The beginning of the Lent term 2021 saw the start of another very unusual period at Christ's Hospital, with only 15% of our pupils on site and the remainder at home. We struck a careful balance between the delivery of blended academic lessons, broader curricular stimulus and pastoral support for all of our pupils.

This was effective, but it was not School ‘in the flesh’. Teachers and pupils need the immediacy and nuance of learning on site, in classrooms, out on the playing fields and in our boarding houses. We are delighted, therefore, to now have the majority of our pupils back with us at School.

To reduce risk and ensure that the return to CH for staff and pupils has been as smooth as possible, we have put in place a number of adjustments to the way in which we operate. Driving all activity is the need to keep pupils, staff and their families safe.

Over the last twelve months, I have been enormously impressed and touched by the support the School has received from CH pupils, parents, staff and former pupils. Everyone has faced the unprecedented circumstances with patience and, needless to say, this will have to continue.

We are hopeful that this summer term we will be able to resume some of the enjoyable and distinctive features that are typical of the final term of a Christ's Hospital academic year. Thankfully, all pupils will at long last be back in their housey uniform and the resumption of this important aspect of our School identity gives us hope for a broader return to normality before too long.
A HELPING HAND DURING LOCKDOWN

During the last year, Christ’s Hospital has been providing extra support to pupils and their families who are particularly struggling during this pandemic.

Through the School’s hardship fund, CH has provided families with a total of over £300,000. Alongside this, we have also provided families with approximately £40,000 in food vouchers. IT equipment, including laptops, wireless keyboards and internet dongles, has been supplied to pupils where needed to ensure that every CH pupil has been able to continue their studies remotely.

In January, the emergency Covid-19 Hardship Appeal was launched and, so far, an extra £184,000 has been raised so that we can continue to give help where and when required.

We have also increased mental health provision by recruiting a new therapist. This means we have continued to be able to provide regular mental health support to any pupil who requests it, offering telephone therapy, video conferencing and email contact.

Head Teacher Simon Reid said ‘We recognise that we are all living through months of very unusual challenge, but Christ’s Hospital will do all it can to prevent the Covid-19 pandemic posing a lasting threat to our pupils’ learning, wellbeing and their futures. We are responding in myriad practical ways, to enable pupils and their families to get the support they need.’

When it comes to the wider community, the School has supported local vaccination efforts by offering Bluecoat Sports Centre for use as a vaccination hub. Thousands of vaccinations continue to be delivered to local residents on a weekly basis. CH’s School Nurse, Elaine Kimber, who has been one of the volunteers, said, ‘It’s a huge privilege to be involved and to be able to help in such a well-organised initiative. It has been wonderful to witness the incredible teamwork as well as the patients’ gratitude.’

Meanwhile, the big challenge for the last few weeks of Lent term was to arrange for lateral flow testing twice weekly for our returning pupils and pupil-facing staff. Once all the pupils were back, we conducted over 2,200 tests a week, which was a mammoth task.

Top: A member of staff receives his vaccination. Above: Old Blue Andy Whittingham has been the main pharmacist coordinating the vaccines at Bluecoat Sport Centre. Left: School nurse Elaine volunteering at the vaccination hub.
Christ’s Hospital theatre is ready to welcome the public again (as soon as allowed) after an extensive refurbishment to update the space for today’s audiences. The theatre, originally created by renowned architect of the New Vic, Bill Howell, has not been refurbished since it first opened its doors in December 1975. The betterment project has enhanced the building’s performance use, for the pupils’ benefit, and the aesthetic for the audience’s, and has included a new foyer and the redecoration of the auditorium.

The redesigned entrance now allows for wheelchair access, while the removal of the steps internally and the bar area has greatly increased the space in the foyer. The theatre also now benefits from a smart extension to the rear, which doubles up as an additional teaching space during term time.

There have been other, less visible improvements too: a paved and lit fire escape route has been added to the rear of the building; and a new infrared system has been installed for those audience members who are hard of hearing. The system works with headsets and does not suffer with interference from the theatre sound system.

LED lighting has also been introduced, which will mean significantly reduced running costs and an energy saving of around 90%. In addition, new toilet facilities have been installed, consisting of five waterless urinals to replace the traditional system, an improvement which is expected to save an impressive 300,000 to 500,000 litres per annum.

The drama department very much hopes to be able to put on some sort of small-scale performance in the summer term. Meanwhile, Christ’s Hospital theatre looks forward to opening its doors to the public, as soon as allowed!
Christ’s Hospital was represented by 14 pupils from Second and Third Form (Year 7 & 8) at the City of London Schools’ Chess Tournament, which was hosted virtually this year.

The whole team performed very well, holding their own even against entrants from sixth form colleges and 11 of our pupils placed in the top 40 of 80 competitors.

The organisers praised our pupils not just for their skill, but also their high level of engagement and good manners. A number of our competitors were unlucky to miss out on a medal, with Isabella, Harry and Israel putting in excellent performances and finishing the tournament just half a point shy of bronze.

However, Max (pictured above) who continues to go from strength to strength in his play, scored an outstanding four wins out of five games in this tough field and was awarded a silver medal.

Chess has been a wonderful source of additional achievement and challenge during lockdown but we are delighted to have the pupils back in School to face one another over the board.

Every year, 10 to 15 Deputy Grecians (Year 12) enter the British Physics Olympiad Senior Challenge. Usually they sit a written paper, but this year the competition went online and consisted of 40 multiple choice questions. Some of the questions were quite challenging, and the time limit required pupils to work at a far faster pace than they would at A-level. Their Physics teacher also took the challenge and admitted to being hard-pushed to complete on time! All pupils who took part chose to give up an afternoon to do so.

Well done to Hillary in particular (pictured above) who was awarded gold in the competition, putting her in the top 15%, but also to everyone else who chose to take up the challenge, whether here or at home (where they were invigilated on webcam). A pleasing number of girls took part too, indicative of a strong and well-balanced physics cohort this year.

Gold (top 15%): Hillary
Silver (top 30%): Theo, Reanne, Finn, Adekoyejo,
Bronze (top 44%): Gloria, Yuka, Chin Wing, Andy, Samantha, Max, Thomas, Samuel
Commendation: Anita

In Lent term, CH pupils took part in their first ever philosothon – a competition of philosophical discussion – hosted by Northwood College. Topics discussed included the nature of justice and the relation between happiness and the purpose of life. The CH team did incredibly well to secure second place against 11 other schools! Special commendations were awarded to Charles (DG/Year 12), Otto (GR/Year 13) and Rowan (DG/Year 12, pictured).

It was such a pleasure to hear CH pupils philosophising with those from other schools and a joyful reminder that our young people are considered, principled, imaginative and erudite.
RECKLESS MATHS

At the start of last year, Mr Reckless noticed that many of his pupils were finding the algebra topics particularly challenging and wanted to find a way to help them. He thought they would very much benefit from having a clear and self-contained source that would focus on equation solving.

During the first lockdown, he found the time to design the hierarchy of equations and to learn how to program a website (mainly through lots of YouTube videos!)

‘It made sense to create something that would automate the marking process and, as I developed it, I thought of adding a competitive points system’ Mr Reckless explains. And so, Reckless Maths was born!

Mr Reckless is very pleased to note that pupils have found it very engaging so far. ‘The competitive side is what makes it unique!’ he explains.

Since the first lockdown, 48,189 equations have been correctly solved, 334 pupils have logged on and have spent 470 hours in total solving equations.

Ollie (LE/Year 9, pictured right) earned a Certificate of Achievement for his excellent work on Reckless Maths during Lent term and for coming first in his year.

‘I love Reckless Maths as it has taught me loads about algebra! I can do all of the stages but my favourite is stage 7 as I love quadratics. I like playing in my free time and when I have completed all my prep. It is a common myth that maths is really boring but I genuinely enjoy playing and going through all the different stages of an equation. I recommend it to anyone who thinks they would like to improve their maths or just burn some time.’ Ollie, (LE/Year 9)

‘Reckless Maths gives you the opportunity to practise and revise different algebra questions and lets you compete against your classmates and friends. I like being able to look at the different stages and gradually work my way up to the harder questions. It helpfully gives you the solutions and the calculation on how to get the answers so you know where you have gone wrong. This is a really helpful website that can be really beneficial to improving your algebra skills, I highly recommend it!’ Louise (GE/Year 11)

OXBRIDGE UNIVERSITY SUCCESS

Well done to all of our pupils who took the opportunity to apply for Oxbridge this year and who worked so hard towards their applications. Regardless of the outcome, they should all be very proud, since to go through this process is an achievement in itself. They are all outstanding pupils and will undoubtedly flourish at their eventual destinations. Congratulations to the following pupils who have received offers:

Clockwise from top left: Amber (Classical Archeology and Ancient History, Oxford), Ben (Economics and Management, Oxford), Mutsuki (Music, Cambridge), Andrew (Classics, Cambridge), Jessica (English, Oxford) and Maisie (PPE, Oxford - not pictured).
Drama continued online in the first half of the Lent term with GE (Year 11) and GR (Year 13) pupils preparing at home for their assessed practical pieces. After half term, they were then able to present their pieces in the fabulous and newly refurbished CH theatre. All performers had the opportunity to demonstrate their considerable skills in a variety of exciting monologues and designers in both cohorts were able to see their final set and sound designs realised on stage.

Other extra-curricular drama this term has been provided by Team Drama Challenges on Teams. The Drama department has had fun creating short videos (all filmed on location here at CH!) about different aspects of theatre with accompanying quizzes. Several talented pupils were able to participate in a Valentine’s Day compilation piece.

In addition, Ms Munday and Mr Keet released the much-anticipated Community Play online, in which both staff and pupils participated – great fun for all!

We are now looking forward to next term, which will see the UF (Year 10) and DG (Year 12) drama pupils performing their devised pieces in the latter part of the term. Plus, we are intending to stage two small scale junior shows for the Second Form (Year 7) and LE (Year 9). It’s going to be a busy summer! Planning has also started for the Michaelmas show – watch this space!

Below: GE/Year 11 pupil Sam designed a set for The 39 Steps.

Above: GE/Year 11 pupil Sam designed a set for The 39 Steps.

Right: Jamira as Blanche and Malachi as Mitch in A Streetcar Named Desire, with set design by Teddy and sound design by Guy (all pupils from GR/Year 13)

MUSIC NEWS

Following several weeks of online instrumental lessons, ensembles, and choirs, it was magnificent to hear a Music School full of noise once again towards the end of term. Several of our ensembles lost no time in getting the show back on the road, adding to the year group Chapel services with various choral anthems and instrumental pieces. It was particularly good to hear two of the younger groups – the UF (Year 10) and GE (Year 11) Choir Consorts – sing with such confidence and poise, as if they had been preparing for weeks!

Last September we welcomed Verity Bramson to the staff team as Head of Singing. In a short and somewhat strange time, Miss Bramson has already made a great impact across the School as a teacher, house tutor, choir director, and sports coach. One of her roles is to develop a singing project in partnership with local primary schools. This was successfully launched this term with online sessions with a primary academy in Crawley. We look forward to introducing live sessions in the near future, and to being able to include several more schools, some of which have limited music provision. We are very pleased to be able to extend Christ’s Hospital’s mission in this way across the county.

Although there continues to be a degree of uncertainty, we have exciting plans for next term, including concerts celebrating our departing Grecians, Speech Day, Big Band, and Beating Retreat. We very much hope to be able to welcome you here in person, however, as you will be aware, audiences will be dictated by the government ‘roadmap’. If we are able to do so, we will invite parents and carers to participate and will, of course, continue to make performances accessible online. Further information will follow as the situation becomes clearer.
CAREERS NETWORKING EVENT

On Friday 5 March, we hosted our first online live careers networking event for pupils from GE–GR (Years 11–13).

The event was attended by over 40 Old Blues and other professionals from financial, legal, business, scientific and creative backgrounds, including doctors working for the NHS, professional musicians, an actor, financiers, lawyers, civil servants and many more. One Old Blue even got up for 5.30 am to join us from Australia!

The event was designed to give pupils the opportunity to hear from a wide range of professionals who all have experience in the world of work. Our guests spoke briefly about their career, why they enjoy it and what might be expected from someone who wants to pursue a similar area in the future. Pupils then had the opportunity to ask them questions.

Student feedback was very positive, with all pupils surveyed having found the event useful and many enjoying the online format. Head of Careers, Helen-Claire Burt, said ‘This was a great opportunity for our pupils to learn more about what their own path may look like after CH. The online format was very successful and meant that many guests who might not have been able to join us in person, were able to take part virtually.’

FRENCH DEBATING

In February, pupils Alfie and Laura (GR/Year 13) took part in the ‘Joutes Oratoires’ hosted by Charterhouse School and debated, in French, topics on the dangers of artificial intelligence and the role of literature in modern society.

Then on 3 March 2021, six DG (Year 12) pupils took part in similar debates on the topics of equality for men and women, and whether the benefits of charity work are merely an illusion. Max, Ateh, Georgina, Teniola, Maria and Ha Eun made a fantastic impression thanks to their precise research and articulate arguments. The judges were hugely impressed by CH’s teams and Max and Ha Eun made it to the semi-finals but lost out to a strong Charterhouse team, eventually coming third overall.

Some testimonials from the pupils are below:

‘I enjoyed doing research for the questions and finding out more about French culture. And it helped a lot with my French conversational skills.’ Maria

‘I really enjoyed the spontaneity and having to think on the spot. It definitely improved my confidence in speaking, and gave me a lot of extra insight into the topics we’re studying for A-Level.’ Georgina

‘I found it great to do something that makes you speak and think on the spot especially on two topics from our book. I like that I had to find out more myself by doing independent research.’ Teniola

‘I enjoyed the debate because I was able to practise French conversational skills and speaking on the spot. It also allowed me to research more French culture, especially the topics we are already doing for A Level.’ Ateh

‘The experience was definitely a challenging one, but constantly speaking and thinking in French has boosted my confidence. It was also nice to work together with each other and interact with other students in French.’ Ha Eun

‘The French debating competition really helped my confidence with speaking in French and backing up arguments with statistics. It was fun to just speak to other people in French about current topics.’ Max
During lockdown, the LE (Year 9) art project looked at the process of abstracting an image. They started by researching Sol Lewitt’s ‘Autobiography,’ where he recorded objects in his home and displayed them in grids of nine photographs. This led them to look at David Hockney’s ‘Joiners’ and they created composite portraits using multiple photographs taken from different distances and angles and from this, they made a transcription in graphite pencil. Inspired by patterns in Japanese woodcuts they then recreated their portraits using only patterns they saw in their homes. Finally, they researched the Cubist art movement and made their own version of their portraits. Here are some of the amazing results by Anthony, Marina, Suoxi, Judith and Janel (see above).

Melissa (DG/Year 12) used the book ‘The Lovely Bones’ by Alice Sebold as inspiration for her Pre-U coursework this year. The book provided the source material for a visual narrative that contained a wide range of often negative and surreal emotions. She has used animation, both hand-drawn in charcoal and digital; rotoscoping using film and the editing software Procreate. Melissa has enjoyed the blending of traditional mediums with technology to portray an imaginary personal dreamscape (below left).

In the Senior Sewing active this term, Hannah (DG/Year 12) has been busy making a grey hoodie. This is a remarkable achievement; following her pattern accurately, carefully cutting her fabric and then machine-sewing it with precision including inserting a zip. The end result is very professional and we may well see Hannah’s fashion creations on a catwalk one day! (pictured below)
PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION SUCCESS

On 8 March 2021, two teams of pupils represented CH in the English-Speaking Union’s Public Speaking Competition, which took place in a virtual format.

The prestigious ESU-Churchill Public Speaking Competition, sponsored by the International Churchill Society, is the largest such contest in England and Wales, with around 400 teams (each comprising a speaker, questioner and a chairperson). The different roles allow pupils to practise and excel in different skill sets, and the competition’s unique format, which pairs the speaker from one school with the chair and questioner of another, encourages quick thinking and relationship building. Most of all it’s fun, and a great way for pupils to develop their oracy skills in a friendly, supportive environment.

The two teams representing CH were Oliver, Sam and Tallak (all LE/Year 9) who spoke on the topic ‘Policing in this country needs to change’ and Will, Ben and Amelie (all GE/Year 11), who spoke on the topic ‘It is class, not race, that rules in Britain today.’

All pupils spoke eloquently and did the School and themselves proud. Congratulations to Will, Ben and Amelie, who got through to the next round. Amelie and Ben also got the award for best chair and questioner respectively.

DEBATING COMPETITION

Well done to UF (Year 10) pupils Oscar and Zara who participated in the Elite Journey International Debating Competition. Their topic was “Should we erase all memory of the pandemic from our recent history?”

VIRTUAL SPEAKER – ‘BIRDGIRL’

Mya-Rose Craig gave a virtual talk on Teams about the importance of diversity in access to nature. Mya-Rose is an ornithologist, campaigner and the youngest person in Britain to be awarded an honorary doctorate in science (she finished her A levels last summer). Here is a review of the talk, written by Deputy Grecian (Year 12) Max:

‘Lent term’s talk, hosted by Mya-Rose Craig, better known as Birdgirl, was all about her experiences in conservation, activism and allowing all races to experience nature. Her organisation, Black2Nature, promotes access to nature for young people from minority ethnic backgrounds in Britain, which can help improve mental health, stress, concentration and physical health. She spoke about how, on the first course, the first night was a disaster, nobody showing any interest in the activities and outdoors. And how she learnt that she had been speaking from a position of huge privilege. That you need to meet people where they are, by relating with them and their situation before taking them out of their comfort zone. She later talked about speaking next to Greta Thunberg and when she took part in School Strike for Climate on the Arctic, explaining that when she began her blog at age 12, she had never expected that she would take all these wonderful actions before the age of only 18. Her advice to pupils was to keep talking to others about what you care about and issues which need to be solved, because there will always be people who are interested and want to listen, even if it takes a while to find them.’

IN OTHER NEWS

- The annual CH Law Debate took place over Teams on 19 March. We were delighted to be joined by International Human Rights barrister, Nick Stanage, and Dominic Nolan QC, who specialises in clinical negligence; they both provided feedback on the debate and took part in a Q&A session. The motion was ‘This House believes that an unregulated internet does more harm than good.’ Congratulations to the winners who were Toga (DG/Year 12), Andrew and Freddie (both GR/Year 13).
- Eight of our pupils participated in the Oxford Union Debating Competition – Timi and Nonso from GE (Year 11), and Ben, Yuka, Lydia, Ha Eun, Victoria and Isabella from DG (Year 12). Incidentally, the debate was hosted and run by Old Blue Lottie Field who is currently studying at Oxford University.
- To mark Holocaust Memorial Day, pupils from LE–GE (Year 9–11) took part in a history writing competition, for which they were asked to write creatively about a person who had been a light in the darkness. The winners were Priya (UF/Year 10) who wrote an interview with rebel and anti-slavery campaigner Toussaint L’Ouverture, and Daniel (LE/Year 9) who wrote movingly about his great grandmother’s role in providing false passports and escape routes for Jews in Warsaw during the Nazi occupation.
- Keighley (DG/Year 12) has been shortlisted in an essay competition with Doughty Street Chambers. Her essay deals with social inequalities regarding education resulting from the pandemic. Keighley has shown an acute awareness of this topic and has carefully explained the wider repercussions of Covid and social class on schools in her writing.
Every year, the pupils from Barnes B decorate and sell hundreds of Valentine’s day cookies to raise money for charity. The pupils were disappointed when Covid meant they wouldn’t be at School to continue the tradition, but were determined they would make up for it somehow. House captain Izzy and house charity representative, Alice (both DG/Year 12 pupils, pictured far left and left respectively) decided to sell virtual raffle tickets for a Valentine’s Day hamper and within 48 hours of announcing it to the School community, they had already raised £630!

When it came to choosing which charity to support, the pupils wanted to identify a smaller charity local to the School to whom the money would make a big difference. They nominated five charities and then voted on them; Sussex Homeless Support was the winning charity.

Homelessness is something that is deeply personal to Izzy as, at the beginning of 2020, her father found himself homeless. ‘Growing up in a relatively stable working-class family, homelessness wasn’t something that I ever thought I would be faced with so closely. All it took was a few mistakes before my dad found himself sleeping rough and there was nothing I could do to support him’ explains Izzy. ‘Whilst other kids stressed about GCSEs, I stressed about if my dad would survive, but, thanks to the support of a service similar to Sussex Homeless Support, my dad is living in a small flat and even considering studying something new at university.’

‘As a society we see homelessness as an obscure, distant issue but it is so much closer than we can possibly imagine; all it takes is one thing to set off an unfortunate chain of events. Covid has been especially hard on the homeless population and I am grateful every single day that he was given support at the beginning of lockdown.’

‘I feel so happy I get to pay back the support my dad received to those in similar situations; there truly couldn’t be a more worthy charity. Both Alice and I plan to volunteer with Sussex Homeless Support as soon as Covid allows us to do so.’

Ian Stannard, house parent of Barnes B, commented on the girls’ fundraising efforts to say: ‘Covid has had a big impact on young people, and it is especially heart-warming to see our pupils finding ways to engage with the outside world through such a wonderful fundraising effort. The girls in Barnes B are upholding a great School tradition for the benefit of an amazing charity and we are very proud of them!’

The total amount of money raised was over £1,300, which is a wonderful achievement – well done Barnes B!

The girls in Leigh Hunt are getting their running shoes on to run for charity!

Every girl in Leigh Hunt B is running to Crawley Open House and back over a six-week period (10 miles each) to raise money for the charity. Alex (DG/Year 12) said: ‘Crawley Open House has been our house charity for a few years; they provide support and shelter for vulnerable, homeless and socially isolated people every single day of the year. Due to the pandemic, we haven’t been able to give physical donations such as toiletries or sanitary products, so instead, we’d like to raise money to donate to the charity. We would really appreciate it if you could help us by donating to: www.justgiving.com/fundraising/lhbcrawleyopenhouserun

Pupils from Leigh Hunt A will be running 15 miles, which is the distance from Christ’s Hospital to Chestnut Tree House, over a six-week period. ‘Leigh Hunt A has sponsored Chestnut Tree House for a few years, but due to the pandemic, our usual mode of fundraising has had to be adapted. Chestnut Tree House is a fantastic hospice which aids over 300 children. We would greatly appreciate if you could donate through the below link.’ Keighley (DG/Year 12)

www.justgiving.com/fundraising/sarah-murton1

We are very pleased to have met with two Old Blues Jesse Agwae and Gus Freeman recently, following the launch of their social enterprise @shoutoutbereavementuk. ShoutOut is a charitable movement raising awareness of child bereavement and making direct change to help and support those who have been bereaved.

We were excited to hear about their work and success raising the profile of child bereavement in universities, schools and hospices. CH is looking forward to working with them to improve the issues bereaved children may face at Christ’s Hospital, based on their personal experiences and the skills they have learned from launching ShoutOut. To find out more, follow @shoutoutbereavementuk on Instagram.
During the enforced lockdown, the sports department ran a number of ‘remote’ activities, ranging from ‘Joe Wicks’ style work outs to sport and nutrition cooking sessions live from the ‘messy’ kitchen! There were also sport specific activities, which ran alongside the myriad of physical activities on site for those pupils who remained at CH.

In rugby, the remote sessions for the junior boys and girls focused on individual skills, predominately passing using the ‘rebounder’ ball that allows practices to be undertaken alone against a wall! The seniors used the opportunity to analyse aspects of the School team using a strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats analysis. The pupils then moved on to analyse the Six Nations matches and finished with looking at the planning that goes into a professional rugby match courtesy of information from the Cornish Pirates.

A group of football enthusiasts of all ages joined in weekly meetings covering a range of different subjects including football drills at home, fitness and nutrition as well as analysis of matches by ‘Tifo Football’. The discussion groups also looked at players that caught the eye each week alongside the group’s favourite teams and matches. The YouTuber ‘7mlc’ became a big hit!

The junior and senior netball players took part in various activities and were regularly challenged to modify and adapt practical netball tasks using household space and equipment. The Vitality Netball Super League started in February and gave both groups an opportunity to watch and enjoy top-level netball on a regular basis, as well as develop their understanding of the sport through analysis and group discussion.

In preparation for the summer, the cricketers worked on individual techniques, using practices that could be carried out at home. With England playing India in the recent Test series, this gave the senior group plenty to discuss, including team selection, the rotation of players and how to play spinners on turning pitches in the sub-continent!

During the term there was also a ‘Super Saturday’, an exciting array of sports and physical challenges that could be carried out by pupils at home as well as by those at CH. This competition saw Middleton win the most golds and the most medals overall, and in the girls’ competition, Thornton won the most golds, with Leigh Hunt winning the most medals overall. Then, just before the pupils returned, we had the 1552 challenge – where pupils were encouraged to run with family members. The distance they covered was submitted towards their house total in an attempt to surpass the challenge total of 155.2km. There was a number of outstanding individual and family performances with the following blocks achieving the target:

- Leigh Hunt-A (223km), Lamb-A (218.7km), Middleton-B (217km),
- Middleton-A (192.97km), Lamb-B (165km).

During the period of lockdown, the engagement has been excellent by so many pupils. However, in particular Mr Messenger would like to commend Luke (GE/Year 11) in the senior part of the school and Aurelia (02/Year 7) in the junior section for their particularly high levels of participation across a myriad of activities.

It has been wonderful to see pupils back on site for these last few weeks and the engagement in physical activity has been excellent, with pupils not just benefitting physically from the activities, but also realising the huge social benefits of participating in physical activity. We look forward to seeing the pupils back on the sports fields next term.
INVITING BURSARY APPLICATIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2022

Christ’s Hospital invites bursary applications for September 2022 entry!

Do you know a child who could benefit from a bursary at Christ’s Hospital? Christ’s Hospital offers bursary support to prospective pupils from all backgrounds. Please help us to spread the word on our fee assisted places by telling your friends, families, work colleagues and neighbours!

Current Year 5 pupils who are considering secondary education in September 2022 are invited to apply.

‘All candidates applying for a place will be assessed on their potential to benefit from both the academic and the broader curriculum opportunities. Currently, means-tested bursaries are awarded to nearly 650 of our 900 pupils; 14% of those receive a free place with nearly 35% paying less than 10% of the full boarding fee. Children attending the School are provided with uniforms, meals, accommodation and teaching and learning materials. The boarding school community can be a life-changing experience.’ Simon Reid, Head Teacher.

The closing date for applications for September 2022 entry into Year 7 is Friday, 17 September 2021.

Christ’s Hospital was established over 460 years ago as a charitable boarding school and is proud to maintain its founding principles and ethos. It offers an independent education of the strongest quality to children with academic potential, from every corner of society in a caring and supportive environment.

Our termly Open Mornings are ideal opportunities for interested families to visit the School – everyone who visits is guaranteed a very warm welcome and will be given the opportunity of a full tour of the School plus the chance to meet our staff and pupils.

Families wanting to discover more about Christ’s Hospital before booking to attend an Open Morning can access our Virtual Open Day Experience on our website:

www.christs-hospital.org.uk/virtual-open-day/

Contact us with any questions about 2022 entry to Christ’s Hospital and our bursary places on hello@christs-hospital.org.uk

BRIGHT FUTURES CAMPAIGN REACHES OVER £1.1 MILLION

The need for bursary places at CH is now greater than ever, with more and more families facing financial hardship due to Covid-19. That’s why we’re raising money for our Bright Futures appeal, to fund 18 bursary places for young people at CH. So far, parents, Old Blues and other friends have raised over £1.1 million for Bright Futures, which means we’re only £400,000 away from reaching our target of £1.5 million by September 2022. Thank you to everyone who has made a gift to Bright Futures so far! You are helping CH to ensure a first-class education remains open to all young people, regardless of their social or financial background.

We are pleased to announce that we will be running a telephone campaign in July! We have recruited a team of 13 recent school leavers who will be calling parents and Old Blues to find out about their CH experiences, share news about the School, and seek important support for the Bright Futures campaign. We are very excited to start calling and look forward to talking to you soon! To find out more information or if you would like to talk to one of our recent leavers during the telephone campaign, please get in contact with development@christs-hospital.org.uk.

To find out more about Bright Futures, please visit:

www.christs-hospital.org.uk/support-us/