The summer term is always particularly vibrant and even more so for having so many opportunities to welcome our pupils’ families to the School. Thank you for your support and enthusiasm in attending our various events; I do hope you have enjoyed them as much as I have.

Congratulations to all our pupils who sat public exams; they have worked very hard, while juggling other responsibilities, whether musical, sporting or theatrical, so I do hope they have been enjoying a well-earned break over the summer holidays.

Our new catering facility will soon be finished and in use; it has been very exciting to watch the splendid building take shape over the last year. We now start work on the Theatre, which will give it its first major upgrade since it opened in 1974 – the results promise to be well worth the 12-month wait.

It is with mixed emotions that we wave our Grecians goodbye and celebrate their amazing accomplishments at CH, while wishing them the very best in this new and thrilling chapter of their lives.

Wishing everyone, pupils, parents and staff, a great start to the new academic year.
Speech Day is a long-standing tradition at Christ's Hospital and has been held in the Summer term since 1871; this year’s Speech Day was held on Saturday 25 May and the School welcomed the Lord Mayor of the City of London, Alderman Peter Estlin and the Sheriffs of the City of London.

Over 700 parents, pupils and supporters first attended a special Chapel service and then emerged in to the Quadrangle, in mercifully pleasant weather conditions. Junior pupils Rebecca and Paul bravely stepped out to present a posy of flowers to the Deputy Head, Marlene Fleming, in her final term at the School. The March Past, an annual tradition when the drum majors leading the Band salute the Lord Mayor, followed this. The Band’s performance was excellent, as usual, and the pupils who followed marched proudly and proficiently with their ‘eyes right’.

At the Prize Giving ceremony that followed, senior pupils were presented with awards and prizes recognising academic achievement, leadership, international relations and outward bound activities. In line with tradition, the Senior Grecian (Head Pupil) gave an oration to which the Lord Mayor responded with his own speech. This is always a highlight of the ceremony, this year’s oration by Angelle Roberts being no exception.

This wonderful occasion finished with an informal buffet lunch and the opportunity for visitors to see the Grecians’ Art Exhibition.

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ST CATHERINES’ HOSPICE HEART TRAIL

Last term, Eliza Roche, in LE (Year 9), submitted a design for a giant heart which was chosen to feature in the St Catherine’s Hospice Heart Trail! Eliza brought her design to life on a giant, plaster heart, which she named Squiggles & Wiggles. It went on public display in July, along with another 20 uniquely designed hearts, as part of a trail of hearts across East Surrey and West Sussex. Eliza’s heart has been displayed at Tulleys Farm in East Grinstead.

‘I’m always doodling so when the opportunity arose for me to do something like this for the heart competition, it felt like a good idea. I thought it would look quite interesting on a larger scale.’

JUNIOR DEBATING COMPETITION

Last term, all the debaters from the debating active took part in our Junior Debating competition. In the first round our topics were: ‘This house would ban animal testing’ and, ‘this house would lower the voting age to 16’. The winners of these debates, Gabriel and Hanniyah, and Priya and Sienna then faced each other in the final, debating ‘this house believes that exams are detrimental to education’. Priya and Sienna successfully opposed this motion to argue that exams do have a place in education, even if they aren’t a pleasant experience!

The debates were expertly judged by senior debaters Andre and Talia, who gave up their time willingly and gave invaluable feedback to the speakers.

Well done to all who took part, many of whom had not debated before this half term.

BIG BANG FAIR

In June, 23 UF (Year 10) pupils attended the Big Bang STEM Fair in Ardingly. Pupils were treated to an array of stalls showcasing the wide range of careers available in the sciences, from civil engineering to designing robots for LEGO. The day concluded with a short workshop where students were able to build their own spectroscope (a tool used to separate and analyse the spectrum).
IB DIPLOMA RESULTS

July saw the IB pupils at Christ’s Hospital gain a strong set of results, with 50% of the pupils gaining 34 points or more out of a maximum of 45. 16% of all grades awarded were at Level 7, and just under half of all grades achieved were at Level 6. 80% of the grades achieved by the cohort were at Level 5 or above. Over 25% of the cohort of 28 pupils gained 38 points or more and the average points achieved by the IB cohort was 34.1 points out of 45, or 192 UCAS points (equivalent to A A A A at A2-Level). Currently top places expected to be taken up by our IB Grecians include: Medicine at Imperial, Classics at University College London and Biomedical Sciences at Kings College London. Many congratulations to all.

GCSE RESULTS

Pupils and staff at Christ’s Hospital are celebrating another excellent set of (I)GCSE results. This is another year in which an impressive 37% of all grades achieved were equivalent to an A*, with 64% of all grades at A grade or above and 96% A*-C. With the new Level 9-1 grading available in more subjects, this allowed many of our most able pupils to achieve the top grade. 117 grades out of all grades awarded were the top Level 9, equating to 15% of the cohort. Strong performances are noted in Mathematics and Science, with 74.2% of all Maths grades achieved being equivalent to a Level 7 or higher; in Triple Science, 69% of all grades achieved were equivalent to a Level 7 or higher and in English 91% of grades achieved were A*-B. Included in these results there are some hugely impressive individual performances including 30 pupils who achieved at least 10 A or A* grades out of a cohort of 121 and 24 pupils achieved at least 8 A*.

Special congratulations should go to:
- Theodore Murton 12 A* (7 of which were at Level 9)
- Sophie Lambert 11 A* (5 at level 9)
- Katherine Linaker 11 A*, 1 A (4 at level 9)
- Imani Tokpanoude 10 A* (6 at level 9)
- Felix Adena 10 A* (3 at level 9)
- Aidan Caunter 10 A*, 2 A (1 at level 9)
- Manon Howard 10 A*, 1 A (1 at level 9)
- Cameron Smith 10 A*, 1 B (4 at level 9)

These results and achievements are made all the more remarkable given the new, more challenging specifications and terminal examinations after recent reforms.

Considering the journey that many of our pupils will have undertaken to get to this point, these are inspirational results. They and their teachers deserve loud praise for them. It is always easy to show that individuals have achieved at the ‘top’ end; however, unwavering light must also be shone on the many people in this cohort who did not gain an A* or A-grade but whose results reflect their very best. Christ’s Hospital will continue to be proud of its GCSE pupils because they embrace their school journey, negotiate its hurdles, and almost always emerge having done their very best.

A LEVEL RESULTS

This year’s A level results were again impressive. Overall 11% of all Pre-U and A Level grades achieved were equivalent to an A* with 61% of grades achieved being A*-B. Out of a cohort of 121 pupils 40 A* or equivalent grades were achieved with 22 pupils, 18% of the cohort achieving a minimum of one A*. 25 pupils, 20% of the cohort, achieved strong grades in four or more A-Levels. 15 pupils achieved a clean sweep of 3 or more A or A* grades. The average UCAS points achieved by each pupil was 124, which equates to BBB. There were some notable individual achievements and huge congratulations go to these students:

- Mao Mikami with A*, A*, A*, A, A (Gap Year)
- Montgomerie Wren with A*, A*, A, A (Physics, Imperial)
- Lydia Thornhill A*, D2, A, D3 (Chinese, Manchester)
- Takashi Yoshinaga A*, A*, A, A (Economics, UCL)
- Serenity Thornton A*, D2, D3, B (Politics, Philosophy and Law, KCL)
- Maximus Holloway A*, A, A (Medicine, Birmingham)
- Eugene Ting A*, A, A, A (Engineering)
- Osman Kwok A*, A, A (Biomedical Science, KCL)
- Carolyn Acevedo A*, A*, A, B (Nat. Sci.)
- Yuki Takeuchi A*, A*, A, B (Maths and Comp. Sci., UCL)
- Maria Howard A*, A*, A (Chemistry with French, Imperial)
- Naomi Cooper A*, A*, A (Chemistry with French, Imperial)
- Yuki Takeuchi A*, A*, A, B (Maths and Comp. Sci., UCL)
- Theodore Murton A*, A*, A (Chemistry with French, Imperial)
- Naomi Cooper A*, A*, A (Chemistry with French, Imperial)
- Charles Robinson A*, D2, D2 (Philosophy, UCL)
- Matthew Attalah A*, D2, D2 (History, LSE)

Congratulations to Naomi Cooper (Classics and English, Oxford), Maria Howard (Chemistry with French, Imperial) and Montgomerie Wren (Physics, Imperial) on achieving their offer requirements to take up their Oxford and Imperial places.

As a consequence of these results, 103 out of the cohort of 121 pupils choosing to apply through UCAS this year, 79% were able to take up either their first choice or insurance offer. With many of our pupils taking up places on course at prestigious universities including Bristol, Durham, Imperial College, KCL, LSE, Oxford, and UCL.

Our pupils’ results testify to their strong embrace of learning opportunities over many years; they and their teachers, and everyone who has supported their time at Christ’s Hospital, deserve the warmest congratulations. Results like these flow from countless influences, many of them well beyond the classroom; at Christ’s Hospital, especially, there can be real pride in the successes reflected in these statistics.
Let me begin by laying my cards on the table; of all Shakespeare's plays, Midsummer Night's Dream is my least favourite. It was therefore with some misgiving that I prepared to attend the middle school production of this extravaganza. I could not have been more wrong.

The play was delightful, the setting was charming and I had a thoroughly enjoyable evening. It helped of course that this production was sensibly modified to an accommodating 75 minutes, but at no time was I bored, or in pain from poor Shakespearian interpretation. I adored the sustainable set, the woodland scenery, the fairy lights, the tepee and soft bedding; I loved the idea of the fairies flitting around with the villagers in the forest backdrop, creating exactly the right atmosphere of magic and mystery through which the narrative of the Dream could unfold.

There were some bold characterisations from the moment the play commenced as Theseus – Bunkuiyi Olagunju took to the stage with his court. The four lovers, Hermia – Alice Frith-Powell, Demetrius – Jake Race, Lysander – Keir Churchill and Helena – Rosy Brown quickly created the tension for the love triangle. At the fairy court, Will Fletcher masterfully controlled the stage as Oberon and Fisher Rose provided much mischief as Puck. Lilian Eade was a stylish Titania and surrounded by her fluttering fairies she was the centre of an elegant court in which truly, ‘Magic reigns, fairies interfere and anything can happen, both weird and wonderful.’

A word of praise must also be extended to Bottom and his fellow artisans for their wonderfully funny performance of Pyramus and Thisbe. Myron Asare was excellent as the over confident Bottom ably supported by Kit Biegstraaten as the long-suffering Peter Quince. Jacob Sargent came into his own as Francis Flute in the role of Thisbe, flirting beautifully opposite Bottom and his enormous ego. Georgie Catt in particular brought a unique humour to her role as Tom Snout, AKA the ‘wall’ and clearly improvised with great spontaneity to provide extra humour on the night.

A huge well done to Zoe Munday as the Director. Her creativity and vision flowed strong throughout the production. Her bold choice of venue, the skilful lighting which drew on the evening light, the gorgeous flowers, the ethereal fairy costumes which contrasted so well with the courtly outfits, all spun together to create a rich tapestry of colour and design. An imaginative, funny and clever production, which brought out the best of all the middle school performers.

by L. Thornton
GRIMM TALES

At the end of June, John Johnson directed the Second and Third Form (Year 7 & 8) pupils in the staging of eight of the Grimm Tales, ranging from the well-known 'Hansel and Gretel' through to the lesser known tales such as ‘The Musicians of Bremen’, as adapted by Carol Ann Duffy. The performances were completely live, with the audience choosing the order of the stories each night and the pupils adapting and working on the spot as they found out what the next performance would be. This was improvisation at its best and was a lot of fun for all involved!

CREATIVE ASSEMBLY VISIT

In the summer term, a group of ten Deputy Grecians (Year 12s) visited the offices of local video game company, Creative Assembly, in Horsham. Creative Assembly are an award-winning video game studio, having created world-famous titles such as Alien: Isolation and the Total War series.

First stop was the motion capture studio where students participated in a simulated ‘self-destruct sequence’ on board a spaceship. Dressed in special suits, they created and played out a dramatic scene that was recreated on-screen in the virtual world. Pupils decided that they would act theirs out as a fight, so an epic pitched battle, replete with sound effects, ensued!

After the motion capture experience, pupils headed to see Creative Assembly’s artists, currently at work on Total War: Three Kingdoms, a game that had just been released. Pupils were amazed to see how a career in art could be so easily coupled with the technology sector. They were also invited into the marketing department and were able to visit the ‘livestream’ studio where, almost every day, Creative Assembly broadcast live plays of their games on the internet.

Finally, pupils were able to speak with the lead programmer of the award winning game Alien: Isolation. Pupils interested in this area found it incredibly enriching to discuss the nature of artificial intelligence and how it plays a role in video-game design.
Deputy Grecian (Year 12) Rose Chisholm has been selected to take part in an expedition to Greenland this summer, organised by Students on Ice. The expedition runs for three weeks and Rose will be working as part of a team of students plus leading experts, such as oceanographers, ecologists, geographers and Inuit elders. The focus of the expedition is to investigate the impact of climate change on the natural environment and the indigenous peoples and their culture, in both the Canadian Arctic and Greenland.

Not only was Rose’s application strong enough for her to be selected from a competitive field, she was also awarded a full scholarship to enable her to participate. This incredible achievement will not only help her Geography studies but will be a life enhancing experience for her.

The Christopher Nicholson Award is CH’s prize for the best poetry translation of the year. The competition attracts some startling entries from a dazzling range of languages as students use the opportunity to explore languages, cultures and family traditions. The Senior competition judge highly commended Lulu Walsh (translating from Japanese). Forced to split Martha Sharp’s translation from Chinese and Phoebe Weir’s translation of a French song, she plumped for the latter by the smallest of margins. Phoebe had used her knowledge of music and singing to provide a remarkably precise, and sing-able, response to her original poem by Paul-Armand Sylvestre. Well done Phoebe!

The British Biology Olympiad is a national competition run by the Royal Society of Biology. This year, 19 Grecian and Deputy Grecian (Year 12 & 13) pupils participated and 13 of these pupils were awarded medals or were commended.

Silver Medals were awarded to Lydia Thornhill and Maximus Holloway; Bronze Medals were awarded to Tara McCallion and Henry Sanders. A further nine students were either commended or highly commended.

The grade boundaries were lower this year than in the previous few years, suggesting it was a particularly challenging paper; to illustrate this, Lydia and Max’s scores put them comfortably within the top 15% of pupils who sat the Olympiad paper nationally and they were each only two correct responses away from a Gold medal. Well done to everyone who took part!
GRECIANS’ ART EXHIBITION
CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT

The major ensembles on which CH prides itself – the Band, Chapel Choir, and Symphony Orchestra particularly – are often on show; Sunday 23 June was a time for the smaller groups to have their moment in the sun. And what a moment it was!

Some of the chamber groups, like the Sax Quartet and Chamber Orchestra, are well established ensembles. Others have been formed this term especially in preparation for this concert, designed to hand musical (and practical) responsibility over from teachers to pupils, encouraging leadership alongside creativity.

The concert gave a platform for outgoing Grecians to play major roles, notably Kate Cooley in the spirited Allegro of Bach’s Brandenburg 5, and Ben Gorton in a sublime rendition of Mozart’s Clarinet Quintet. The Chamber Orchestra gave a mesmeric performance of the Adagietto from Mahler 5, whilst the Clarinet Quartet brought a playful bonhomie to proceedings with an arrangement of Csárdás by Monte. The Brass Quintet finished the concert with really well-sculpted, classy performances of Duke Ellington’s Come Sunday and a medley of Gershwin songs.

A wonderful concert of impressive quality to round-off an enjoyable Parents’ Day. Bravo to all involved.

BEATING RETREAT

The traditional, end-of-year Beating Retreat ceremony took place on Saturday 29 June in the Quad at CH, as a final farewell to leaving pupils and staff. This year, due to the heat, the band were in half housey as they performed an impressive hour long display of marching to mark the end of the School year.

VISIT TO OXFORD UNIVERSITY

Some of CH’s most talented singers visited Oxford on 9 June to find out about life as a choral scholar. The group of Deputy Grecians (Year 12s) visited The Queen’s College where they met a current second year choral scholar. She gave the pupils a tour of the College, and they were able to ask questions about life at the university: everything from singing opportunities to breakfast arrangements!

The group then moved to Merton College where they watched the choir rehearsing for the evening service. After tea in Merton College Hall (by kind invitation of the College’s Director of Music, Benjamin Nicholas) came Corporate Communion for Pentecost, which included Langlais’ thrilling Messe Solennelle and the evergreen Loquebantur of Tallis. It was a great experience, and an exciting taster of what life is like as a university choral scholar.

BAND 150TH CELEBRATION

The Band performed their well-rehearsed Beating Retreat twice: on the last day of the Academic Year as usual, and also a week before in a special, twilight performance against the backdrop of a colourfully lit Quad to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the group’s foundation.

This was a memorable performance and a fitting tribute to the talent and commitment of our musicians, so ably led by Band Captain Annabella Chenevix Trench and Senior Drummer Arthur Pinkney.
At this year’s Spanish Debating Competition, five DG (Year 12) pupils debated complex topics such as the use of mobile phones in schools, the need to learn languages in 6th Form and gender equality in team sports. The ability to do this in a second language is quite remarkable, so well done to everyone who took part! Gus Freeman showed fantastic research skills, while Chelsea Humado and Amber Marshall-Porter defended their views very eloquently. It was, however, Andre Da Silva-Jenkins who won the competition, with Maddie Carter-Seabrook coming second by just one point. They both showed an outstanding level of language and debating skills. Congratulations!

Thirty junior pupils went on a Spanish trip over Easter to the mountains in the middle of Spain. With a full immersion approach from the School, the pupils enjoyed morning and afternoon activities practising Spanish and had the opportunity to try proper Spanish homemade food three times a day. They even cooked their own “tortilla de patatas”, which they ate afterwards. It was delicious! The activities were varied, healthy and enriching and were all accompanied by language lessons. They enjoyed a cooking and a t-shirt painting workshop, created their own TV show and competed in a treasure hunt; there was also time for a cultural visit to Salamanca, Ávila and a walk around Madrid. Congratulations!

The annual Short Story Competition for the GE (Year 11) took place in May, in preparation for the final exams, so the level was very high. However, two pupils stood out above the rest with their excellent writing and storytelling skills: Manon Howard, with the first prize, and Travis Suckling as the runner up. Congratulations!

Our fourth annual GE (Year 11) Careers Speed Dating event began with a keynote address from Julia Immonen. Julia founded Sport for Freedom, a charity born out of her record-breaking achievement of rowing 3,000 miles unaided across the Atlantic Ocean to raise awareness and funds for charity. Julia’s Row for Freedom crew broke the record for the fastest women’s crossing and established a record for being the first female crew of five to ever row the Atlantic. Julia gave an inspirational talk and encouraged our pupils to face challenges in their own lives; she left a wonderful message to our pupils, to ‘dream it, do it’. Pupils then attended the careers speed-dating event, where they had signed up for four talks from various professionals, many of whom are Old Blues. Industries represented included the Civil Service, Medicine, Engineering, Theatre, Finance, Media, Police, Environmentalism, Charity and many others. Pupils learnt from our visiting professionals about their time at CH and their career path since leaving school. Many gave top tips and advice on qualifications, universities and degree apprenticeships as well as sharing every day experiences in their daily work. Many thanks to all our professional guests and Old Blues for giving up their time and assisting in this event.
Welcome to the Bryn Mawr School
Home of the
Martyrs

Amy Bloomfield-Proud and Daniel Onyango-Osuga travelled to Baltimore in March to experience life across the Atlantic for a month. The Deputy Grecian pupils (Year 12) stayed with host families and attended Bryn Mawr school (Amy) and Gilman school (Daniel).

Whilst there, the students attended the Bryn Mawr Prom, as well as the Friends of Christ’s Hospital Transatlantic Dinner. The pupils were also taken by their host families on various excursions, such as to Washington to see the White House and Washington Monument, to Philadelphia and to New York.

“Being an art student, my host family was able to take me to multiple art galleries, around Baltimore, New York and Washington,” Amy said of the experience. “I spent Easter in New York seeing the statue of Liberty and cycling around central park. We are so fortunate that Christ’s Hospital offers so many opportunities to its students; I am aware of how much of a once in a life time opportunity this exchange was!”

The Baltimore exchange students then came to Christ’s Hospital for the month of June, where they got to experience the CH way of life!

FUTURE RUGBY STAR

Instead of enjoying a well-earned rest over the summer holidays, Grecian (Year 13) pupil Lennox Anyanwu has been training hard, following the exciting announcement that he is joining Harlequins Academy ahead of the new 2019-20 season. Lennox, who has been part of Harlequins’ Elite Player Development Group (EPDG), will now be part of the club on a full-time basis, based at Surrey Sports Park.

“Lennox has worked fantastically hard to achieve his contract with Harlequins,” commented Director of Rugby at CH Ian Davies. “It was not an easy task to balance academic studies with rugby commitments but he had an excellent support network through the CH/Quins partnership. Lennox has just started pre-season so will be working hard on his fitness and core skills, but I hope he will visit us early next term to inspire the next generation of boys and girls playing rugby at CH”.

RAF CADET CAMP

On July 6, CCF RAF cadets from Christ’s Hospital attended RAF summer camp at RNAS Inskip. The cadets took part in air rifle shooting, rock climbing, low ropes archery, flight simulator activities and had a fantastic day out at Go Ape. There was also a 24 hour overnight expedition, during which the cadets set up a camp, cooked their own dinner and had camouflage and concealment training. This was followed by a night exercise, where they had to learn how to carry out reconnaissance. Three cadets had the opportunity to go light aircraft flying at Woodvale air base and there was a visit to the National Arboretum and RAF Cosford Air Museum for everyone. It was a very enjoyable week away!

THRIFT SHOP NEWS

The Thrift Shop will now come under the management of the Wardrobe Department, located in the Support Services block, and will continue to provide a much appreciated service. Many thanks to Helen Lewis, who is stepping down because of her other responsibilities, for her management of the Thrift Shop over the years. In addition to providing a valuable service to the school, she has given the profits to the boarding houses to be spent on the pupils. Thank you Helen!
Sports News

Athletics
Following the Mid Sussex Trials, 32 pupils qualified to compete in the Sussex Schools’ Championships and from this the following 8 pupils represented Sussex in the South East Schools’ Inter Counties Championships: Sam Elias, Isabelle Humphreys, Jacob Ibn-Ibrahim, Tunmise Abbas, Nonso Chinye, Demi Shonubi, David Asamani and Timi Hastrup. In the English Schools’ Track and Field Cup, all four was the inter boys who finished 4th. All teams should feel very proud of their achievements. Finally in the Sussex Independent Schools’ Diamond League, over 160 pupils represented the school, and all teams were well placed with the Junior Boys finishing in 1st place, Junior Girls – 2nd place, Inter Boys – 3rd place, Inter Girls – 5th place, Senior Boys – 3rd place, and Senior Girls – 3rd place.

Cricket
This being a new sport to many of the year group. The U13s lacked consistency this term, Morgan Purnell was the bowler of the season and Oscar Van Huet Lindeman one of the few to play straight when batting. Kingsley Bimpeh, performed well in the B team. At U14 level Luke Pullen batted well at times and kept wicket with conviction. This year’s group have the potential to produce one of the best seam attacks CH has seen in many a year, spearheaded by David Asamani, Akintayo Onakoya, David Analogbei Jamie Hough and Leo Mcskimming. The U15A&B teams have found wins hard to come by, but many results were very close. Max Moorcroft who was voted player of the season and Kseniia Golikova played brilliantly all season losing only a few matches overall. The U14 Tennis Team made significant progress and there were some great wins for both Keziah Quarley and Mya Rose, playing a year up. One of the highlights of the senior season was the Annual Mixed Doubles Competition played against Eastbourne College. This year for the first time CH pulled off a win by 165 games to 151.

The Inter House Block Competition saw some inspiring tennis and the boys’ competition was won by Peele while the girls’ competition was won by Leigh Hunt.

Thomson Trophy
Presented annually to the girl who has shown tremendous commitment and endeavour to CH Sport and this year it was awarded to Esther Tewogbade.

Sillett Trophy
Awarded to the Boy’s Block gaining the most points from the following competitions: rugby, football, steeplechase, fives, swimming, cricket and athletics. This year, retaining the Trophy for the 4th year in a row was Middleton.

Tennis
The boys had one of their most successful seasons of recent years. Early success in the National Competition and then progress to the finals stage of the Sussex League was followed by wins against Charterhouse, Lancing and Brighton. Unfortunately a depleted squad fell to the narrowest of defeats against Hurst in the final fixture of the season. Captain Emmanuel Berhane, along with Ben Wendelstadt and Lucca Green were the mainstay of the success in the 1st team. The senior girls trained and played with great enthusiasm and energy under Captain Angelina Green. There were convincing wins over Ardingly College and Charterhouse. For the first time in many years CH reached round 2 of the Aberdare Cup. The U15A team, found wins hard to come by, but many results were very close. Max Moorcroft who was voted player of the season and Kseniia Golikova played brilliantly all season losing only a few matches overall. The U14 Tennis Team made significant progress and there were some great wins for both Keziah Quarley and Mya Rose, playing a year up. One of the highlights of the senior season was the Annual Mixed Doubles Competition played against Eastbourne College. This year for the first time CH pulled off a win by 165 games to 151.

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LYDIA BRAVES THE SHAVE

Grecian (Year 13) pupil Lydia Thornhill shaved her head on the last day of term in memory of her mum and to raise funds for the charity Classrooms for Kenya.

Lydia sadly lost her mum to cancer five years ago and decided to shave her hair off to raise awareness for Cancer Research, through Macmillan’s “Brave the Shave” campaign. She donated her hair to the Little Princess Trust, which provides real hair wigs free of charge to children and young people who have lost their own hair due to cancer treatment and other conditions.

Lydia raised over £960 through her head shave, all of which she has donated to Classrooms for Kenya. She travelled to Kenya the day after her head shave, along with the rest of the CH Classrooms for Kenya team.

"Shaving my head for cancer represents an act of solidarity with my mother who passed away," says Lydia. "But it has also helped me to fundraise towards Classrooms in Kenya; building the classrooms in person seems a really substantial and meaningful way of getting involved and helping Kenyan children."

Over the summer holiday, a team of over 50 CH staff and older pupils spent three weeks in Kitale, western Kenya, helping to build six new classrooms for three schools. The team raised over £44,000 during the last academic year, through a combination of fundraising efforts, including our first ever school sponsored walk, which saw over 500 students and staff walk through the West Sussex countryside.

As well as supporting education in Kenya, the trip aimed to provide CH students with a powerful and life-shaping experience where they both work hard to contribute positively to a community and have the opportunity to experience Kenya’s natural beauty. After returning from the trip, one student commented that “it was an amazing, eye opening and fulfilling experience that has significantly shaped me as a person.”

Well done to our students and staff for making such a positive difference to schools in Kenya!

CH is planning to return to Kenya in 2021. If you would like to know any more about this trip or if you are able to offer any help in fundraising then please contact Mr Richards on war@christs-hospital.org.uk