



# CHRIST'S HOSPITAL

A SCHOOL LIKE NO OTHER

## CH News

### SIMON REID, HEAD TEACHER



I do hope that by now all our new pupils have settled into Christ's Hospital, although I am sure they, along with our older pupils, are now more than ready for a chance to wind down over the Christmas holiday period.

Michaelmas term has been a busy time for pupils as well as staff, particularly in the last couple of weeks, which has seen the term culminate in a series of wonderfully festive events. There has been the senior school production of *A Christmas Carol*, the Christmas Fair, Big Band Concert and the Carol Service in Chapel; congratulations to all the pupils and staff who have worked so hard to make these events so special.

In the true spirit of Christmas, our pupils have also connected with the wider community by holding a Community Club Christmas Lunch, raising money for charity through the Christmas Fair and getting involved in the Shoebox Appeal (more on p.10.)

I would like to wish you and your families a restful break and best wishes for 2020.

### PEER MENTOR AWARDS

Over a hundred Deputy Grecians (Year 12 pupils) completed their intensive Peer Mentor Training Programme this term. This involves training pupils to become 'listening ears' which helps them to grow emotionally and to recognise that they have the skills to help others. It is a very useful life skill which they can take forward beyond school. The pupils all received a personalised certificate, a distinctive yellow wristband (designed to match their yellow socks!) so they can be easily identified around the campus and a sticker for their door to remind other pupils that they are there to help if needed.



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### HIGHLIGHTS



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# CHRIST'S HOSPITAL DECLARES WAR ON PLASTIC



This term, Christ's Hospital invested in giving every one of our 900 pupils an insulated, aluminium reusable water bottle, stylishly branded with the CH crest.

The idea was born when a group of pupils and staff started an eco-club last year, called the Christ's Hospital Eco Rangers. The group were horrified to discover that in the space of a year, 28,000 single-use plastic water bottles were being given out for students to use every time they went away on sports matches, field days and theatre trips.

'The new water bottle is lightweight, durable and keeps water cold for 24 hours. Great for taking to away matches,' explains Lucy, a DG (Year 12) pupil. 'It's a great initiative to move towards a greener planet. A big step in the right

direction,' says Tristan, also a DG pupil.

'The response has been fantastic,' enthuses Ms Munday, the teacher in charge of this initiative. 'The students love their new bottles and everyone is embracing the new initiative. Here's to a more sustainable future for our students!'

The bottles are also for sale in the Hertford Centre (term time only) priced at £12.50.

## GOODBYE MR JOHNSON

At the end of Michelmas term, John Johnson, Director of Drama, is leaving Christ's Hospital for pastures new. Here we capture his parting thoughts.

*How long have you been at CH?*

Three and a bit years (from Sept 2016) though it feels like 30 (in a good way!)

*Which has been your favourite drama production?*

This is a tricky one, as I've loved doing them all. I think *West Side Story* reached new heights, *Les Misérables* was special as my first one and *A Christmas Carol* was a lovely experience. *Grimm Tales* was full of talented young pupils and I loved experiencing *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in the woodland. *The Crucible* also had some terrific performances and I loved *Arthur Miller*. I can honestly say that I've enjoyed doing them all.

*What has been your proudest moment?*

Pupils Harry Omoselle getting into RADA and Bella Kelaidi receiving offers from all of the Drama Schools she applied to. That was special.

*What will you most miss?*

The pupils and the colleagues that I've worked alongside in the Drama Department and in Middleton B.

*Which drama pupils are the ones to watch?*

We have some brilliant young pupils in Ruari Finnegan,



Isobel Taylor and Amelie Beauchamp. We have six Drama scholars in our Deputy Grecian year group (Year 12) and all of them are so talented; it's difficult to pick any one individual.

*Any funny/interesting stories from your time here?*

A trip to see *An Inspector Calls* stands out. All in one night we had managed to book a coach and a train to take us there (which was fortuitous as the train was cancelled). The coach then needed to drop us a mile from the theatre the other side of the river as the bridges were closed because of an unexploded World War II bomb. We then had two pupils on crutches and a teacher with an injury so ended up in various groups, some in a taxi and some walking along the Thames to get there. We missed the opening scene and hit traffic on the way home. It was just one of those nights...



## MANDARIN NEWS

On the 9 December, several pupils represented CH at the British Council Mandarin Speaking Competition, which supports and promotes the teaching of Mandarin as a modern foreign language in UK schools. The competition is part of the British Council's work to prepare students in the UK for a life in a global society and work in a global economy.

The Mandarin department held internal heats throughout Michaelmas term with the winners being selected to attend the regional heats at the British Council offices in London. Edward McCulloch was selected in the Intermediate Plus category and Manuela Musanga in the Beginner category. They both had to deliver a two minute presentation on a topic of their choice in Mandarin, followed by translation challenges.

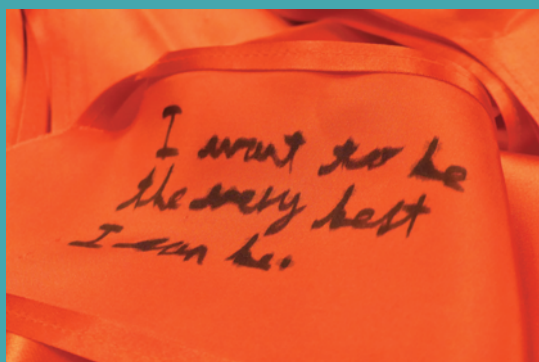
In the group competition, the students performed a five minute drama of their own design in Mandarin and Kinda Mukhayer, Francesca Collins, Evie Duckworth, Corinne Agyemang and Charlene Murua produced a short play about an exchange student living in China.



On Monday 18 November, we welcomed Freya Aitken-Turff, from China Exchange to give a talk on the subject of *Mandarin Segments – Bite-sized ways to understand what learning Chinese can do for you.*

The China Exchange team works to curate activities and experiences that offer people the chance to become more curious about China and to present an alternative perspective on Chinese culture.

Freya worked with the pupils to help them understand their motivations for learning Chinese and then connect these with their future ambitions. She also covered the different career paths that learning Chinese opens up to our students.



## MUN CONFERENCE

On Saturday 16 November, Christ's Hospital held the annual Advanced Debate Model United Nations Conference. Pupils from Christ's Hospital went up against delegates from Wycombe Abbey, Worth and Royal Hospital School, making the total number of pupils attending about 100.

Pupils thoroughly immersed themselves in the simulation of the UN for the duration of the conference and the debates were well researched, ranging from the question of torturing terror suspects to the protests in Hong Kong. All CH pupils, from GE (Year 11) to Grecians (Year 13), stood out thanks to their persuasive speeches and impassioned arguments.

At the end of the conference, six pupils from Christ's Hospital were recognized as being 'Outstanding Delegates' and given an award certificate. 'The day was a great success and highlighted the talented student leaders and young public speakers we have at the school, which was evident earlier in the year in March, when CH swept the prize board at Haileybury College's MUN Conference,' commented Alicia Cassidy, the teacher in charge of MUN at Christ's Hospital.

Once the debates had ended, pupils were treated to a keynote speech from Ed Hobart, a parent at CH, who spoke about his fascinating career so far at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, which provided insightful anecdotes on diplomatic life. The day culminated in a candlelit black tie dinner for all delegates and staff in the dining hall, accompanied by jazz musicians from the school. Also attending were members of the Amicable Society of Blues (former pupils), who sponsor MUN.

## NEW DIRECTOR OF DRAMA



Christ's Hospital is delighted to welcome Fiona Bardley, who will be joining CH in Lent Term as our new Director of Drama.

Fiona is a graduate of Durham University and Mountview Theatre School. As an actress she has worked extensively in theatre, TV, radio and as a voice over artist both in the UK and abroad over many years. As a teacher, her most recent employment in the UK has been as Director of Drama at Repton School in Derbyshire and prior to that as a teacher of Drama at Dauntsey's School in Wiltshire. She joins Christ's Hospital

from New York University where she has just spent a year teaching voice and acting to first and second year undergraduate students there. She is absolutely delighted to be joining such a vibrant and exciting Drama department.



## THE BAND OUT & ABOUT



### St Matthew's Day

On 20 September, Christ's Hospital pupils took over the streets of London for our annual St Matthew's Day march, which celebrates almost five centuries of links with the City.

The event began with an atmospheric service in the church of St Sepulchre-without-Newgate, attended by The Lord Mayor Locum Tenens. The choir and a group of our musicians performed beautifully and Senior Grecian, Andre Da Silva-Jenkins, read the first lesson confidently and clearly. Then, led by the Band, senior pupils marched to Guildhall, stopping the traffic in their wake.

It was quite a sight: 400 pupils in Tudor uniform, led by our magnificent band, marching from St Sepulchre-without-Newgate to Guildhall. On arrival, they

were welcomed by the Lord Mayor Locum Tenens for the traditional presentation of largesse, where each pupil was presented with a coin fresh from the Royal Mint. The tradition of giving pupils largesse, which means a gift of money or act of kindness, dates back to when the school was located in London (from 1552 to 1902), at a site now occupied by Merrill Lynch Bank of America, not far from St Paul's Cathedral.

One of the highlights in the School's calendar, historically, St Matthew's Day was the day on which the Governors of CH were elected and 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 Band in Horsham

For the first time since the early 2000s, the Band paraded through the streets of Horsham on Sunday 13 October and then gave a concert (in the pouring rain) in the town's Carfax. They gave an excellent performance and represented the School wonderfully, something that was clearly very well received in the local community.

### Lord Mayor's Show

On November 9, the Band made its 38th appearance at the Lord Mayor's Show, reaffirming the School's historic connections with the City of London. The performance was broadcast by the BBC as part of their live coverage of the Show, while the accompanying commentary included many interesting

facts about the Band.

The musicians were 111th in the running order of 143 participants. They played their signature piece and our School march, 'Sussex by the Sea' while marching past the Cenotaph. Three pupils also took part in the procession organised by the City of London to represent its Family of Schools.

For Band Captain Murray Dare, it was his 4th year marching at the Lord Mayor's Show; add that to the many years Murray's parents have been marching in bands at this event and the Dare family notch up 70 years between them! Incidentally, it was after Murray's mum spoke to the CH band at the Lord Mayor's Show in the 80s that she decided Christ's Hospital would be the school she would like her future child to go to!





## MUSIC NEWS

There has been plenty of good news in the music department this term; some of the highlights are below:

- Deputy Grecian (Year 12 pupil) Mutsuki Seki, a hugely talented and proficient musician, has been awarded a coveted place at the Junior Guildhall School of Music & Drama, London, to study violin and piano. Congratulations Mutsuki!

- Congratulations to Phoebe-Jane Weir (GR/Year 13) and Lucy Horder (DG/Year 12) who have been invited to take part in some high level singing. Lucy was part of the choir that was formed especially to audition new conductors for the National Youth Choir of Great Britain, and Phoebe has joined Rodolfus Choir, made up of the most talented alumni of the Rodolfus Choral Courses.

- After a competitive audition process, Max Rosen (DG/Year 12) has been offered a place as a pianist to join the National Youth Jazz Orchestra Academy Big Band. This is a tremendous achievement, richly deserved.



From left: Phoebe, Max, Lucy and Molly.

- Many congratulations to Molly Bielecki (GR/Year 13) who has been recommended for a Choral Scholarship at University College, Oxford. Gaining a place and the scholarship is obviously dependent on a successful academic interview and grades, but it is an excellent achievement in and of itself. In addition, Molly has been awarded the DipABRSM on the French horn and has just been offered a place on the Royal College of Music and Manchester University joint course.

- Ruby Manderson-Philips (GE, Year 11) arrived at CH on the LE. After seeing what is on offer here, she threw herself into the musical life of the school: she now has weekly piano, organ, and euphonium lessons, plays in Band, sings in Choir and Junior Schola, studies GCSE Music, and, in her 'spare' time, composes her own music. Ruby recently scored a laudable 98 out of 100 in her Grade 5 Theory of Music examination.



Mutsuki Seki, DG/Year 12

## SCHOOL CONCERT

The School Concert, on 1 December, is the only concert in the year where all our major instrumental ensembles share a stage.

The Symphony Orchestra, opened with an accomplished performance of the first movement of Beethoven's *Symphony No. 1*.

The Chamber Orchestra followed with Vaughan Williams' *Five Variants of Dives and Lazarus*, a piece which needs much dynamic shape and contrast; this challenge was most certainly met. Then came the Intermediate Orchestra, with an assured rendition of the March from Mozart's *The Magic Flute* and the delightful Larghetto and Presto from Hertel's *Symphony in G*.

We were then treated to two of the brilliantly fun winning performances from the House Singing Competition earlier this term: Middleton B (*Mr Blue Sky*) and Leigh Hunt B (*Walking on sunshine*).

The Training Band had toes tapping with three dance numbers, finishing with an energetic Abba medley by Robert Longfield. Finally, the Christ's Hospital Band gave us three challenging staples of its repertoire, demonstrating that this large group really is at the top of its game.

It was an afternoon of real accomplishment and high-quality entertainment; bravo all.





The last snowflake has fallen in Big School, the mulled wine smell has drifted off into the distance and Scrooge's epiphany is now a warm memory from the past. Over 1000 audience members attended performances on Thursday, Friday and Saturday in the first week of December, with an auditorium full of local primary school pupils experiencing Karen Louise Hebden's adaptation of Dickens's classic novel. Last week saw the first Senior Production to take place in Big School since before the time of the theatre was built in 1975, so those who could remember were transferred back to a pre-theatre space at Christ's Hospital.

Director Mr John Johnson was working on his final show before moving on and had wanted to create a festive atmosphere for the audience to experience as they entered Big School. Spectators were greeted with carol singers, offerings of mince pies and clementines and falling snow as they found their way to their seats. Performers interacted with audience members and the scene was set for a show that would be interactive from the start. New Theatre Technician Paul Knott had transformed the Big School theatre space with a collection of theatre lights and sound and had also built a thrust style stage that allowed performers to really connect with the audience.

The adaptation kept true to Dickens's brilliant writing, with much of the original novel being integrated into the script and delivered by eight storytellers who kept the narrative flowing. Finding a way of dramatising a novel is not always an easy task, but the cast managed to produce a drama that had all the hallmarks of a terrific piece of theatre – tense in places, well rounded characters and believable relationships developed



## A CHRISTMAS CAROL REVIEW

throughout.

A brilliant cast and crew of over 60 pupils were led ably by Grecian, Josh Sterley, who created a convincing, yet painful interpretation of Ebenezer Scrooge. With such a demanding role, Sterley was barely off stage throughout the performance and his drive, energy and commitment to the performance was spectacular at times.

Highlights included a moving revisiting of Scrooge's backstory, with Grecian Rose Chisholm creating a firm yet sensitive role in the Ghost of Christmas Past. The royal treatment was provided with Elise Farquhar's Ghost of Christmas Present, in a characterisation that seemed to be a step away from the Netflix series *The Crown* in an efficient and upstanding no-nonsense interpretation. Finally, the spooky Ghost of Christmas Future was provided through Constance Haigh's large shadowy figure looming over Scrooge's fate.

An evening of live music from composer and pianist Steve Brooks really added to the atmosphere and

there was fun and frivolity experienced by all in the Fezziwig's scene, where high energy dancing contrasted the stillness of Scrooge's falling in love with Belle, played beautifully by Lucy North and Tristan Berry.

Perhaps the most moving scenes throughout the performance could be found in the Cratchit household, where Bob and his wife did their best to bring joy, fun and happiness to their poor family. George Cartner's Tiny Tim complete with an equally tiny crutch to lean on was wonderful and there was barely a dry eye in the house with his piercing rendition of *Silent Night*. These performances supported the work carried out by Horsham District Foodbank and members of the audience donated boxes and boxes of food in acts of generosity that would have warmed the hearts of any Humbug.

As these wonderfully atmospheric performances drew to a close, it was left to Cartner's Tiny Tim to sum up the Christmas message on Saturday evening with that immortal line: 'God Bless us.... Everyone!'





# A LIFE-CHANGING TRIP TO KENYA

Last July, a team of pupils and staff from Christ's Hospital travelled to Kitale in western Kenya and spent three weeks building six new classrooms for impoverished schools, in partnership with the charity Classrooms for Kenya. Below, some of the pupils who went on the trip, write about the experience.



'As part of the trip we were challenged to raise £300. Louis, Kaspar, Matthew and Luke who walked 100 miles, and Lydia who shaved her head had very challenging ways of fundraising. I carried out three different fundraising activities (including a car boot sale and a 5k run) and although I faced a few hurdles in the process of fundraising, I successfully reached the goal and was able to partake in a life-changing trip. Last year, everyone here from Third form and above helped to raise money through a sponsored walk; between this and the fundraising by staff and students on the trip, we, as a whole school, were able to raise £45,000 to pay for six new classrooms in Kenya.'

*Remi Ladega Chisholm (GR/Year 13)*

'The building process was not an easy one, especially after the first day. The 56 of us, both staff and pupils, were split into three groups, each building at separate schools, throughout the week. Arms were sore, legs were aching but somehow the boys always made sure they had enough energy to watch the cricket. During this building process, we made such a connection with our schools and this made building the classrooms enjoyable. We built the walls quite quickly, layering concrete and placing the bricks ourselves with the help of our builders. When we were onto the frame for the roof, the process seemed to slow down but nevertheless, we continued to work and if we were not needed, we would interact with the children by playing with them and teaching them.

After three weeks of consistent building, the end result was that each group had built a double classroom for Kibegenge, Nora and Musundi and Saiwa; a total of six new classrooms, which we are extremely proud of. The group that worked with Saiwa not only built at the school but also at an orphanage that was down the road. They built a dorm for 20 girls where there will now be more space to take in orphans, give them a bed to sleep on and a chance to experience a happier life and education.'

*Clarice - Marie Mensah (GR/Year 13)*



'I was thrown off guard by the welcoming nature of the people from Kenya, especially by the students from Kibagenge Primary School. To be honest, it did feel overwhelming at first. Try having a hundred kids rushing towards you, each wanting to get a high-five, and a few shouting "Chinese!" At my height, I was sure I was going to fall over. It was so clear to me, that they have a gift, of being positive all the time

and being able to make people feel valued and appreciated without putting any extra effort into it. It all just came naturally. For three weeks, I had also been teaching the students from Nora & Musundi Primary School. At almost every break time, they would come out of their classroom and ask if we could go teach them. Their eagerness to learn had reminded me to be thankful for being able to receive a good education. It also encouraged me to spread positivity, to see the good in people and to make everyone feel valued. This trip has taught us to be grateful for what we have.'

*Heilia Leung (GR/Year 13)*



*The Kenya team on CH soil.*



## NATIONAL POETRY COMPETITION



Christ's Hospital's cosmopolitan students once again took the honours in the national competition for poetry translation, the Stephen Spender Prize. A remarkable three pupils had their work rewarded in this prestigious contest, which is backed by The Guardian newspaper. The winning pupils were awarded their prizes and read their work at a ceremony in London on 26 November.

Grecian (Year 13) student Lulu Walsh, who hopes to study Japanese at university next year and has been teaching herself the language, took second prize in the under 18s competition with her translation of an avant-garde Japanese poem. 'Lulu Walsh's *The Blue Horse* revels in the casual surrealism of Japanese poet Sagawa Chika,' the judges of the competition commented, and 'poignantly conveys the speaker's struggle with depression and suicidal thoughts, punctuated by moments of comic relief.'

Meanwhile, in the junior section for 14s and under, two students were highly commended. Hannah Jordan's (LE/Year 9) entry was a moving poem called 'Incomplete Victories', by S. Varalakshmi, which she translated from Tamil; while Jasper Birkin (UF/Year 10) translated one of his Dutch grandfather's favourite poems, 'Trees' by Toon Hermans.

On a more parochial note, Lulu and Hannah continue a great tradition of translation in Leigh Hunt B House! Current and past pupils Bee Crinnion, Katherine Linaker, Warsan Zubeir-Masabo and Alex Seizani-Dimitriadi have all had success in the competition in recent years, translating from Swedish, Russian, Swahili and Modern Greek.

In this year's competition – in which CH pupils went head to head with students from the most academic schools in the

country – a whopping 65 languages were represented.

The Stephen Spender Trust is a charity promoting literary translation and multilingualism through school workshops and the annual Stephen Spender Prize for poetry translation, organised in association with the Guardian.

*The Blue Horse* - Sagawa Chika  
Translated by Lulu Walsh

A horse galloped down  
the mountain, and went mad. Since  
then, she eats blue food.

Summer dyes women's  
eyes and sleeves blue and, joyful,  
whirls in the town square.

Guests on the terrace  
smoke so many cigarettes  
that the tin-like sky

scrawls loops onto the  
ladies' hair. Let's throw away  
the sad memories

like a handkerchief.  
If I could only forget  
the love and regret

and the patent shoes!  
I got through without jumping  
from the second floor.

Sea rises to sky.



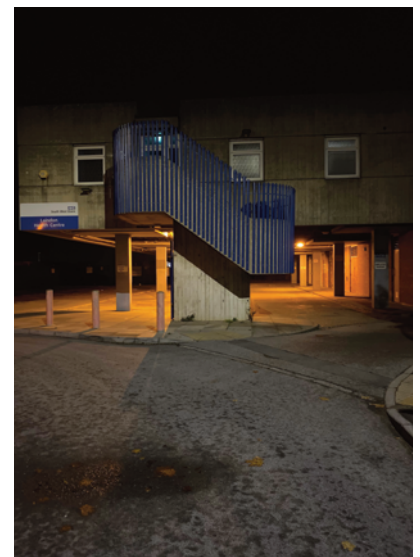
# TONY RAY-JONES PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION 2019

This year's Tony Ray-Jones Photography Competition had a theme of 'Structure' and had 170 entries. The guest judge, Edward Denison (Architectural Historian, Associate Professor at the Bartlett School of Architecture, award-winning author and Old Blue) found the task particularly difficult because of the quantity and standard of the entries. His winning choices were:

Junior: Frankie Cowley (Second Form/Year 7)  
Intermediate: Ife Johnson (GE/Year 11)  
Senior: Lu Li (GR/Year 13)  
Best in Show: George Sanger (GR/Year 13)

The competition was followed by a lecture by Edward where he discussed the decentralisation of Modernism, the historical context to the architecture of Asmara, Eritrea as a case in point, as well as the state of architecture in the age of the Anthropocene. In a short space of time he gave a highly compelling argument for reviewing the Modernist story, looking beyond Europe and North America for our cultural history, as well as illuminating the responsibility our students have to address in maintaining and adding to the current global architectural landscape. He also advertised The Bartlett's Promise, which is a new initiative for prospective architect students who can apply for funding towards their higher education.

The competition was originally inspired by Old Blue, John Ferreira, and was named in honour of well-known British photographer, Tony Ray-Jones, who had a huge influence on the development of British documentary art photography and was educated at Christ's Hospital.



Top: Lu Li, George Sanger, Edward Denison and Frankie Cowley.  
Middle left: Frankie's photo and middle right: Ife's photo.  
Bottom left: George's photo and bottom right: Lu's photo.





## SHOEBOX APPEAL



The organisation of the shoebox appeal started in October. A group of service-minded Grecians (Year 13) and Deps (Year 12) met once a week at break time in the LARC up until just after half term in order to plan how we were going to raise awareness for the cause and encourage people to donate.

The first thing we did was assign tasks so we could all be involved in making the community aware of the shoebox appeal. Amber and Dilys created a rollcall message about the appeal, Lena created a poster; Charlotte and Silvana wrote advice to house parents on how to get involved and Richard, Samuel, Cedric and Levin made a video instructing everyone how to pack a shoebox. We also reminded pupils about the charity drive and how they could contribute in house roll call. This was particularly important just before half term so that our peers would remember to bring things in. During half term, Sophie also organised eight boxes for the appeal with her guide unit in Crawley and eight for another local charity.

On the first week back, we had until Wednesday to collect all the donations and, on Thursday afternoon the next week, we packed up all 55 boxes. Charlotte and Silvana then travelled to the depot in Worthing, where they met some of the staff that make this charity drive possible.

The charity that runs the shoe box appeal is Link to Hope. Their goal is to combat poverty through humanitarian aid and education. They started the family shoebox appeal in 1992 and the elderly appeal in recent years. In that time, they have sent over 800,000 shoeboxes to families in Romania, Moldova, Bulgaria and Ukraine. Christ's Hospital supports this charity every year because it means that even those who live in poverty, often without access to running water, heating or electricity, get a gift at Christmas, as well as essentials such as toiletries.

The group would like to say a big thank you to all the pupils and staff who supported this worthy cause.

Niamh Gilding (DG/Year 12)

## TRIP TO NORMANDY



During October half term, fifty pupils (Third Form/Year 8 and Seniors /Year 12&13) travelled to the beautiful Normandy countryside to stay in a converted farmhouse, a short walk away from the bay of Mont St Michel. This was the French Department's second trip to Normandy in 2019.

On the first day, there was a fabulous excursion to the town of Bayeux to see the Bayeux Tapestry, as well as to the Normandy war cemeteries and to Arromanches. On day two, there was a visit to Mont St Michel's historic island, with a tour of the ramparts, abbey and a cold but rewarding walk across the bay's tricky sands with an experienced French guide. The final two days were split between juniors and seniors: the juniors baked bread, competed at archery and visited the Château de la Baudonnière, while the seniors were treated to a tour of the fire station and tourist office in the local town of Avranches, as well as the opportunity to visit Christian Dior's house in Granville.

This was the first time we have taken a senior trip to Normandy and we will be continuing the trip in the future as the exposure to the French language and culture was incredible. Many thanks to the teachers who gave up their holiday for the trip and who organised it all in advance!

## CAREERS ROUND-UP



With visits from Rolls Royce, Price Waterhouse Cooper, The University of Law, Cardiff University (Medicine and Healthcare) and many more, the Careers Department has offered careers lunches and teas to a wide range of pupils this term. There have been visits from consultants, giving our Grecians (Year 13) one to one bespoke advice on university and higher degree apprenticeships, interviews with University of Sussex to review pupils' personal statements, one to one interviews for GE (Year 11) pupils reviewing their career profiles, CV clinics and much more. The debating society events have included a wonderful evening with Sir David Green (pictured above) adjudicating and then talking about his illustrious career in Law. Key events to look forward to in 2020 include an all professions Old Blue (former pupil) networking event for DG (Year 12.)



## SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS



### Badminton

The highlight of this term was undoubtedly the seniors' 20:3 victory over Cranleigh School. The victory was very much a team effort with particularly outstanding performances by Maxwell Singh-Kingdon and Gus Freeman as well as Murray Dare and Nitza Lau.

### Basketball

Congratulations to Jay Lauese for making history when she became the first girl in CH history to be selected for the 1st team Basketball Squad as they look forward to inter-school matches next term.

### Football

The U12s have had an encouraging first season of football, playing over thirty matches and winning more than half of them. They have shown great enthusiasm and commitment in training and in matches. The highlights of the U13s term was their much improved performances versus Warden Park and The Weald. Congratulations to David Akintola, Daniel Boboye, Tommy Haynes, David Iyayi, Matisse Jones, James Mackay, Tosin Osoba and Markos Panoutsos who have all gained selection for the Prep & Independent Schools Football Development team that will take part in the Gothia World Youth Football Competition in Gothenburg next summer.

### Hockey

Participation levels in Girls Hockey have been exceedingly high across all age groups. The juniors have focused predominantly on game based training, which has resulted in some really promising performances. The highlight of the junior season came at the U13C Hurstpierpoint tournament, where the girls played superbly, winning a thrilling final 2-1 against the tournament hosts. The 1st XI and other A teams had tough seasons, but remained positive and committed and their efforts paid off with some excellent performances against some big hockey playing schools. The 2nd XI, 4th XI and the U15B teams particularly stood out in terms of results.

Half Colours for Hockey are awarded to:  
Rosanna Callas, Amy Bloomfield- Proud, Caitlin Wong, Yasmina Mohamed, Elise Farquhar, Ayo Salami, Emily Maclean, Timi Laniyan, Charlotte Winship

Full Hockey Colours are awarded to:  
Daisy O'Callaghan, Emma Hitchcock, Lilith Weingarten, Ellen Farrelly

### Netball

This term the 2nd and 3rd Form have explored the basic requirements of netball, incorporating a number of fixtures against other schools. The U14 team put on a fantastic display in the first round of the National schools competitions, narrowly missing out on a top 3 place.

### Rugby

The U16s have been the stand out team this term; they have progressed hugely as a group. There have been many strong performers with Sam Elias, Lucca Green, Jin Samson and Sonny Gasson in particular having top seasons. They ended the season on a high with a 31 all draw away at Whitgift. Whitgift had only lost one match all season and they were so impressed with the CH performance that the parents asked for a joint team photograph, as it had been the toughest match they had had all season. The U13s and U14s have played new opposition this season and both have received plaudits from the visiting staff and parents for not only the manner in which they play the matches, but also in the way they conduct themselves within the core values of the game. The seniors have had a successful season where the team effort has been greater than any one individual. Congratulations to Morgan Purnell, Sam Elias, Jin Samson, Marcus Mebenga-Taylor, David Asamani, Luke Pullen and Timi Haastrup who have all been members of the Harlequins Academy DPP programme this year.

Half Colours for Rugby are awarded to:  
Mustapha Saliho, Laurie Maddalena, Sefa Asamani, James North

Full Rugby Colours are awarded to:  
Conor Stewart, Murray Dare, Alex Heath, Sam Odu, Gus Freeman

### Squash

It has been an excellent term for our squash players, belying the concern that the talent gap created by our leaving Grecians would be too big to fill. The senior girls' and boys' teams have led by example in terms of training and match play. A number of schools have commented on how much they enjoy the fixtures against CH; without doubt this can be attributed to the excellent sportsmanship of the players, typified by Arthur Pinkney and James Ormerod who selflessly 'call their own shots' when these may have been missed by the referee. New talent is emerging and captain Joe Grella-Bekele has led by example, playing with grace beyond his years. The girls have also developed their play, to a standard where they rarely lose a match. With more challenging fixtures for them next term, the preparation thus far should prove most helpful. All of the girls should be recognised for their efforts, but in particular Sara Wan whose application and dedication to training has been remarkable.





## SCHOOL GENERAL ELECTION



Pupils provided a political evening that excelled Question Time on Friday 6 December, when the Debating Society held a General Election Debate. All the pupils representing each of the main parties – Will Rodgers, Theo Murton, Lottie Field, Ben McGreevy, Freddie Northcott and Andrew McLeod – gave clear and concise speeches outlining their party's promises and aims.

This was followed by a wide range of questions from the floor about the privatization of the NHS, Labour's policies on education regarding the position of CH, tax on the wealthiest and the challenges of another referendum. Helena Thornton chaired the debate à la Fiona Bruce. The only non-appearance was from the Brexit Party.

Voting then took place in Houses the following Monday. The result (calculated with each House representing one constituency) was a Hung Parliament, with a draw between Labour and the Liberal Democrats. Proportionally, Labour won the election with the highest number of votes, gaining 242 seats in Parliament (37% of the vote.) The Liberal Democrats came second, with 174 seats, and the Greens in third with 121 seats. The Green Party won in only one house (GR-E), but gained 19% of the vote overall. This would likely result in a Labour or Liberal-Democrat led government in coalition with the Green Party.

## CLIMBING KILIMANJARO

In October, one of our Matrons (from Leigh Hunt) Becca O'Connell, flew to Tanzania to take on the incredible week-long challenge of climbing Kilimanjaro to raise money for Heads On, a local mental health charity. Becca raised over £4,500, which will go to two local hospitals that have played a key part in her son's recovery from mental illness. 'It was probably the hardest physical thing I've ever done, a huge challenge both mentally and physically. Definitely the challenge of a lifetime. An amazing experience,' she commented. Read all about it here: [www.headsoncharity.org/news/climbing-kilimanjaro/index.html](http://www.headsoncharity.org/news/climbing-kilimanjaro/index.html)



## YOU ARE MAKING BRIGHT FUTURES POSSIBLE!



In September, we launched the Bright Futures campaign, to raise £1.5 million by September 2021 to fund 18 additional bursary places at CH.

On 3 December, CH celebrated Giving Tuesday, the international day of giving, in support of Bright Futures. A generous Old Blue pledged to match every gift given, and we were astounded by the response from parents and Old Blues. In total, we raised an incredible £200,000! Thank you to everyone who took part, this was our most successful Giving Tuesday ever.

Since the Bright Futures campaign launched, a total of 354 parents and Old Blues have raised over £280,000, with another £34,000 pledged by 2021. This is amazing and we're so grateful to everyone who has already made a gift. You are helping to make Bright Futures possible by giving a CH education to young people from disadvantaged backgrounds. Thank you.

To find out more about how you can support the Bright Futures campaign, contact the Development Team on 01403 246570, or [development@christs-hospital.org.uk](mailto:development@christs-hospital.org.uk), or visit [www.christs-hospital.org.uk/support-us](http://www.christs-hospital.org.uk/support-us).



**CHRIST'S HOSPITAL**

A SCHOOL LIKE NO OTHER



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