I hope you have settled into the new academic year, particularly if you are new to the School as I am along with my wife Michèle. We have enjoyed our start at Christ’s Hospital immensely and in particular having the opportunity of meeting and getting to know many of you. Events such as the annual Founder’s Day dinner, the School Concert and the Christmas Fete have provided wonderful occasions for us to connect with the wider CH community.

I have been working to create a clear and positive direction for CH to ensure we remain both true to our charitable mission and a pioneer of social mobility. We have a commitment to our pupils to prepare them with the skills and values they need for life ahead and provide them with a compassionate and sympathetic environment whilst at CH.

The lead up to the end of term has been a busy time for staff and pupils culminating with an unforgettable Carol Service in Chapel, the senior school production of The Crucible and the Big Band Concert – huge congratulations to all the pupils and staff.

I would like to wish you and your families a restful break and best wishes for 2018.

Simon Reid

STOP PRESS...

Christ’s Hospital is delighted to host two high profile competitions in the Lent term:

Top of the Bench linked to the Royal Society of Chemistry on 18 January and the Spanish National Debating Competition on 31 January.

We wish our teams the best of luck!
Covered an Impressive Spectrum of Topics

Dr Tessa Stone spoke to senior pupils about the challenge of social mobility in the 21st century. Dr Stone is Chair of the Bridge Visiting Speakers national charity that supports the progress of young people from less advantaged backgrounds. She gave an insightful and eye-opening talk which clearly resonated with the pupils, given the educational opportunity they enjoy at CH.

Commenting on her visit to CH, Dr Stone said: “It was a particular pleasure to be able to discuss this issue at CH, one of our most venerable centres of educational social mobility. The students’ questions showed an admirable wish to grapple with this most persistent and tricky of challenges, not least the thorny question of how and indeed whether the example of their own school can in any way be replicated to increase their own impact. Their generation will have a crucial role to play if we are to achieve a society which can really reap the benefits of social mobility.”

Lord Falconer, who was the Lord Chancellor in Tony Blair’s government, talked about ‘The Blair Years: An Insider’s View’. Sophia Dixon-Cave, Grecian (Year 13), said: “Lord Falconer gave an insightful speech into the political situation at the time of Tony Blair’s success and more recent events too, comparing Mr Blair’s Labour with current parties and providing a fresh outlook on foreign affairs. It was a most enlightening talk.”

Speakers from the world of art included Peter Kennard, Royal College of Art. Paul Deller, Head of Art said: “It was a privilege to host the artist Peter Kennard who spoke to our senior pupils about his work and career. He has proven to be an important and influential British artist since the 1970’s who has used the cut-and-paste method of photo montage to create unashamedly hard hitting imagery with a conscience, often highlighting injustices and deriding political figures. He is best known for his artwork for the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament in the 1980s as well as, in collaboration with artist Cath Phillips, their iconic image of Tony Blair called ‘Photo Op’. He spoke with passion about his work and the causes that have prompted his art and he has hopefully made our students think harder why they make art and what they are communicating.”

CH also welcomed The Tate’s Judith Nesbitt, who gave an insight into the art of curation, Sophie Clements, judge of this year’s Tony Ray-Jones Photo Competition and Simon Periton, host the artist Peter Kennard who spoke to our senior pupils’ questions show an admirable wish to grapple with this most persistent and tricky of challenges, not least the thorny question of how and indeed whether the example of their own school can in any way be replicated to increase their own impact. Their generation will have a crucial role to play if we are to achieve a society which can really reap the benefits of social mobility.”

Visiting Speakers

Remembrance Sunday

On 12 November, the CH community attended a special service to commemorate those lost in war and in particular almost 600 Old Blues named on our war memorials.

During the service we heard the words of Jesus: ‘Blessed are the peacemakers’ and the hopeful vision of the prophet Micah: ‘They will beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore’.

Following the Chapel service there was a moving ceremony in the Quadrangle. Wreaths were laid by the Senior Cadet, Senior Grecian and Second Monitor. The silence was palpable and after the final blessing the pupils placed their poppies in the ground as is our custom.

An Exciting Year Ahead

This year’s recipient of the Doherty Singing Prize at CH is Bethany Tennant, 17. Bethany joined CH in Deps (Year 12) and is a keen musician. She plays the organ and the piano and although not having had the benefit of singing lessons, she decided to audit for Schola Cantorum – CH’s senior chamber choir – and was accepted. Since then, her commitment to rehearsals has been steadfast.

This annual award was most generously established by a CH former parent and is given to a senior pupil who enjoys singing but has not had formal training. Bethany said: “This has really helped my confidence. When I joined CH, I wasn’t sure that I would be as good as everyone else but this prize has really encouraged me. I would love to go to Cambridge and now might apply for a Choral Scholarship.”

The Doherty Singing Prize

Following her audition in London for a place with the National Youth Wind Orchestra of Great Britain, Annabella Trench, Dep (Year 12), has been offered a place on the saxophone. This is a huge success as there were only four spaces and auditions were held all over the country.

Annabella said: “I was absolutely amazed when I heard that I had been accepted. Hard work pays off! I am passionate about playing the saxophone. My teacher, Miss Beere, encouraged me to audition as she thought I had the potential to get in. The audition involved performing two pieces on the alto sax, a sight reading test and an interview. I am currently applying for a bursary to help towards this opportunity and I am much looking forward to joining next year and excited about travelling to Switzerland for a concert event.”

Congratulations also to Baasandorj Enkhjargal, 17, who has been offered a prestigious organ scholarship from the University of St Andrews.

The scholarship, conditional on academic entry to St Andrews, means that Baasandorj can now work towards completing his A level studies in the knowledge that his course at university will combine his love of music with his passion for playing the organ.

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Following the service at St Sepulchre-without-Newgate where the preacher was the Bishop of Lewes, over 400 pupils in Tudor uniform, led by the School’s Band, marched from the Church to Guildhall. At Guildhall, the pupils were presented with largesse by the Lord Mayor of the City of London, Andrew Parmley. The tradition of giving pupils largesse, a coin fresh from the Royal Mint, dates back to when the School was located in London (from 1552 to 1902).

For Simon Reid, this was his first St Matthew’s Day as Headmaster. He said: “I would like to thank all my staff, the City of London Corporation and the City of London Police for their support in the organisation of this magnificent annual event. The pupils take such pride in being part of an occasion that reminds them not only of the School’s London roots, but also of the important connections we have with the City.”

It was also a first for the new Director of Music, Alex Hodgkinson. Alex, who read music at Keble College, Oxford and joined CH in September from Marlborough College where he was Choirmaster.

One of the highlights in CH’s calendar today, historically, St Matthew’s Day was the day on which the Governors of CH were elected. A ceremony still takes place at the end of the church service when the Clerk presents the list of current Governors to the Lord Mayor. The documents are then placed for safe keeping in the archives of the City of London Corporation.

CH was founded in 1552 in the City by King Edward VI and was established through the generosity of the Lord Mayor of the day and City benefactors.

St Matthew’s Day

Lord Mayor’s Show

Fortunately for the 144 floats and all the thousands of participants in the Lord Mayor’s Show on 11 November, the weather was drier than in 2016. The Christ’s Hospital Band was one of 20 bands taking part, this event being one of the most prestigious engagements in the School’s calendar.

The 100 young musicians of the Christ’s Hospital Band were led by Band Captain Yun Shin, 17, and marched just behind the Mansion House Party towards the end of the parade – their signature piece ‘Sussex by the Sea’ was picked up by the BBC Lord Mayor’s Show broadcast.

Lord Mayor’s Show

A new public sculpture was unveiled on 6 November by Alderman Sir Alan Yarrow (former Lord Mayor and member of the School’s governing Council). The artwork commemorates Christ’s Hospital’s 350 year presence in the City of London, 1552-1902 and is situated along Newgate Street on the southern boundary of the garden which lies within the ruins of Christ Church.

Working with the City and Bank of America Merrill Lynch, the idea of a more permanent presence to mark the School’s London history evolved following a very successful exhibition in 2013 of CH’s history hosted by the Bank whose offices now occupy a large part of the School’s original site. Renowned sculptor, Andrew Brown (of Sussex Studios) with many public commissions in his portfolio, was selected following an open competition run by the City of London Corporation. The finished bronze, cast at the Bronze Age Foundry in London, is 2.4m long and 1.5m high.

A Proud Moment in CH’s History

The Ceremony of Quit Rents

Grecians (Year 13) history pupils were invited to form part of the procession of the Ceremony of Quit Rents, the oldest legal ceremony in England, apart from the Coronation, held at the Royal Courts of Justice on the Strand, conducted by the Queen’s Remembrancer in ceremonial robes, judicial wig and tricorn hat.

Max Birkin, 17, said: “The ceremony dates back to the 13th century and involves the ‘surrendering of rents’ - six horseshoes, sixty-one nails and two knives, one blunt and one sharp - in return for continued use of land in the City. Before the ceremony, we journeyed down the Thames on a river cruise and met, amongst others, current and former Sheriffs and Aldermen. It was a privilege to be involved in such an historic event and to learn about another aspect of England’s rich history.”

The Ceremony of Quit Rents

CH in the City

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St Matthew’s Day
**Tony Ray-Jones**

**Photo Competition 2017 – Politics**

Our guest judge this year for the annual Tony Ray-Jones photography competition was Sophie Clements (Old Blue 1990-1997). Sophie was greatly impressed with the quality of the 120 submissions despite the difficulty of the theme. She felt that a lot of thought and care had gone into the photographs, not only in the composition and technique, but also in the conceptual underpinning. After awarding the winners with their prizes, she gave an inspiring lecture about her journey into becoming an artist since she left CH. It has involved all the areas that she excelled in as a student – art, music and science – and these elements are clearly influential in videos today.

Congratulations to this year’s winners who were:

- **Junior**: Alice Frith-Powell
- **Intermediate**: Lila Vitos
- **Senior**: Sammy France
- **Best in Show**: Giselle Lawrence

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**Pupils Supporting Pupils**

Certificates were awarded to 77 Deputy Grecians (Year 12) this term by senior members of staff for completing their intensive ‘Peer Mentor Training Programme’. Peer Mentor training was introduced as part of CH’s pastoral support programme and aims to build on the ‘Respect Charter’, an initiative driven by the pupils themselves in which they pledge to help and support each other as valued members of the community.

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**The Crucible**

Over a thousand audience members witnessed Arthur Miller’s ‘The Crucible’ at CH’s Theatre (30 November - 2 December) in a production that showcased the skills of a full double cast and crew of senior pupils. The theatre was adapted so that the audience surrounded the ‘in-the-round’ staging, making for an intimate and intense theatrical experience.

The cast was led admirably by Alexi Baramidze and Keenan Sayers as the protagonist John Proctor who fights to save his name against the Salem witch hunters. Throughout the cast there were stellar performances and pupils really did portray the gravity of the situation through their in-depth characterisation and command of the space. Mimi Galban Allwright and Eli Thomas as Reverend Hale and Imani Tokpanoude and Sope Oduose as Danforth certainly ‘owned the space’ in their particular performances.

Director John Johnson was impressed with the maturity of the cast:

“This is a long, dramatic play which Miller himself felt could be shorter! The pupils tackled the wordy text with terrific maturity and a commitment to telling the story of the victims of the Salem witch trials. They really ‘got it’ and I enjoyed the performance on many levels.”

Certainly there were many levels to this particular production. The opening video and live feed footage at the end of the performance were projected on to the barn structure that hung ominously over the heads of the audience. The use of a live pupil gospel choir and clarinet solo beautifully created a chilling atmosphere and the sudden fall and swing of the nooses at the end reminded the audience of the death and destruction experienced by the victims of Salem. This was a well-staged version of a classic play and showed the depth in talent of pupils involved in the performing arts at CH.

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**Debating in Spanish**

The CH Spanish debating competition took place in November with a number of competitors from Deps (Year 12) and Grecians (Year 13) with many classmates and GE (Year 11) supporting. The competition comprised a native speakers’ final and a tournament for pupils who study Spanish as a second language. There was a panel of four teachers adjudicating.

All debates were very competitive and intense. They discussed issues as complex as the nationalist movement in Spain or the immigration trends across Europe and Latin America. Fernando Verdú Canadas and Alejandra Cassidy-Garcia won the first language debate by only one point, whilst in the second language category, Will Freeman was the overall winner. Mario Marin-Borquez and Emilia Dunne were also highly commended.
The Department, which straddles two facilities
"Design and Technology (D&T) is part of various STEM disciplines, that equips pupils for various degree courses. There are a huge number of routes – from product design to marine engineering to civil engineering; industrial design and applied software engineering. How ever, the work of the department delivers much more than the tangible.

WHY IS D&T IMPORTANT?
"D&T enables young people to actively contribute to the creativity, culture, wealth and well-being of themselves, their community and their nation. It teaches how to take risks and to become more resourceful, innovative, enterprising and capable. Students develop a critical understanding of the impact of D&T on daily life and the wider world." D&T Association

CURRICULUM JOURNEY
A brief journey through the department’s curriculum underlines the scope of this inspirational subject:

Children in the 2nd and 3rd Form (Years 7 and 8) are all taught D&T. They acquire a range of skills including aluminium casting in the foundry, exposure to 3D CAD/CAM software and large machinery such as the 3D Laser. LE (Year 9) the pupils can opt for either a Product or Graphics route and is a very hands on skills-based year, delivered through short projects with high quality physical outcomes, requiring precision and skill. LE is the first point in the D&T curriculum at which pupils are able to choose what really interests them.

At GCSE, the iGCSE course is studied. This is a very creative, ambitious and rigorous syllabus which helps pupils develop lifelong skills such as problem solving and creative thinking. The course is technical with a final manufactured item, whether that be furniture or in graphical packaging/advertising. Pupils can opt for two strands – Graphic Products – exploring the media of advertising through packaging and promotional materials, desktop publishing software and colour psychology – or Resistant Materials where they develop their knowledge of designing and manufacturing in metal, plastic, wood and composites.

A healthy mix of girls and boys are keen to study the subject in the sixth form, with class groups rarely above ten, so teachers can get the best out of individual pupils. Both the A level and the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma course are offered. The AQA A level in Product Design is well suited to pupils coming from a Graphic Products, Product Design, Resistant Materials and Systems and Control route. Both the A level and IB Design and Technology Diploma routes promote a broad and deep understanding of our world. This is in the context of the application of design to harness creativity, technology and experimental science to the good of our global society. Leavers this year are at universities reading mechanical engineering; electronic and electrical engineering, civil engineering, industrial design and applied software engineering.

MARCUS COMASCHI, OLD BLUE
Marcus left CH in 2012 to complete a BEng in Mechanical Engineering at Cardiff University, during which time he worked for Ford Motors and Whirlpool. He then went on to study for a double masters degree in Innovation Design Engineering (IDE) at the Royal College of Art and the Dyson School of Design at Imperial College London. He is currently taking a year out from studying to fund his final year, working as a Design Engineer. Marcus said: “In my opinion the CH D&T department has university standard facilities, enabling students to develop work well beyond the curriculum requirements. It certainly prepared me well and ignited my journey into design. This was only possible because of the generous donations from Jack Doyle and the School’s dedicated and inspirational staff.”

THE DOYLE SCHOOL OF DESIGN TECHNOLOGY
The D&T department has the backing of a very successful Old Blue, Jack Doyle, who now lives in California. Jack’s career spans many years of working in the field of D&T

Patrick Hall-Palmer said: “Jack takes an enormous interest in experimental sciences. He has been the prime donor in funding the refurbishment of the department and much of its equipment, especially the impressive range of high end CNC machinery. He takes a particularly keen interest in pupils getting practical hands-on experience. We appreciate all his invaluable support.”

The Doyle Scholarship was introduced in 2010 and most recently Remus Goldsmith benefitted hugely from the funds it provides to enhance access to design and engineering resources and experiences. In his time as the Doyle Scholar he led the way in demonstrating the very highest levels of academic rigour to his peers, and gained an A* in Product Design. He is now studying civil engineering at Bristol University. This year’s Doyle Scholar is Ellie Ingram, Grecian (Year 13).

Patrick goes on to say: “Ellie can draw on a sum of money to aid her studies and support the advancement of her technical and experimental skills with specialist materials, software, hardware and overseas trips. She was chosen because she has high level engineering design skills and real drive to take this forward as a career.”

Ellie said: “Receiving this scholarship has been an honour as I would like to do at university. It helped me decide what type of engineering I would like to do at university.”
The Sue Thomson Foundation

2018 marks the thirtieth anniversary of the Sue Thomson Foundation (STF), a grant-making charity whose objectives are widely drawn. In practice, its principal beneficiary is Christ’s Hospital. The STF’s ‘presentees’ are distinguished by their silver badge, proudly worn on the shoulder of their ‘Housey’ coat (pictured).

The Foundation was settled by Susan Mitchell (CH 1947–1956), a stalwart supporter of CH’s charitable mission. Following a successful career in book publishing (as Sue Thomson), Susan established the Foundation, not only to contribute to CH’s education of children in particular need, but also to support its presentees in other practical ways. In addition to the STF’s regular presentees, further pupils, presented jointly with others or ‘adopted’ at the request of Donation Governors living overseas or too elderly to have regular contact with their presentees, enjoy the same benefits and are included in the wider STF family, which currently supports 29 pupils in the School.

The STF is administered by Susannah Holliman, the Director, but Susan continues to oversee its work and is Chairman of the Trustees.

Susannah, (Susan’s daughter), describes the work of this exceptional Foundation:

“The STF is privileged to support children at CH. Our priority is to help the child by responding to financial, educational and pastoral needs of the immediate family that are unlikely to be met elsewhere. Meeting need is a high priority for us and we are keen to consider families who value CH’s academic education and are willing to make sacrifices on that account.

“In the main, STF presentees are identified in liaison with CH’s Admissions team and follow the same entry pathway as others applying for means-tested fee assistance. Parents or guardians complete a home and background form that asks, among other matters, for a description of their child’s particular need for a boarding education at CH. We work with the Admissions team to agree STF candidates with high levels of need. Parents may also contact us direct, but those who meet our criteria must still apply through CH.

“Once we agree potential presentees with CH, two STF representatives visit children and their parents at home by appointment, after which short-listed children take CH’s entrance assessments. All children must qualify academically to be offered a place but need, financial or otherwise, is always taken into account. The number of presentations each year is limited and dependent upon matching candidates with high levels of need.

“If all goes well and we award an STF presentation, we introduce a ‘supporter’ to the family. The Foundation has a number of carefully selected volunteers who kindly undertake to work with one of our families. Many are Old Blues, all are DBS checked and work within clear guidelines; they can ask for, and receive, advice or help from us or from our Trustee Mary Ireland who will be known to many readers as a former CH Deputy Head. Supporters provide friendship, advice and encouragement to the child and his or her family throughout the child’s CH education.”

A supporter says: “Like many adults, my sense of gratitude and recognition of the opportunities that I received (at CH) has been really awoken by having children myself. In my late 20s and early 30s most of my time was spent pursuing my own career and following a Scalarlike track from the office to my home and back again, without much thought of the world at large. When my wife and I chose to start a family we started thinking about how we could help our children be the best they could be. We live in a very poor borough in London and increasingly we also felt we wanted to try and help others to have what our children have – an opportunity to make the best of their lives.

“Through the STF, we found a family in a very difficult situation who lived near to us and managed to secure a place for a charming young man, who wanted to be Prime Minister! The STF support the children and families with huge professionalism, and the role of supporters is fairly fluid; I generally put in a few hours a month, talking to the children, providing the odd trip out and helping with any problems. Three of the four children from that family are now at the School, and our first exam results came in last summer – 8A*s and 3 As. We were all so proud.”

Susannah continues: “Before our presentees join the School, we provide a gift – usually a new duvet cover and matching bedding, delivered to their relevant boarding houses – along with the new entrants’ badges. We regularly arrange a summer outing at Chessington World of Adventures for new presentees, their families and supporters prior to joining CH.

We also arrange annual outings for our families – last year, we invited them all to the London Eye.

“At the start of our presentees’ first term, each will receive a welcoming card or letter from us. We encourage all our presentees to keep in touch with us with news of their activities, progress and ambitions. CH routinely provides us with copies of presentees’ school reports and the Trustees follow their academic, broader curriculum progress and wellbeing throughout the School year.

“The Foundation’s help can go beyond CH. A modest grant may be given to our presentees when they go to university. Contact normally reduces after graduation but we keep in touch with those who welcome it.”

STF presentee, Samuel, says: “So far it has been quite a unique first two years at CH, and with each year, new responsibilities are set. I feel the School has basically set me up for life, getting used to boarding, and taking charge of certain parts of my life has increased my independence. One of the reasons I did manage to get here was because I was offered sponsorship by the Sue Thomson Foundation. I had been worried before, not understanding what it really meant to be a presentee of the STF. The trustees who lead it are all very welcoming, and somehow remember all the names of those they sponsor. Our regular get-togethers are quite similar to family reunions. Everyone’s always cheerful, and you always meet someone you hadn’t seen before. This is only a short taster of what it’s like to be a STF presentee – my life would be so different if I had never had the chance of my interview with the STF.”

Pictured - Susan Mitchell

Arkwright Scholarship

An Arkwright Scholarship has been won by Marvelous Jibogu, Deputy Grecian (Year 12). Marv’s award was presented by Susannah Holliman, Director of the Sue Thomson Foundation (pictured). The Arkwright Scholarship is a national programme that inspires and nurtures high achieving school-age students to be the country’s future leaders in engineering.

Marv said: “I feel that the Arkwright Scholarships are an excellent platform for achievement. I am grateful to my sponsors, the Sue Thomson Foundation and CH’s Engineers Support Fund, and those who supported me along the way during the application process. I would like to specialise in computer science and study it at University. I feel that computer science is the purest form of engineering and is versatile enough to be used in different scenarios to solve various world problems – such as eradicating major health issues or ensuring clean water for all people. Being awarded an Arkwright Scholarship is the first step towards making this dream a possibility, and I am looking forward to using the Scholarship to further my studies and experiences in computer science for the next two years.”

THE STF ANd THE BLUE FUND

In the year ended 31 August 2017, the STF paid grants to CH of £101,989 comprising School fees and other grants, and a further sum of £23,001 being contributions from Blue Fund Founder Subscribers to CH’s Blue Fund Pilot’s presentee. The Blue Fund was piloted in 2012 by the STF on behalf of CH and attracted 81 Founder Subscribers who collectively pledged £188,569 (including applicable Gift Aid) for the full cost of educating one child from a needy background, now in GE (Year 11), at CH for seven years. The Pilot is closed to new subscribers, but the CH Development team warmly welcomes enquiries from anybody wishing to join in with the Blue Fund initiative.
Out and About

Study Trip to Provence

During half term, CH pupils benefitted from a study trip to Provence.

Taking off from London Stansted airport and staying in sunny Nîmes, 20 UF-Grecians (Years 10-13) who study French GCSE, A level and the IB Diploma were immersed for five days in culture and language. Text from ‘La Gloire de Mon Père’ by 19th Century French novelist, Marcel Pagnol (who was from Provence) was referred to closely during their French literature study time at the end of each day.

They visited medieval, Roman and artistic monuments including Avignon’s Palais de Papes and the medieval Pont Saint-Bénézet; the Fondation Vincent Van Gogh, La Tour Magne, an 18m stone watch tower in Mont Cavalier. The favourite part of the visit was the most unexpected when, due to transport delays, they had to deviate from their timetable and ended up at the spectacular Pont du Gard Roman aqueduct.

Alicia Cassidy, Head of French, said: “The pupils conversed in French, ordering their lunch and dinner and, as a listening exercise, all the guides spoke slowly in French. The UF (Year 10) pupils were incredibly inspired seeing the Grecians conversing so fluently both with the guides and with the natives.”

Following the success of this visit, the French Department is planning further visits to France next year.

CH’s Support for Local Hospices

CH pupils have volunteered on a weekly basis at St Barnabas Hospice in Worthing for over 20 years. Over the years what used to be reserved as a challenging placement for Grecians (Year 13) has become accessible to younger volunteers GE and Deputy Grecians (Years 11 and 12), have gained confidence working their way round the Community Action programme and some have decided on pursuing a career in medicine.

One of the first charity shops in Horsham with which we formed a partnership was the St Catherine’s Hospice shop. Each term, CH volunteers have got stuck in, sifting through the mountain of donations, checking stock in the shop and helping with the smooth running of this crucial revenue stream for St Catherine’s Hospice in Crawley. The following tribute by Rosie Mercado, the charity’s Volunteering Advisor, to CH volunteers over the years was much appreciated and speaks volumes about the good to be done locally in response to real need:

“I wanted to thank you for your continued support for St. Catherine’s and acknowledge how important our relationship with CH has been over the years and look forward to working alongside your students in the future. Those who have volunteered with us have been a credit to the School.”

The richness of these long standing links and future aspirations breathes life into our partnerships in the local community and shows how the Community Action programme evolves over time, adapting to shifting patterns of need. None of this would be possible without the good will and compassion shown by the pupils who are encouraged to be proactive in addressing need. In return they learn how to communicate and forge positive relationships with a wide range of individuals and groups and develop important life skills including resourcefulness and resilience.

Pupils Visit Oxford and Stratford

GCSE pupils who are studying Greek and Latin went on a trip in October to the Ashmolean Museum and Trinity College, the University of Oxford. They were hosted at the latter by a panel of former CH pupil classicists, led by Dr Tristan Franklinos, Lecturer in Classics and Dean of Degrees. Finalist Henner Petin and third year undergraduate, James Branchflower, completed the panel. They fielded a wide range of questions great generosity and expertise and the whole group was immensely grateful to them.

The group then travelled to Stratford-Upon-Avon, to watch a pyrotechnical and energetic Royal Shakespeare Company production of Christopher Marlowe’s ‘Dido, Queen of Carthage’. This linked in with their GCSE Latin set text of books four and six of Vergil’s Aeneid.

October Field Day

The whole School got involved in Michaelmas term’s field day on 5 October. The traditional Tudor uniform was swapped for casual wear – apart from the LE’s (Year 9) visit to Hever Castle, Anne Boleyn’s childhood home, where the CH uniform caught the attention of other visitors on the day.

A wide range of events was organised for pupils on and off the CH campus. For the new 2nd Form (Year 7) pupils this was their first outing. Following a visit to the Science Museum in London, they watched a film on engineering. Pupils in the Combined Cadet Force (CCF) went their separate ways - flying at RAF Benson, visiting HMS Victory at Portsmouth and hiking across the South Downs National Park.

Other field day activities included an archaeology trip, a visit to a London mosque, Community Action, first aid, cooking, real tennis and Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme training.
Shoebox Appeal

The series of careers lunches and ‘hot seating’ this term began on 28 September when Iwan Hopkins (Admissions, Cardiff University) gave a talk to senior pupils on medicine and healthcare.

Later on in the term, Old Blues Andrew Cosedage, barrister, and James Dawson, solicitor, enlightened pupils about their professions and how they are different. We were also delighted to welcome Ariel McDermott back to his old school. Ariel left just three years ago and is now in the fourth of a five years masters course in electrical and electronics engineering as a scholar of the UK Electronic Skills Foundation.

The talk by Alice Medley on the world of finance proved very popular, attracting over 30 senior pupils. Alice is a chartered accountant, qualifying in 2009, and has a PhD in Chemistry from Imperial College and an MSc (Natural Sciences – Chemistry) from Cambridge.

Both junior and seniors were fascinated to hear careers opportunities described by Jodie Azhar from leading games studio, Creative Assembly. Jodie was named last year as one of BAFTA’s Breakthrough Brits for her work on Total War: WARHAMMER. She specializes in using programming and maths to improve the visual look of games and develops tools used for generating digital art.

The final speaker this term was Belinda Earl, Style Director for Marks & Spencer, on the topic of fashion (pictured).

Careers Events

This represents a practical way in which we can, in the true spirit of the IB Creativity, Activity and Service (CAS) programme, ‘think global and act local’. Many thanks are due to all the pupils and staff who supported this initiative in the midst of a hectic term.

High Scoring Mathematicians

Sixth form pupils and a few of the GE (Year 11) took part in a senior maths challenge at CH. The results were excellent overall and two have qualified for the British Mathematical Olympiad (top 1,000) and a further 12 have qualified for the Senior Kangaroo (top 6,000).

Charlotte Guo, Grecian (Year 13), scored full marks in the challenge and although the competition was intended for sixth formers, ten of the GE pupils received bronze award certificates and five – Conor, Solomon, Herman, Lucy and Lottie – received silver. Lucy and Lottie achieved the same score and came top of their year group.

Congratulations to all participants.

Sporting Highlights

This was also the first year we have entered Years 7 and 8 for the Prep and Independent School Football Trials which selects teams in each age group to represent England at the Gothia Cup in Gothenburg in the summer. Morgan Punell was selected for the U12 Lions, whilst Hugo Gammon and David Asamari got into the Development Squad.

BADMINTON

It has been another successful term for the senior badminton squad, starting with the first recorded win in recent memory against a strong Tiffin squad. The A-team won 7-2 with the pairings of Osman Kwok/Ben Kinnear and Charlene Chow/Hayden Siah winning all of their matches. The following fixture against a formidable Charterhouse was a less close affair and ended in a 6-3 defeat. The final fixture against Epson College was always close and this year it was more tenacious than ever with the match going down to the last two rubbers. The pairings of Maxwell Singh-Kingdon/ Gus Freeman and Charlene Chow/Hayden Siah managed to hold their nerve and secure a 10-9 win for CH.

RUGBY

There has been a number of highlights this term. Individually Lennox Anyanwu being selected for the England U17 and U18 Development squads is obviously a great achievement. Hopefully, he will add to the England U16s cap he gained last season. Other representative rugby honours have been achieved by Verity Butt and Eleanor Murray Dare (Hampshire U16s), Oscar Rowland Clark and Tom Goldman (Sussex U15s). The 1st XV team has played some crowd pleasing rugby. The highlight of the season for the 1st XV was the floodlit match at the Old Blues ground. Although slipping to a narrow defeat it was a great night with many Old Blues (one who had been at CH 55 years previous!) in attendance.

At the junior end of the School, the U14s had a floodlit match at Worthing RFC, enriching the development of these young players.

FOOTBALL

The U12s have had an impressive first football season at CH with the Athleticos winning five, losing three and drawing two, and the Rangers winning three and losing just one. As a year group they have trained particularly well and played their matches with a combination of skill, strength, intelligence and determination.

NETBALL

The 2nd Form (Year 7) has made good progress in netball and worked with lots of enthusiasm in every training session. A total of 13 matches have been won and seven lost. With the vast majority of the squad having had no prior netball experience before coming to CH, the girls should feel very proud of their achievement. The term finished with the house league netball matches with some very close and competitive matches which resulted with Coleridge B in third place, Leigh Hunt A in second place and Barnes A taking first place.

HOCKEY

The girls’ 1st hockey teams achieved a top-scoring thirty goals from their ten regular matches. Highlights for the team have included coming back from 0-2 down against Lord Wandsworth College and drawing 3-3, finishing third at the Lord Wandsworth 7s Tournament and comprehensive wins against Roedean, Reeds and Bedales.

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We are delighted that so many parents, Old Blues and other friends showed their commitment to CH for our #GivingTuesday campaign. Thanks to their generosity, the day was a tremendous success, raising over £10,000! The incredible support of over 300 donors made this possible.

Following this tremendous success for #GivingTuesday we have now reached our overall Blue Fund target of £190,000 to fund another child at CH. This will provide a full seven year bursary for a child in financial or other need, the second Blue Fund pupil to benefit from the collective support of the whole CH community. He/she will join us in September 2018.

We will continue our fundraising to kick start a third Blue Fund pupil. Our new fundraising target is set at £210,000. If you would like to join the Blue Fund to offer another child the benefit of a CH education, you can make a gift online at bluefund.christs-hospital.org.uk/donate/

CH continued its remarkable record of success in the nationally prestigious Stephen Spender Prize for Poetry in Translation. Congratulations to Katherine Linaker in UF (Year 10) who beat several hundred competitors to win the junior section outright. Her remarkably mature translation of a poem, This is the way… by Dr Zhivago author Boris Pasternak, thoroughly impressed the judges.

In this year’s senior competition – in which CH pupils went head to head with students from the most academic schools in the country and even some university students, Marina Kisliuk, Grecian (Year 13) was Third Prize winner in seniors for her translation, from her native Russian, of a poem by Marina Tsvetaeva called ‘A Mistake’. Waran Zubeir-Masabo, 3rd Form (Year 8) was also commended, for her translation of a traditional Swahili poem, taught to her by her grandmother.

This is the way they begin to learn -
To hear in the roar of an engine’s noise
That ‘mother’ is not mother at all,
That ‘you’ are not you, that ‘home’ is unknown.

This is the way they begin to suspect - When, upon meeting a beauty they fear
And they ask, as they sit on a lilac-bench, ‘Why do you steal the mind of a child?’

This is the way that fears start to grow, When one man gives hope to aspiring stars. When is he demon, when is he dreamer? This is the way their travels begin.

This is their way to the open sky,
Above the walls where no houses stand. A sudden breeze that sighs like the sea
Is the way their rhythms will start to beat.

This is the way they see light
Summer nights
Fall on their knees face-down in a field, Then threaten and warn the sun to rise. This is the way that their quarrels begin.

This is the way that true poets are made.

Katherine Linaker (pictured)

Harvest Festival

On 1 October we celebrated our Harvest Thanksgiving in Chapel. 2nd Form (Year 7) pupils led the service very effectively as we reflected on the life and example of St Francis of Assisi. Pupils contributed tins and packets of food and their donations have been delivered to the Salvation Army in Horsham for families needing some extra support.

This is the way...