

PREPARE | ASPIRE | SUCCEED  
EDITION 1



*February 2022*



# Developing *Learning Habits* to succeed

Welcome to the first edition of our new **Prepare, Aspire, Succeed** newsletter.

We are hoping this complements the many great things you see and hear about The Cottesloe School from our website and social media platforms. The aim of the publication is to take a more in-depth look at what we do and why we do it with a particular focus on how it impacts our students.

This first edition coincides with the recent release of our latest Ofsted Inspection report. The report reflects the progress the school has made since our last inspection and my first as Headteacher. The Cottesloe School remains a Good school. The inspection was a great opportunity to put our vision to the test and to see if it had stood up under the pressures generated by the Covid pandemic. Clearly it has and the school continues to grow and improve.

The last few years have been extremely challenging and we have held firmly onto our philosophy that 'The Cottesloe Journey' will ensure our students will be able to confidently take their next steps despite the uncertainty that we have faced. The Ofsted Inspectors were extremely complimentary about the school and the report really captures the essence of the **warmth, caring and nurturing feel of our school.**

In recent times we have all learned to work in different ways, especially embracing technology. Our Chromebooks for Learning strategy enables staff, students and parents to work at school and home seamlessly. This is great preparation for the future as for many of us work is now about 'what we do' and not 'where we go'. Ofsted praised us highly for how we are preparing our students for the real world.

Through recent times we have relied more than ever on building Healthy Relationships with each other. During periods of national lockdown, the school has remained open to many students and families, whilst simultaneously reaching out to support those who need support with not only their learning but also their emotional wellbeing. TEAM Hub and our Sixth Form Wellbeing Ambassadors are an integral part of this strategy. Students have had to embrace new ways of learning that have relied more than ever on them taking responsibility and embracing the new opportunities the online world has provided us.

Our reliance on creating good learning habits through our 6Cs has also been invaluable. Staff and students have faced many challenges and have adapted to learning and collaborating in new ways. This has both been demanding and exciting.

The aspirations of our students are grounded by developing these key qualities and learning habits set out by our Healthy Relationships and 6C mantras. Our school is incredibly stable; very few students leave us and those that join us remain with us and are supported to their onward destination. Increasingly, many students stay on in our successful Sixth Form, university and apprenticeships are the main focus of support and guidance as they reach the end of their journey with us. We are very proud of the fact that exams being cancelled has not impacted our students and they have been supported in taking their next steps in education, training or employment.

In our opinion, the stability of the school and reaching these destinations are real markers of success. This is of course backed by examination results and Ofsted commented that our students are well taught and supported, and consequently achieve well. Our aim is to prepare our students so that they make the most of the opportunities they are given and become the best versions of themselves that they can be.

We are extremely proud of our school, what we have achieved and are driven to improve the opportunities we create for our students so they can thrive and become happy, healthy and successful young adults.



Prepare | Aspire | Succeed



Mr. Curtis  
Outdoor Education  
Coordinator



CHECK OUT THIS  
ISSUE'S ARTICLES:

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Cottesloe Green  
Project

## DUKE OF EDINBURGH Mr Curtis

As we move forward and back to normality the Duke of Edinburgh inspired another generation with 73 participants (our largest cohort) enrolling on the course, in the passing of his death. With a further **50 signed up** this year the award continues to thrive here at The Cottesloe School, so thank you for all your help in taking the time to encourage students to 'give it a go' and talk through the many benefits of participation.

This year is also particularly exciting with our **first cohort of GOLD, 24 participants** in Year 12 preparing for their practice expedition at the end of July. A real commitment to self improvement and personal development for 12 to 18 months!

I must finish by openly thanking Mr. 'El Perkin' Perkins and Mrs. 'fire-eater' Hegerty for their commitment and drive in supporting the award and expedition programme. Always having a 'Firestarter' and 'cake baker' on your team is a real asset out in the field!

I am of course always looking to expand the DofE team. You can help in many ways both on expeditions and in school. **If you are interested, please come and speak to one of the three of us.**





## Year 9 Bronze



Over the course of the pandemic, we still managed to get a Bronze and Silver expedition completed, albeit with COVID restrictions in place. Our **Year 9 Bronze** participants were forced to undertake 'day only' expeditions in the Chiltern Hills and Woburn areas, all passing with distinction.

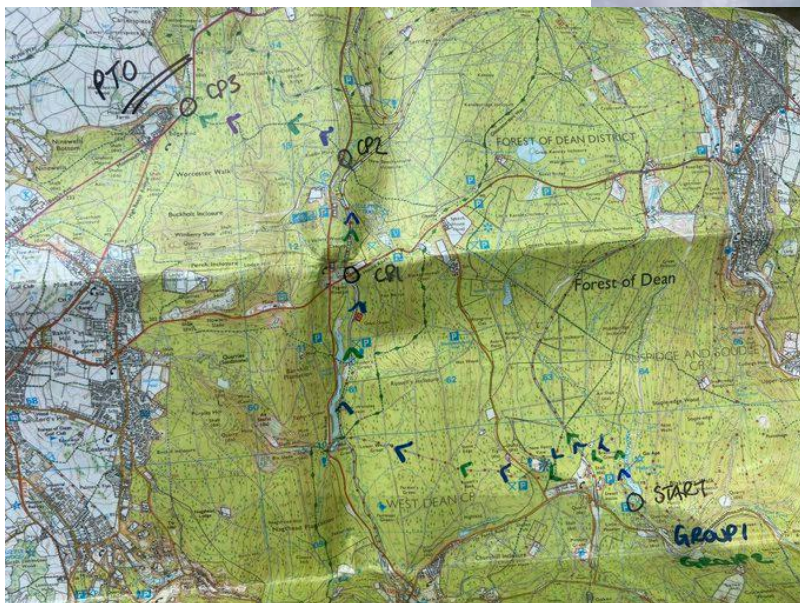


# Year 10 Silver



Our Year 10 Silver participants were slightly luckier, practicing under restrictions in the Chiltern Hills but getting off the grid in the Forest of Dean for 3 days of blissful isolation! Well, that was the first day, who knew that part of the country has a monsoon season! We even managed to squeeze around an iPad and catch England's European semi-final.

All our participants have been fantastic at overcoming adversity in order to complete their Physical, Skill and Volunteering sections under a variety of social-distancing conditions.





**OUTWARD BOUND  
INTERNATIONAL**

## World Challenge 2023

And just when you thought we could not do more, we did! Another exciting wider learning opportunity sees 24 students travelling to work on an animal sanctuary in Malawi in July 2023. The students have already been undertaking some fantastic fundraising activities in and out of school. Again I look forward to updating you all in the future.



## The Outward Bound

It has also been my privilege to work with the Outward Bound charity and a local corporate sponsor to put together a package for a small targeted group of students in Year 10 in May. We look forward to revisiting these pages in a few months to provide you all with an update!

# 2023

## Developments

I was fortunate enough, like some of you to meet up with the Ascott House Estate manager and the House manager. It was a fascinating trip and we are in the process of planning the use of the Estate in a number of practical ways.





# CHARACTER

## Mr Wilson

**Assistant Head - Character**

CHECK OUT THIS ISSUE'S ARTICLES:  
Art Studio@TheCottesloeSchool

The Cottesloe character is crucial. The skills that employers indicate are most desirable are also tied to the character development that we have designed. We deliberately chose skills that were transferable across subject areas in order to educate the whole child. We combine both academic knowledge and wider life skills into our curriculum. This is why we have the 6Cs at The Cottesloe School. We want students to be critical, creative, collaborative and to be able to coach one another. Teachers will design opportunities in lessons to explore and showcase these skills as they will prepare students for their future academic and personal success. When we commission an external agency to work in the school we ask them to develop explicit links to the 6Cs so that everything is integrated.

RESPECT	OTHERS	
EQUALITY		
EMPATHY		
OPPORTUNITY	COMMUNITY	
DEMOCRACY		
TOLERANCE		
EXCELLENCE	SELF	
HONESTY		
RESPONSIBILITY		



We have been running the Action4Youth Inspiration Programme at The Cottesloe School for 2 years now.

The Inspiration Programme is designed to broaden the horizons, thinking and experience of young people, to make them aware of how our society works and help them understand what their place in it is and can be. The one-year Inspiration Programme provides direct experiences and real interactions with motivational individuals and organisations.

The aim of the programme is to equip students from Years 10 to 13, with the relevant skills needed to become work-ready.

It is being delivered in schools and colleges across Buckinghamshire and surrounding counties with students in year groups, from year 9 to year 13.

Every young person not just the privileged, deserves enrichment opportunities outside the classroom. The Inspiration Programme is an exceptional body which gives young people the opportunity to learn more about themselves and society at large. It inspires their development as confident, interested young people ready to face the opportunities and challenges of adult life. I commend it most warmly.



The programme helps students boost their CV and personal statement by providing hands-on, practical experience with real-world organisations. Throughout the year, students will learn about different elements of society including work life, arts and culture, police and criminal justice, community and environment as well as personal health and wellbeing. It is placed in Year 8 to help students with their future choices.

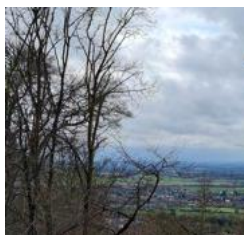
The programme prepares students for life after school, developing lifelong skills and confident individuals who understand their place in society and the career options available to them. There are trips and visits to support each module as well as the use of expert guest speakers. It supports the school's healthy relationships ethos, careers programme and PSHCE offers and focuses on:

- local and national employers
- key skills for the workforce
- challenges inspire and motivate you through practical experience with real employers
- real-life experiences relating to society and your community
- learning about the career options available to you
- building a sense of belonging by understanding how you can contribute to society
- an immersive and hands-on programme that supports you in building the skills needed for lifelong success

**"Every young person not just the privileged, deserves enrichment opportunities outside the classroom."**

Brave and intrepid our Year 8 Action 4 Youth group went on an adventurous trip to Wendover Woods this week. In search of the legendary Gruffalo, they navigated their way through the undergrowth to see if they could spot the beast.

Along the way, they embraced the fresh air and took in the sights, learning about the work of Forestry England. Coming across a felled tree their Maths skills came in handy to work out the age by counting the concentric light and dark rings and dividing by 2.



## Wendover Woods Trip 14 February

After a long muddy trek the students were met with an 8ft carved wooden sculpture of the Gruffalo- a children's classic tale by Julia Donaldson and illustrator Axel Scheffler. Maybe, we can go on a Bear Hunt next time!

Our thanks to Tracey at Action 4 Youth, staff at Forestry England, our coach driver, Mrs Hulland and Mr Wilson for leading the trip.

From your roving reporter Mrs Swabey.



# Charities we are supporting in 2022

The Cottesloe School staff, students and parents have a long tradition of supporting charitable causes. Every year we raise hundreds of pounds for charity, either collectively or by individual generosity. Here is a selection of the charities we have supported last year and what we are planning for 2022. We support international, national and local charities over the academic year

The school's strategy is to regularly support charities that we have long standing relationships with, as they have close personal links to our school community.



## Future Pillars Zambia



We wanted to work with an International Charity and have a long-lasting relationship with that charity, to develop close ties so that we could directly see the impact of our support. We wanted to be able to improve the life chances of young people.

[futurepillarszambia.org.uk](http://futurepillarszambia.org.uk)



This year will see The Cottesloe School supporting an orphanage in Zambia. We are hoping to collect school shoes and equipment and begin a long-standing relationship with Future Pillars Zambia. This is an exciting opportunity for our school community. We will be able to get students to engage in what it means to be a global citizen as well as raise funds for the orphanage. Planned projects might include:

- The Trading Game
- Publishing a book
- Charity week

# MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

**WE RAISED**

£233

## Macmillan Cancer

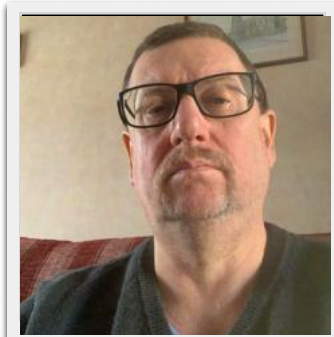
The Macmillan Coffee morning is a national event. We have always participated in this event. However, when the local fundraiser asked if we could publicise her events and 'Wear it Green' in school, we were more than happy to help. 1 in 2 people may be affected by cancer and we have staff, students and families affected by this disease. To regularly contribute to such a worthwhile charity and to raise both money and awareness of their work is vital.

## Movember

In November, a few of our male staff took part in no shave Movember. Movember is an annual event involving the growing of moustaches during the month of November to raise awareness of men's health issues, such as prostate cancer, testicular cancer, and men's suicide. The Movember Foundation runs the Movember charity event

**WE RAISED**

£487.22



**WE RAISED**

£267

# BREAST CANCER NOW

The research  
& care charity



## Carryon4Katy

We are proud of the generosity of our staff, students and community. The total we raised for Carry on 4 Katy was £475.56, from sweet sale, badge sales and school donations from staff, students and parents. Thank you to everyone for your donations to this local charity, close to many hearts.

We chose this charity as it has a personal connection for many of our girls who play football. It was their idea to support the charity and we hope to sustain a long-lasting relationship with them.

## The Poppy Appeal

We have always supported The Poppy Appeal. As an academic community, we teach our students about historical events and the impact of those events on the lives of others. We attend the local Remembrance Day service to honour and pay our respects to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedoms. The Poppy Appeal is a national charity that does such wonderful work helping those in the armed forces and their families that we feel it is vital to support this cause every year.

**WE RAISED**

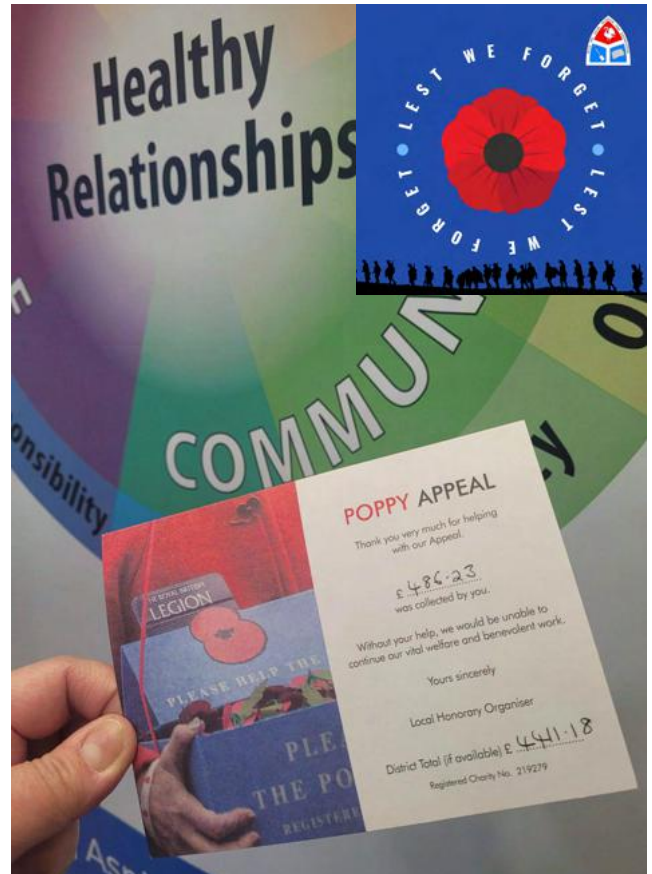
£486.23

THE ROYAL BRITISH  
LEGION



**WE RAISED**

£475.56



# KidsOut Giving Tree

KidsOut is a local charity that supports every child who is a victim of domestic abuse living in a refuge.

During the COVID crisis, KidsOut has been providing food vouchers, toy boxes, technology for education and memorable events for the families who may have faced physical and emotional abuse.



Get involved at [www.kidsout.org.uk](http://www.kidsout.org.uk)

In the Autumn 2 term, we supported the Giving Tree. We donated Christmas presents to children of all ages so that they can enjoy a special Christmas. Over 300 presents were donated by the school.

We were so proud to work with KidsOut again last year.



"Wow is this for me as well" Boy aged 7

"WOW This is the best Christmas EVER!"  
Boy aged 8

"I am so happy I really wanted a football" Girl aged 5

"I love my cuddly, hes my fave" Boy Aged 3

"Thanks so much we can play as a family and enjoy the time together" A Mum

"This is just cracker" Boy aged 8

"Unfortunately, the children that are in the refuge do not come with toys when fleeing domestic abuse. The toy boxes are a start for the children for the toys they will not see again that were left at home. Mums do get emotional when the toy boxes are given as the children are so happy and thrilled to see new toys given. One child missed her cuddly toy, the toy that was in the box was gratefully received and comforts her at night time" A Support Worker



"This was such an amazing surprise at this time of year, eased my worries so much and I then knew my children would have a better Christmas during these difficult times." A Mum

"Thank you we are so happy with our gifts" Girl Aged 12



# A letter of thanks from the CEO

On behalf of us all at KidsOut, I want to say thank you for the extremely generous donations you all made towards our 2021 Giving Tree Appeal.

All the wonderful gifts we received enabled KidsOut to provide every child living in a staffed refuge with a Christmas Toy Box. It also allowed KidsOut to provide over 20000 toys to children finding refuge in a safe house over the Christmas period. When families arrive at refuge, they have few possessions and very little or no money. Add to that the Christmas period where mothers want to make the time special for their children, it compounds an already extremely tough time for families in refuge, both emotionally and financially. Many mothers struggle to provide the essentials, let alone presents for their children. Your gifts will support children who have experienced significant trauma and fled to the safety of refuge or safe house, often with only the clothes on their back.

The toy boxes are designed to promote social and educational development and family bonding. We want children to remember their time in refuge with the fun and happiness they experienced playing with their siblings and mother. Feedback from previous Christmas Toy Box Appeals recorded:

- Improved family bonding & social development – 100% of respondents said their family were playing better together
- Increased levels of happiness – 100% of respondents said their children were noticeably happier
- New positive memories – 100% of respondents said their children received something to treasure and a happy memory to look back on
- Reduced stress & anxiety – 95% of respondents said their children were kept occupied and had positive distractions from any worries
- Educational development – 89% of respondents said their children were learning new things

Please forward this to all your staff and make them aware of the difference they have made in the lives of some of the most disadvantaged children in the UK at Christmas.

Thank you – your support genuinely makes a real difference.

Gordon Moulds CBE DL

KidsOut CEO



Get involved at [www.kidsout.org.uk](http://www.kidsout.org.uk)



## Food Bank

On a more local note, we have gathered together food for the Milton Keynes and Wing foodbanks. 29 bags of food were donated and this will make a huge difference to those in the local community who may be struggling. We have always supported the food bank because it helps those who need support in the communities we serve.

**"Mrs Gregory, our contact with the Church food bank has also sent her thanks; "A huge thank you - we have the Foodbank from Leighton Buzzard collecting some boxes tomorrow- your fab donation will help so many families this year xx"**



**Save the Children**

This picture shows only half of what we collected!



## Christmas Jumper Day

We also supported Save The Children on the annual Christmas Jumper Day. It was amazing to see so many students and staff in their jumpers as the school felt so festive. However, the message of why we support this charity was not lost. We helped them to understand where their donations go. £5 could buy a child in Rwanda a book in their own language. £50 could provide a family in Yemen enough food for a month. We were proud to raise a significant sum for Save the Children.

**WE RAISED**

£687.52



# Art Studio@Cottesloe





**Mr Davidson**

Cottesloe Green Project Lead

The Cottesloe  
*Green* Project

Prepare | Aspire | Succeed 

## What is The Cottesloe Green Project?

The Cottesloe Green Project puts young people at the heart of delivering environmental action in their schools and wider communities. The student-centric approach empowers students to lead the planning, evaluation and implementation of environmental actions in our school. The main goal for this year is applying for the internationally recognised 'Green Flag' status from the Eco-Schools group. This is achieved by following 7-steps, ranging from forming a committee all the way to delivering change that has a positive impact on the environment.

The Cottesloe Green Project currently consists of students from Years 8, 9 and 10.

## #PROTECTYOURFUTURE **Future plans**



The committee will be looking to carry out an environmental review, where they will analyse where the school could have a positive environmental impact then conduct surveys of students and staff to broaden their information. Ideas already being discussed include an application for mixed-recycling bins across the site, litter picking days, recycled art and further reduction of single-use plastics.



## Get Involved

We are looking for dedicated students who are willing to give up their free time in return for the experience of working on projects that will leave a lasting impression on the school and the wider community. If you think you are interested, please come and see Mr Davidson in the science department, or email: [idaavidson@cottesloe.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:idaavidson@cottesloe.bucks.sch.uk) to register your interest

If any parents/carers have any suggestions or ways that they can help the school, please get in touch!



BE THE CHANGE  
YOU WANT TO SEE

"I wanted to get involved with The Cottesloe Eco Committee to help the school become a nicer place to be in. Before the school started to invest into becoming an Eco School there was a lot of paper going to waste across the school, as well as a lot of litter all around. Seeing all of this daily and it getting progressively worse, I wanted to do something to help and change the school environment. One of my personal aims of being part of the school's eco committee is to help the environment and to help the school to become a nicer place to be for everyone by reducing litter and hopefully getting more varied bins (recycling, paper and general rubbish).

*Rhylee Goosey - Year 10*

# Year 9 Presentations

The science department revised its curriculum to include a 7 week 'green project' which initially focussed on wider environmental issues before giving students the opportunity to work in groups and create their own green school proposal. Students presented their ideas to each other in class, with ideas such as; solar panels with costings, animal-proof recycling bins, reusable bottles with drinks dispensers and ways to increase biodiversity on the school grounds. The level of maturity and professionalism demonstrated by all students was very promising and truly displayed the fundamental core values of The Cottesloe School students.

***This is where the solar panels will go:***



These are the placements that will work best.

In conclusion we hope to carry this out and become a more eco-friendly school.

Source: <https://www.google.com/maps/place/The+Cottesloe+School/@51.892568,-0.7236025,17z/data=!3m1!1e4!1m5!1m4!1s0x487657adcb1fbb660c36229eb5c7b1c1:1e18m213d51.8925681d4-0.7214178>

Source: <https://www.redbubble.com/postcard/Simple-Compass-by-Lil-Sal/225277147PM>

What do they look like?



They usually look just like any other bin but might have something inside to stop squirrels or other animals from getting inside.

This might be a mirror, or a mesh screen in the lid.

A wildflower meadow will help many species such as:

- Bees
- Birds
- Hedgehogs
- Bats
- Butterflies
- Moths







The Cottesloe Green Project  
planting the Cherry Tree

## Wild Cherry Tree Planted

"The Queen will be celebrating her Platinum Jubilee on the Thursday 2 June 2022. This occasion marks 70 years on the throne and offers up exciting opportunities for the residents of Buckinghamshire to celebrate both the extended bank holiday (2 to 5 June 2022) and in the run up to it.

We are working towards a number of projects that will enable the community to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee and provide a legacy for future generations.

In particular, we are supporting The Queen's Green Canopy (QGC). The Queen's Green Canopy is a unique tree planting initiative created to mark the occasion which invites people from across the United Kingdom to "Plant a Tree for the Jubilee".

[Buckinghamshire Council](#)

CHECK OUT THIS  
ISSUE'S ARTICLES:

**Anti-Bullying  
Ambassadors**





# Gardening Club

**MONDAYS | 3:15PM TO 4:15PM**

We will be continuing with The Wellbeing garden and the veggie plot near TEAM Hub.

- If you have green fingers
- want a career in Horticulture
- fancy getting creative and some fresh air.

**JOIN US AT ONE OF OUR SESSIONS!**

If you are interested, just turn up or see Mrs Hammons in B11 at break for more information.







## Our new 2021/22 Years 12 and 13 Wellbeing Ambassadors



# WELLBEING AMBASSADORS

## Mrs Brimmell

### Wellbeing Officer

We know that the first conversation that a young person has about their wellbeing and mental health is the **most vital**. We also know that for some young people talking to a peer is more comfortable than approaching an adult. The Mind UK Peer Mentor scheme provides an opportunity for our young people to talk to a specially trained Sixth Former. At The Cottesloe School we refer to these students as Wellbeing Ambassadors.

Our Wellbeing Ambassadors are 24 dedicated Sixth Form students who are central to the delivery of the Peer Mentor scheme in Team Hub.

The Cottesloe School have been partnered with Mind UK for 3 years, to deliver student centred Wellbeing Ambassador support in Team Hub every break time.





Having Covid didn't stop one of our Ambassadors Training



MIND UK came in to deliver the training in school

1. Someone who has been to a concert	2. Someone who can play an instrument	3. Someone with brown eyes
4. Someone who has a pet	5. Someone who is wearing glasses or a watch	6. Someone who has brown hair
7. Someone who knows a tiktok dance	8. Someone who likes zombies	9. Someone who has a skill

Team Hub is a purpose built support centre with three members of staff working full time. From here Mrs Brimmell co-ordinates the Wellbeing Ambassadors and drop-in support is available every break time.

In Year 12 students get the opportunity to apply for the Wellbeing Ambassador role. After a selection process the successful candidates attend extensive training including Safeguarding, confidentiality, mental health awareness and support techniques. Students apply for this role for a variety of reasons, some have personal experience of support, some want to follow a career path in the field of mental health or study psychology at University.

All of them want to give back to their school community by giving up their free time to help others.

In December alone 42 students were supported by one to one conversations with our Wellbeing Ambassadors.

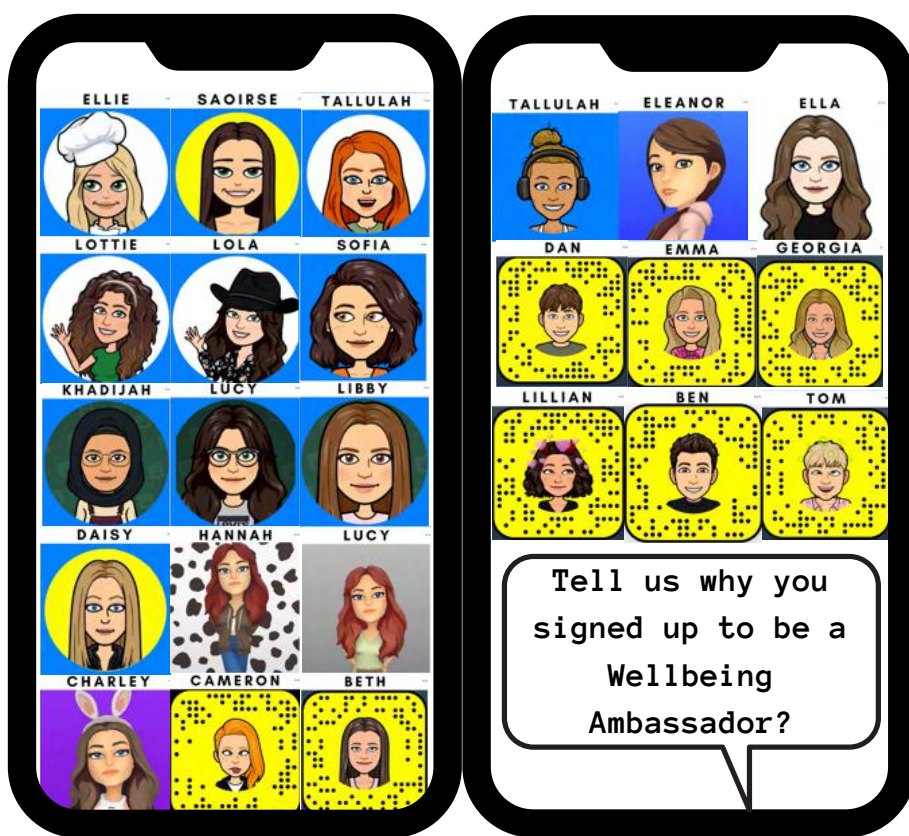
### Quote from one of the Ambassadors

"The goal of a Wellbeing Ambassador is to aid, support and be an impartial voice for whoever needs somebody to talk to, whether it is about exam stress or personal issues or anything that you are struggling with. We are always here for you to approach with any issues or concerns you may have"



Each Wellbeing Ambassador has their own Bitmoji and a bio on areas in which they can help. This is displayed in the corridor and in TEAM HUB for students to chose who they want help from.





"I just want to be there for people who need it, when they need it"

"I chose to be a Wellbeing Ambassador because I feel really passionate that having good wellbeing, is the key to thrive and feel comfortable in school"

"Being kind to others costs you nothing. Being kind, showing empathy and listening to someone at a time when they really need it is a privilege"

"I want to help people feel like themselves and seeing people reaching their potential is so rewarding!"

I signed up to be a Wellbeing Ambassador because I love to see the wonderful change from shy, struggling individuals, to happy and excited ones. In turn this change also makes me happy, and it's amazing to see how the individual grows and comes out of their shell, overcoming problems along the way. It makes my day to see that I have been able to help someone and wish that more people will want to do the same".

"I became a Wellbeing Ambassador because I know what it feels like to be alone and entering an entirely new school environment. I want to be a person others can rely on and talk to throughout their journey through school."

Why do you like having a Wellbeing Ambassador?  
Do you think it has helped you? Why?

Having a Wellbeing Ambassador makes me feel safe so I can tell them anything about me.

I love having a wellbeing ambassador and it has really helped me a lot , we have a lot in common which meant that we always had something to talk about, whether it was my emotions, and how I had been feeling and how my week was going or whether I had had a good week and we would be talking about things like Harry Potter, musicals. And I think that has really helped me come out of my shell and be more positive/ happier since year 7!

I like having a Wellbeing Ambassador because they make me feel like I have friends and someone to just talk about life"





## Anti-Bullying Ambassadors Mrs Moore

Transition and Primary Partnership Coordinator

Anti-Bullying Ambassadors are a scheme which is run by The Diana Award. The students will also be taking part in additional training with them next month. Students have also recently completed a United Against Bullying survey. This is run by the Anti-Bullying Alliance and gives a useful insight into student opinions about anti-bullying and wellbeing in the school. We will be using this information and working with the Anti-Bullying Ambassadors to build on our existing anti-bullying strategies over the coming months.

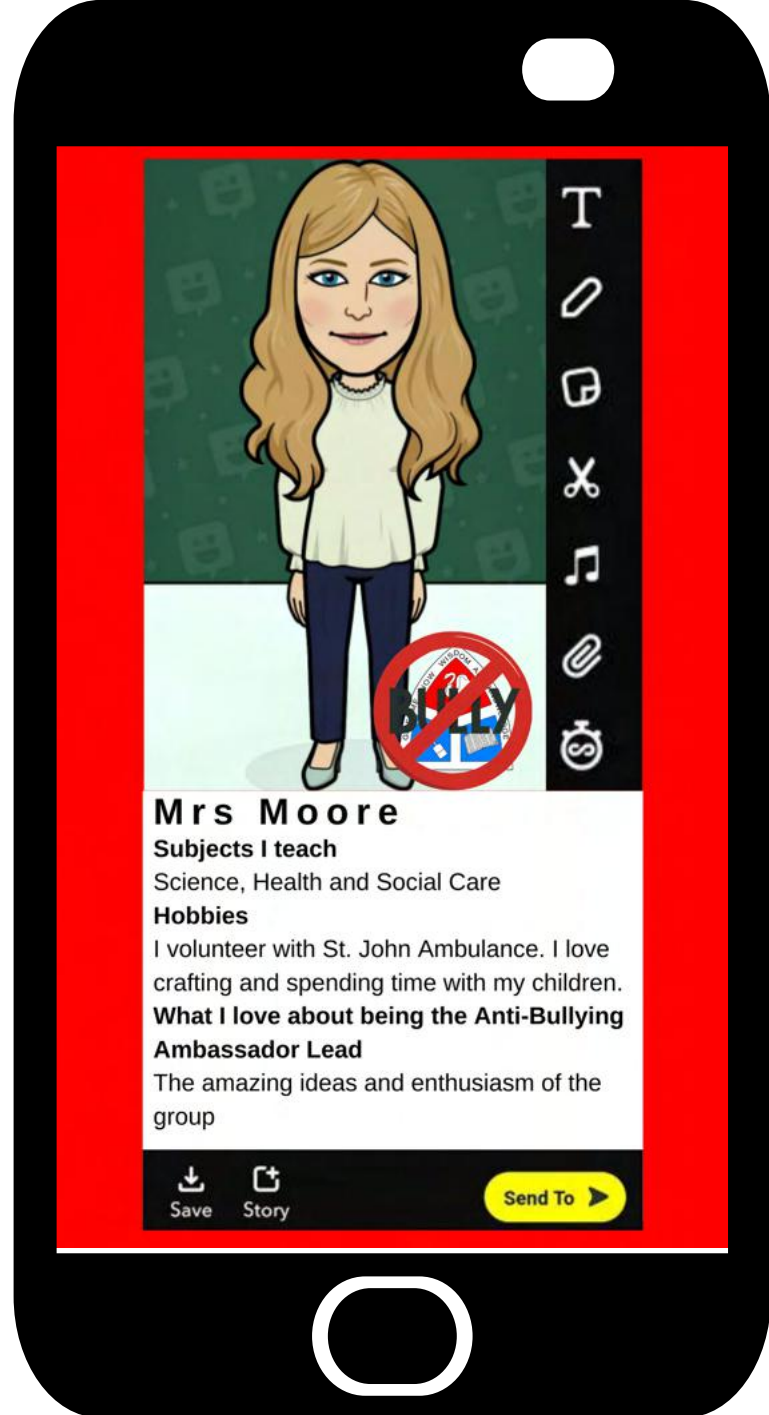
During the Autumn term we recruited and trained a team of Anti-Bullying Ambassadors. The team is made up of thirteen students from Years 7 to 10, who have undergone in school training covering areas such as how to support someone who is being bullied, how to report concerns and anti-bullying strategies.

As a reminder, there are several methods of reporting bullying concerns:

- Via the 'Share It' button on the school website
- Via your child's form tutor
- By emailing the school office ([office@cottesloe.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:office@cottesloe.bucks.sch.uk)) who can pass concerns onto the relevant member of staff
- Students are also able to report bullying to any member of staff
- Team Hub
- An Anti-Bullying Ambassador
- Using the Share It tab
- Via the library reporting box.

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**The team is made up of thirteen students from Years 7 to 10, who have undergone in school training covering areas such as how to support someone who is being bullied**



We will be launching display boards around the school with Bitmoji Profiles of the Anti-Bullying Ambassadors, so students know who and where they can go when they need help.

## Why I wanted to become an Anti-Bullying Ambassador

“ I wanted to become an ambassador as I have dealt with bullying in the past and wanted to be able to help people that are going through the same situation that I did. I can help reassure them that we will get through this together and everything will be okay! ”

“ I believe that no one should be bullied and that we should (as a school) do everything in our power to stop people from being bullied. I became an ambassador because even though there will always be bullying in the world, if we all do our bit then we will become one step closer to stopping bullying. ”





## Mr Youngs

### Assistant Head | Sixth Form

The Sixth Form has been as busy as ever. Year 12 have had their first visit to a university when they got the opportunity to have a look around Loughborough and receive dedicated lectures on why they might choose higher education and how they can best prepare themselves for the process next year. We were also able to resume our visit to Somerville College Oxford who also provided face to face interview preparation for our Oxbridge applicants.

There has also been a series of presentations on Higher Education and the opportunities that the new Higher and degree apprenticeships provide. Students are starting to

consider future career paths and there will be a big push for students to tie this into Work experience. In March students will also be visiting the Bucks Career Show, National Apprenticeship show and UK Higher Education Expo providing exposure to over 30 employers and universities.

Mr Curtis has reintroduced the Duke of Edinburgh Gold award for sixth formers and they have already done a great deal to qualify for their award next year.

A special mention should go to all of those in Year 12 and 13 who have helped support the 'Accelerated Reader Scheme' which has been such an enormous success and got a special mention from Ofsted during their recent inspection.



The UCAS deadline, which was extended this year, came and went with the usual deluge of applications from our Year 13s. Unfortunately, none of our Oxbridge applicants were successful this year but I feel sure that the experience of both the preparation process and the interviews will stand them in good stead. In total, 73 students applied this year with an additional three students from last year's leavers applying. Nearly 70% of the applications include Russell Group universities which indicates the exceptional performance of this cohort.



## Safe Drive, Stay Alive

The 'safe drive stay alive' programme returns this year after a break during Covid albeit in a virtual form. A presentation from representatives from all of the emergency services provides an eye opening and extremely harrowing real life experience managing road traffic accidents involving young people like them. It is one of the most important and one of the most memorable events of year 12 and it is impossible to unstate the importance of it in keeping our young people safe be they drivers or passengers in a car.

This event is followed up by a presentation to year 13 by the Buckinghamshire Fire Service to remind students of the key messages and reinforce the responsibility they have now so many of them are driving.



Students have also had a programme of interactive sessions discussing issues surrounding healthy relationships and a presentation from Thames Valley Police about personal safety.

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## Examinations

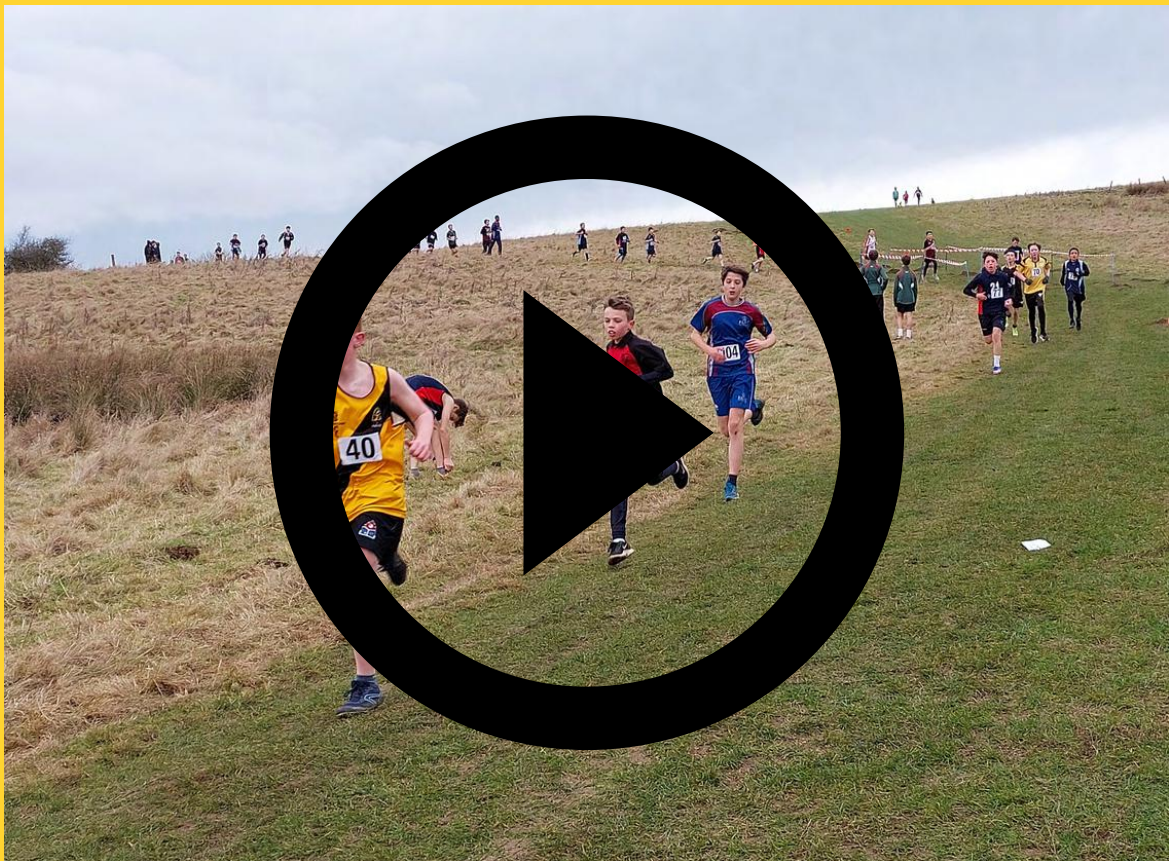
We are now in the midst of mock exams and in no time at all we will be preparing for final A-Level exams for the first time in two years.

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# BUCKS SCHOOLS CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP

2 February 2022



Prepare | Aspire | Succeed



<b>Sophie T</b>	<b>Will</b>
<b>Olive</b>	<b>Josh</b>
<b>Bella</b>	<b>Digby</b>
<b>Amalie</b>	<b>Daniel</b>
<b>Evie</b>	<b>Mason</b>
<b>Megan</b>	<b>Samual</b>
<b>Evie</b>	<b>Finlay</b>
<b>Grace</b>	<b>Tristan</b>
<b>Sinead</b>	<b>Chase</b>
<b>Chloe</b>	<b>Riley</b>
<b>Jacob</b>	<b>Sophie F</b>
<b>Cameron</b>	<b>Barney</b>

**WELL DONE EACH  
AND EVERY ONE  
OF YOU!**



We hope you enjoyed the Prepare,  
Aspire, Succeed Newsletter!

We welcome all feedback and any articles you  
would like us to include next time.

Email [agunn@cottesloe.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:agunn@cottesloe.bucks.sch.uk)



*Happy Half-Term  
Stay Safe and Well!*

*From all of us at  
The Cottesloe School*