5th place  
200m Individual Medley - 16th place

**Ruby**

100m Butterfly - 9th place  
100m Breaststroke

**Orla**

200m Individual Medley - 12th place  
100m Backstroke 12th place

**Summer**

100m Backstroke - 4th place  
100m Freestyle - 4th place

**Aubry**

100m Breaststroke - 2nd place  
200m Individual Medley - 2nd place

# OUTSTANDING PERFORMERS

Rachel Laker





### Abbe – Cross Country

We have seen some extraordinary performances on the track this year, and Abbe is one such athlete who continues her incredible progress. This year, Abbe was selected to represent Kent in the English School Cross Country Championships. Abbe was a vital member of the winning team in the Senior Girls competition.

During the summer season in 2023, Abbe has achieved personal bests in the 400m (with a time of 62.08) and in the 800m, too. She was also the third lady in the Whitstable 10km, with a blistering time of 42m, 32s.

With the season far from finished, she remains on track for even faster times. We look forward to tracking her progress next year.

### Archie – Football

We have a good record here at Knole of nurturing great talent, including some footballers.

Archie is currently representing Millwall FC at U15 level, but can boast playing for the U16s for the majority of this season.

Notable highlights include the season finale against archrivals, Charlton Athletic. A home game, played at The Den – the home of Millwall – was an incredible experience, on the First X1's pitch. Playing at right-back, Archie helped the team secure an important result in a local derby. This is, by far, Archie's best season yet. Having signed as an 8-year-old in 2015, Archie will find out this year whether he will be offered a scholarship. He has worked so hard in the off-season and remains positive that this will happen.



He is one of only three players, still at the club, from when they were 8. We look forward to following Archie's progress next season!



### Aubry – Swimming

Aubry has had a fantastic year competing in numerous club galas and open meets. Aubry's greatest achievements have included qualifying for 10 events

at the Kent Swimming Championships where he won 3 bronze medals – 1500m freestyle, 50m breaststroke and 50m backstroke. Aubry has also gone onto to qualify in 8 events for the Southeast Regional Championships, making it to 4 finals, achieving 4th place in 200m butterfly and 50m breaststroke, plus winning a bronze medal in the 100m breaststroke event.

Aubry's hard work and determination led to him being selected to represent his club at the British Championships at the end of July to swim in the 4x100m medley relay team. Also, it resulted in him qualifying for the Summer National Championships in August, where he competed in 4 events- 50m and 100m



breaststroke, 200m butterfly and 400m individual medley. Aubry had a very busy summer racing, and we wish him good luck ahead of his next competition.

## Bella – Netball

We certainly love our Netball here at Knole and are excited that our very own Bella is impressing in the local leagues. Playing in an age group, two years above her own, Bella and her team, 'Otford Netball Club', this year secured the Summer's Division 4 League. Bella's success is not limited to her team's achievements, having been awarded that Winter season's 'Player of the Season'. Her awards haven't stopped there, as she was recently awarded 'Coach's Player of the Year' too – recognition of a talented player, who will look forward to giving her best again next year.



## Chloe – Tennis

'Game. Set. Match...Miss Cleaver'.

It's fair to say that we can all get swept up in the magic of Wimbledon at this time of year. And as we watch, marvel at the incredible effort, commitment and determination of the players, to reach the standard at which they are performing.

Our very own Chloe is attempting to do just that. This year has seen Chloe achieve some simply incredible milestones. Accomplishments this year include making the Quarter Finals of the ITF J60 Singles event, and Champions in the Doubles. She has gone from playing without a ranking in October 2022, to a top 2,000 player for her age group. Currently, she is at a personal best high ranking of 1,200 – in the world – at U18 level. Incredible progress.

Her game is going from strength-to-strength, and we look forward to following her progress across the next twelve months.

## Evie – Swimming and Dancing

Evie competed in the Kent County Swimming Championships for the first time at the London Aquatics Centre in February 2023. She went into to competition seeded 20th in Kent for 50m breaststroke and 100m breaststroke.

She came 5th in her heat for 100m breaststroke and 12th place for her age in Kent with a pb. She came 1st in her heat for 50m breaststroke and 16th place for her age in Kent with a pb.

Evie competed in the South East Regional Swimming Championships for the first time in April 2023. She had two qualifying entry times but due to the demand she only gained a place for the 50m Breaststroke.

She went into the competition seeded 28th in the SE region.

She came 1st in her heat and 11th place in her age group with a pb.

Evie successfully auditioned and gained a place to dance with the English Youth Ballet in a production of Cinderella in Hollywood.

She has two weeks of technique classes and rehearsals during the summer holidays and will be in three performances at the Orchard Theatre in Dartford over 18th and 19th August 2023.



## DAISY – INTERNATIONAL ATHLETICS

It's been an incredible Athletics season for the amazingly talented, Daisy Snell.

2023 has certainly been a year to remember for Daisy, with a number of new personal-bests and competition wins in the 200m Sprint and 80m Hurdles and, in her signature event, the Long Jump.

The year started with an overall win at the U17 Southern Individual Championships at the Lea Valley Stadium. A distance of 5.55m was just the benchmark distance that Daisy needed to kick-start the year. This was an illustration of what was to come, as in February, Daisy backed this up, coming third at the England Athletics Indoor Championships in Sheffield, in the U17 Long Jump Final. A distance of 5.64m, was a season's-best, representing her club, Blackheath and Bromley Harriers. Even further distances would come.

In March, Daisy participated at the Tri-Counties Championship, representing Kent. She matched her distance of 5.64m, to claim first place in the Long Jump Final, and also ran in the 60m Hurdles event, with a time of 9.02s, good enough for a second-place finish.

But as the season progressed, Daisy's performances continued to get better and better, with a relentless run of personal success. She twice ran 11.7s in the 80m Hurdles, to claim first place in both the Norman Park International and the Southern Premier YDL. This was bettered by a time of 11.44s in May, where she took yet another first-place, this time at the Kent County Championships, Bromley.

And as if her talents on the track were not enough, she has shown even greater promise in the sand. June proved to be a bumper month of personal success; Kent School's Championship – 1st place; South of England Championships – 1st place; U17 English Athletics Championships – 1st place! Incredible passion, determination, and commitment to be the best, jumping a full 10cm further across these three events – 5.73m, 5.80m and 5.83m.



But the best, by far, was still to come, as in July, Daisy travelled to Scotland, to the Grangemouth Stadium, to compete for England in the Schools International Athletics Board (SIAB). Another Long Jump event, another final, another title, and a distance in excess of 6m – a simply brilliant 6.05m.

It's been quite a season for Daisy and she'll back herself to be even better next year. Given her performances this year, who would argue against that?

## Harry – Motorsport

Harry Waterton recently exhibited two motorbikes at the BikeShed art exhibition at London's Tobacco Dock. At the age of 14, Harry has built a 1952 Triumph Tiger Cub called "Easy Tiger," and "Teenage Kicks," a 1979 Suzuki TS.

This isn't Harry's first experience at exhibiting. At just 11 years old, he built the "Lockdown Racer," a mini café racer that was also highlighted at the 2022 exhibition.

These coveted exhibition slots include only the finest masterpieces. Harry has refurbished and reimagined these bikes, skilfully bending metal and mastering a wide range of tools.

Instagram has covered the bikes, with countless channels showcasing Harry's builds, and even the renowned visionaries of motorbike design, such as Winsten Yeh from Rough Crafts, have hailed his work.



## James – Fencing

James has had an exceptional year, building competition experience and gradually ascending the rungs of difficulty within the world of Fencing. As a young fencer, James has been competing at County, Regional, National, and even a taste of international competitions, when attending the famous Wratzslavia tournament in Poland (March 2023).

This International Fencing competition is the world's biggest tournament for any fencers under the age of 15. This year's tournament saw around 3,000 fencers from over 35 countries compete. This is a fencing competition which is often the start of some incredible careers in fencing. James was one of the youngest competitors this year.

Needing to be 14 to represent Great Britain, James has spent the year travelling around the country and building his competition experience. He has been a regular feature on podiums for the British Elite Epee and he will undoubtedly be taking part in the Elite Epee Grand Final, for the second year running, later on this year.

The next couple of years will be an even greater test of resilience for James, as he looks to remain focused and injury free, in order to fulfil his national and international ambitions by representing Great Britain.

During the summer break, James has been invited to take part in two international fencing camps; the first in Toronto, under the guidance of a three-time Olympian; the second taking place in Budapest, where James will be fencing alongside the best fencers in Europe.

We look forward to seeing how James competes in the next year.



## Lois – Football

Lois has been playing for Crystal Palace Under 14s team. She has won the Junior Premier League, Surrey FA Cup and also reached the final of the National Cup losing to Arsenal 2-1 in the final. In addition Lois was also awarded a Player of the Year trophy and has just been signed for next year to play a year up for Crystal Palace in their under 16s team.



## Josh – Golf

Josh D, year 13, played his final season for Knole this year. He has been an integral part of the team and inspired so many other students to pick up a golf club and give it a go. Currently playing of a +2 handicap, Josh has a scholarship to the States and a future career as a professional ahead of him. Following 7 years of golf at Knole I asked Josh to write a few thoughts for this review.

*'During my time at Knole Academy I was very lucky to be given a chance to practice at Knole park golf club on Wednesdays after school with Mr White. It is ranked the 76th best golf course in England so you can imagine how effective it was for me to be able to practice and play there with the help of one of the pros there Andy Holland who is great at teaching beginners the game.*

*I've always loved golf since I was a little kid. I would spend hours each day trying to get better and as I got older, I started to play in competitions and play for my county.*

*I was able to win the Blackheath medal, Kent schools' championship, Race to St Georges qualifier and the junior European open qualifier where I went on to compete in Spain and finish 9th. I have also been able to have some success in team events with my county. We were able to win the league in under 14s/16s/18s and we qualified for the 6-man national final.*

*I recently have been given a scholarship to a division 1 college in South Carolina which will have a big impact on my game. The high level of competition and top-notch facilities will help elevate my skills to a new level. It will provide me with invaluable experience which will hopefully be able to prepare and get me to a level where I am good enough for professional golf.'*

We all wish Josh the very best of luck in America and look forward to hopefully seeing him play professionally in the future. I just hope he doesn't forget his old PE teacher when he qualifies for The Open Championship in years to come... I'd make a great caddy!



## Maisie – Rugby

Our brilliant Maisie has been a member of the Dartford Valley Rugby Club for the past 8 years and is now a well-established member of the U16 squad. Her team is a cluster club with the Old Colfeians, collectively known as the Crimson Roses.

Down to Maisie's hard work, commitment and love of the game, she is a well-respected teammate of the U16 Kent squad.

She has her sights firmly set on her future, though, as she will once again be looking to unlock even more of that potential, as part of the England Rugby 'Developing Player Pathway'.

With trials for Exeter College and Hartpury College just around the corner, Maisie continues in her pursuit of chasing her dreams and one day pulling on the Number 8 shirt for her country.



## Maison – Rugby

Mason has excelled throughout his rugby career to date and is currently playing for the Sevenoaks RFC U15 Gold A team for the up and coming season. Mason's team is currently running in the top division within their respected League playing against some of the best players in the south of England.

Mason also has signed a 3-year contract with the Mighty Premiership team Saracens RFC who play out of Stadium X in North West London. Mason's current position within the squads are Loose head prop and he is classed as the strongest pound for pound player in Kent. Mason's strength and determination to be the best at his sport are second to none and he has a pretty good score card for the teams to go with it. His undisputed strength within the scrums overpowers his opposition on every instant along with his skill of reading the game and extreme power on the field suppressing his opposition.



Be sure to watch your screens in a few years' time for a future England Rugby star!.



## Mia – Discus

Mia's determination and commitment to discus, as seen her achieve a number of personal best distances, this season. It's been an impressive campaign; 2nd in the Kent County School Championship, this year held in Gillingham, throwing a distance of 26.31m. An incredible distance in itself, notwithstanding that Mia is throwing against athletes a year older than herself.



Against Year 8 throwers, Mia currently stands Number 4 in the British League table, which is something to be proud of. No doubt she will continue to make even further progress in the new season.



## Phoebe – Football

One of the year's success stories came through Phoebe's footballing prowess.

In representing Knole Academy playing for West Kent District, she played a key role in West Kent's triumph in the Kent Schools District league and cup. They then proceeded to make it through to the national finals where they took on Liverpool at Stoke City's bet365 Stadium, where they unfortunately succumbed to a 1-0 defeat, but it is nevertheless quite the achievement to be able to call themselves the second best district team in the country.

Phoebe has also seen great success playing for her club side, Petts Wood FC.

Playing in the Junior Premier League, she once again won both the league and cup competitions, beating the likes of Arsenal, Watford, Crystal Palace and Queens Park Rangers along the way.

To add to this, Petts Wood won 5 tournaments this season, all of which were played at the year group above their age group, with Phoebe once again playing a vital role in the success of her side.

Phoebe's footballing achievements have been plain to see this year, and we once again wish her luck as she will be playing in the national finals, where the winners of each league go head-to-head.





### Ruby – Swimming

Ruby in Year 9 has had a truly fantastic season in the pool. Qualifying for the Kent Swimming Championships in February, Ruby demonstrated her incredible potential, becoming the U15 Kent Champion in the 200m Butterfly and 400m Individual Medley events...at just 14.

If that wasn't enough, Ruby then went on to qualify for the South-East regional finals, winning her individual event and bagging a personal best along the way.

She doesn't just keep her active lifestyle to the water, as she gave back some of her time to the local community, completing the 8 mile Hospice in the Weald 'Moonlight Walk'.

Ruby is looking forward to gaining some new personal bests in the pool next season.

### Scarlett – Dressage

Scarlett competed at the British Riding Club Junior Intro Dressage Championship qualifiers at Cobham Manor on 11 June 2023 representing Chislehurst & Rushmore Equestrian Club.

The Junior team finished second and she finished second so will be competing at the Championships on 01 October 2023 at Leighton Buzzard



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WELL DONE TO ALL OUR SPORTING STARS!

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