



CHATHAM & CLARENDON GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Newsletter

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Messages from the Headteacher

Welcome to our final newsletter of the year and what a year! Who could have predicted when the academic year started that students would spend one third of it learning from home? We have all had to adapt to new ways of working and get used to only seeing many of our students via Teams or Zoom. I think it is testament to both staff and student adaptability and resilience that this has become our new normal. However, it is fair to say that we are all really looking forward to welcoming students back in September and although it will not be business as usual, and adaptations to the way we run the school will be in place in as much as students will not be able to have access to all areas of the school sites (this will be subject of a separate communication), it will be business as usual for the delivery of most of the curriculum areas in line with DFE guidance. You will see from this newsletter that although we only completed two thirds of the year, our staff and students have still been busy both before and after lockdown!

Lockdown PPE Project

At the start of lockdown in March, the Head of Design Technology department Mr Brewin decided to have a go at making face visors for keyworkers, to help plug the gap in the shortage of PPE locally. Although the school is lucky to have 10 3D printers, they were tested and the process of making them was just too slow. So it was back to the old fashioned method of guillotines and plastic line benders. On the first day the three members of the department managed to make 80 visors and from there, a plea went out asking for some willing staff and student 'apprentices' to form a socially distanced 'production line' across three classrooms and one workroom. Over the course of the next three weeks, 150 staff, former staff, students, ex-students, parents, friends and family, teachers from other schools and members of the local fire service offered their services, some every day and others on an ad hoc basis, making 30,168 visors in total, a fantastic achievement. The visors were distributed to QEQM, Kent & Canterbury, William Harvey, St Marys and Darenth Valley Hospitals, Nursing Homes, Care workers, mental health units, dentists, prisons, doctor surgeries, ambulance service, pharmacies and most importantly eight NHS hot spots. Approximately 17546 went to hospital staff, 8992 to staff in care homes, 500 to prison staff, 280 to hospices, 1000 to staff working in pharmacies, 50 to staff in Mental health units, 500 in ambulance stations and 1000 to St Johns Ambulance.

The school received lots of positive feedback from frontline staff on how robust and comfortable the visors are. All those who worked on the 'production line' were pleased to feel like they were doing something to make a difference and to support front line workers.

As a result of the school's efforts they were nominated by a parent for a Telegraph Lockdown award in the DIY category. Readers were encouraged to vote in a range of categories for worthy projects undertaken during lockdown. Amazingly the school won their category and achieved the most votes in any of the categories. For all those involved in making the visors, the recognition of their efforts was the icing on the cake!

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- Music - competition takes place despite lockdown
- Little Shop of Horrors - full report on this year's school production
- Carnegie - book medal runs during lockdown
- Thanet Music and Drama Festival - success for CCGS Students
- 500 Words' Live - short stories written
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- Computer Science House Cup - highly successful computer based competition
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- Staff departures - Staff say goodbye to CCGS
- Dates for the diary - getting ready for September

Lockdown PPE Project - continued

More recently the school won 1st prize from the Thanet Business Network for Excellence in Lockdown for the project and we were presented with a trophy which will take pride of place in our trophy cabinet.



CCGS Lockdown Music Competition

Thanks to everyone who took part in the CCGS Lockdown music competition - your response was amazing and after House Music had to be cancelled back in March I'm so pleased that just as many of you got involved in THIS competition - well done!

Everyone who took part will receive a certificate and having spent the last three weeks judging all the entries we can now announce the results as follows:

Year 7

1st - (tied) - Julian Huang and Thea Curtis

2nd - Delaena Debre

3rd - Orlendra Zebua

Highly commended - (in alphabetical order)

Henry Cleverdon

Polly Cooke

Joseph Walton

Honorable mentions to:

Senula Hewavitharane

Vale Rich

Emily Handley

Year 8

1st - Zaia Zaman

2nd - (tied) Kelsie Bissett and Seth Smith

3rd - Harry O'Neill

Highly commended - (in alphabetical order)

Blake Bedding

Libby Field

Nina Honey

Alfie Meise

Mac Yang

Miles Greagsbey

Minette Vikery

Honorable mentions to:

Madeline Sales

Joshua Yallop

Lewis Gore

Lilia Jones

Year 9

1st - Luke Gore

2nd - Nima Fitzgerald

3rd - (tied) Ruby Richardson and Francesca Coldham

Highly commended (in alphabetical order)

Jefferson Harwood

Sophie Harris

Lilly Howse

Shakira Maltwood

Emily Ogilvie

Tara Vidal von Ronn

Katie Todd

Honorable mentions to:

Harry Cory

Ella Read

Oliver Burch

Year 10

1st - Tom Hall

2nd - Molly Jones

3rd - Maddie Doody

Highly commended (in alphabetical order)

Maedhbh McCabe

Anna Worledge

Joseph Yoofoo

Honorable mention to:

Senthuli Hewavitharan

Year 11

1st (tied) - Ross White and Bradley Bissett

2nd - Reuben Grier

3rd - Jojo Tonjes-Dugue

Highly commended (in alphabetical order)

Finley Dunk

Year 12

1st - Noah Dodson

2nd - (tied) James Butler and Imogen Downey-Edwards

3rd - Sean Pointon

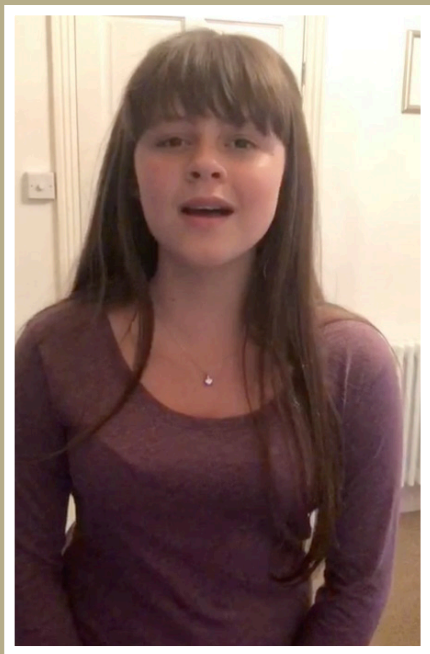
Judges' comments:

We were delighted by the number of lower school students taking part, especially Year 7 who have not yet seen a 'House music' competition.

Most singers had found backing tracks without the actual singer on which was good. Spotify or Youtube is the best way of doing this, using karaoke tracks.

We had a great spread of styles and genres as well as instruments and voices which was very enjoyable to listen to!

Good advice for next time for some would be to try and play/sing a piece that's not too fast or tricky for you to keep up with - some great musicians lost marks because they tackled pieces that were very hard or very fast and thus difficult to get a sense of musicality into. The best performances were really musical with lots of dynamics and expression.



Highly commended (in alphabetical order)

Samantha Worledge

Year 13

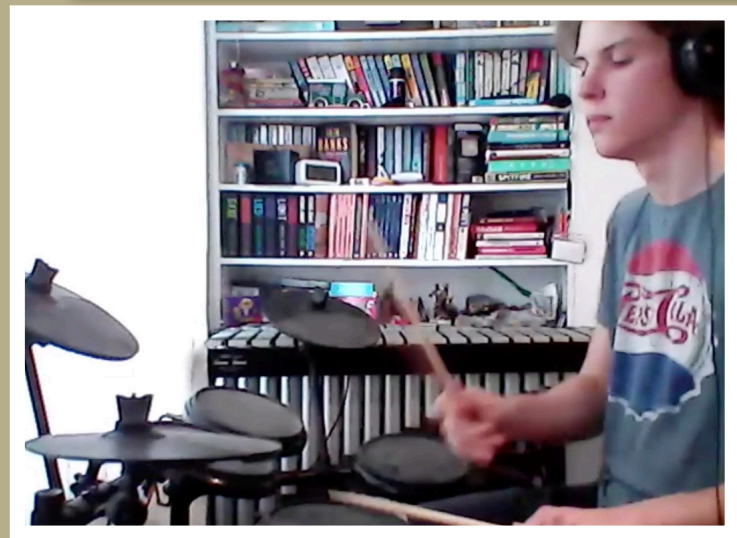
1st - Annika Swansbury

2nd - Joseph Hunt

3rd - n/a

Special Award

Goes to Blake Bedding in Year 8 who performed his piece really well on electric guitar - an instrument that he has only started learning since lockdown - this shows massive dedication and perseverance - well done Blake!



Some students have clearly practiced a great deal during lockdown which is fantastic!

A couple of students actually wrote the piece that they performed, which we loved, as this takes real effort.

Hopefully we'll be able to have a 'live' music competition next year!

The Music Department.

Little Shop of Delights...

This year's production took place prior to the lockdown period commencing.

Ok, so Little Shop of Horrors could be seen as the most bizarre of musicals on paper, and dealing with an 8 foot monster-plant that eats various members of the cast during the show might have been a challenge to some, but boy, did our students deliver! The show played to packed houses every night and delighted audience members both young and old.

The band, comprising Paul Stewart (the only professional performer), Hannah Baker, Taylor Cousins, Harry Spellman and Zara Kumbarasoglu, conducted by Ms Hollman, were "on the go" through the whole show, with very few breaks in playing; and they were so good I at first thought it was a backing tape... The concentration and energy required by all was maintained throughout.

The dance troupe were beautifully together and made the most of their short time on stage, returning at the end amongst the audience.

The school was fortunate to have been able to hire a set and plant from RYTC, but these were matched in imaginative and well-thought out costumes and props, so often only given consideration at the last-minute by some schools.

There were some great cameo performances amongst the ensemble; Joe Eldred's drunken hobo particularly caught my eye.

The original musical's 3 narrating/backing singers/mini-chorus was expanded to five here: Emilia Carter, Madeleine Doody, Poppy Head, Beth McKeand and Katie McNally. I loved the changes of costume, the slickness of their moves and the commanding singing. The group worked well together yet still showed individual traits when needed.

It is never easy playing an aging person when you're not even 18... but Luca Terenghi created and maintained a believable, grouchy penny-pinching Mushnick and revealed a penchant for black comedy.

Remind me, if Jed Silk chooses dentistry as a career, to stay well away from him. I do hope his whole performance was acted... what a sinister, menacing sadist! It was excellent, and he managed to extract plenty of laughs from his gruesome character as well.

Bradley Bissett proved he could still command the stage even when never seen... he "appeared" as the voice of the blood-thirsty plant, Audrey II... his voice has greatly changed this last year and he was able to capture the needy greedy tones of the plant perfectly, excelling in both wheedling and powerful R&B singing.

Orla Whelan, such a versatile actress and singer, excelled as the vulnerable, abused Audrey. Maintaining a light, trembling American twang, even as she sang, yet with perfect diction, this was a heart-warming and heart-wrenching

Little Shop of Delights...continued

performance. And Orla was matched in sensitivity and that sense of a lost loner, in Sam Gerlack's towering nerdy Seymour. From the introversion and out of depth nature at the start, Sam grew the character without ever losing the vulnerable core of his persona. Singing the best-known song of the show, "Suddenly Seymour" together cemented the feeling of tenderness towards each other, and ensured that we felt a horror and sadness as they were claimed by the plant.

A huge congratulations to Mrs Cackett, Ms Hollman and Mrs Gibbons for a first-rate production, and to Mr Gibbons and all his backstage crew, particularly Lewis Yates on lighting.

Little Shop of Horrors will never be my favourite musical, but this CCGS production has at least restored my liking of it, made me laugh (a lot), and, once again, made me proud to be part of this school.



Carnegie Medal

So, how do you hold a book-club if you're all in lockdown and the books are all at school?! Quite easily as it happens, (with a bit of outside the box thinking, as we have all had to do in these times!)

The Carnegie Medal is awarded each year (since 1936) to an outstanding children's book, chosen by a team of children's librarians, with initial nominations coming from all readers via the librarians. It is always coupled with the Kate Greenaway Medal, awarded to the best illustrations in a children's book, and chosen in similar fashion. They are the oldest/longest-running children's book awards. School groups of keen readers can "shadow" the award, meeting regularly to discuss the books and choose their own winners.

The eight-strong shortlist was announced just before lockdown, and I had already ordered six copies of each which arrived on announcement day. Students helped Mrs Gregory get them ready and took copies themselves to read, and Mrs Gregory delivered a set to me (already isolating). When I could I went in and picked up the remainder and delivered them to keen students. From then on we arranged doorstep pick-ups/drop-offs, and by the time of the winning announcement in mid June most of our shadowers had managed to access most of the books.

We had seven Year 10 girls, and two from Year 12, all whom have previously been part of our shadowing groups in normal years. With Mrs Gregory and myself, we met by Zoom once a week and discussed the books, which was a great way of connecting with this lovely group of students. We also had five Year 7 students (4 boys, 1 girl) and two Year 8 boys reading and reviewing the books. Although the winner was announced in June ("Lark" by Anthony McGowen), the shadowing prize won't be given until October, so our students have longer to read the remaining books. Once we are back in September, we hope to be able to run some sort of actual shadowing group so that these younger students get a chance to discuss the books as well.

Shakespeare for Schools Festival

Each year, CCGS takes part in the Shakespeare for Schools Festival, performing a half-hour version of one of the plays at the Theatre Royal in November. Although rehearsals never start before September, we are busy signing up to and planning it from early in the year. This year we had decided to do *The Tempest*, with Mrs Gregory and myself (Mrs Myhill) directing, as Ms Magill will not be with us in the Autumn. There is normally a day-long workshop that the school directors can attend... this year that turned into 4x2 hour zoom sessions which I attended from the comfort of my home. Coram SSF, who organises the overall management of the festival, had decided early on that, with so much uncertainty hanging over productions, even in the Autumn etc, that this year's performances would all be performed on one night (20th November) in our own schools, with the hope that we would be part of a world record for the highest number of Shakespeare productions ever to be performed simultaneously.

We asked students to submit videos of audition pieces, with a deadline at the end of June. With the news that schools would be asked to keep students in class bubbles come September, we had quite a challenge to cast the show with the best people in the best parts and acting alongside their bubble mates! BUT... amazingly, we think the cast is looking terrific. The auditions were all of such a high standard, it again made us very proud to be part of CCGS. We actually have far more scope than usual this year; we can expand beyond the usual strict half-hour... we can add more props, lighting and sound... we can add other elements as we see fit. We have come up with what we hope will be an imaginative and logical way of presenting the play, whilst still keeping to the necessary bubbles and social distancing, and are excited to see what emerges!

Please note the date, and look out for more information next term.

The Thanet Music and Drama Festival

The Thanet Music and Drama Festival was fortunate in taking place just before lockdown; we were able to hold all sections but Instrumental, and the final weekend of Dance. Unfortunately we had to cancel the Gala Concert, but have added an extra show to the beginning of next year's Festival to celebrate some of this year's winners.

The first section to take place is always Speech and Drama, at the end of Feb/beginning of March, with a good representation from the school in most of the age-relevant classes. Our adjudicator was the excellent Cally Foster who was always spot-on with her comments, advice and marks. The speech classes this year were held just across the road from school, in the Salvation Army citadel; a welcoming intimate venue we hope to use again.

Rakshyen Mohanaram (Year 9) and Louca Theodorou-Bunce came joint 2nd in the public speaking class for their age, while Ruby Lydford (Year 11), won hers with 91 points, giving a beautifully prepared, nuanced, humorous speech in a fiercely contested high-scoring class. The subject was the topical "Everyone should be vegan"... and Ruby illustrated hers by wielding an apple. Ruby also won her poetry recital and reading aloud at sight classes, gaining her the Mary Raven Cup for Speech for Years 10+. This is also contested by the adults entering, so is a particularly worthy win.

Year 8s, Harriet Tyman and Louca Theodorou-Bunce (who both appeared in other parts of the Festival) and Jean Hodge, together with Year 7, Joanna Duraisingham, competed against one another in the prose and poetry classes. All did well, with Jean coming 2nd in the prose, and Harriet 2nd in the poetry recital and 1st in the prose which secured her the Vinson Cup for Speech for Years 7-9. Jean, as she has done for several years, won the McCleesh Cup for Reading Aloud at Sight, with 89 points to 86 for the entrant in 2nd place.

On the Sunday, we moved to the Sarah Thorne Theatre for the drama classes.

Harriet Tyman again did well, winning the duologue class (with another non-CCGS girl!) and thereby the Chidwick Duologue Cup, and also her Monologue class (for Years 7-8) with 88 points for her charming portrayal of the Little Princess.

Ruby performed monologues from the Merchant of Venice, and Cressida Among the Greeks. She so obviously fully understands the text, and inhabits the roles, she deserved 2nd place in the latter. But star of the day had to be Niamh Edgington (Year 13), in her final festival. She was on top form, gaining our sympathy in the unusual woman-led epilogue of As You Like It, for which she gained 91 points and the Dramatis Personae Cup for Shakespeare (which wasn't even awarded last year as the adjudicator had felt no-one merited it!) Niamh's second, well-staged and amusing monologue from Molnar's "Matter of Husbands" secured her 90 marks and another 1st place, and a second cup; the Gold Cup for Dramatic Achievement. That's the way to end your junior festival career!

The Thanet Music and Drama Festival continued

There were so many entries in the Vocal and Choral section this year that it had an extra morning with classes in which Harriet Tyman, Daisy Atkin and Libby Field (all Year 8) took part. Continuing the following Thursday, Daisy, plus Ruby Richardson (Year 9) and Maedhbh McCabe (Year 10) took part in several classes, with Daisy winning the Duet class for 18 years and under with a non-CCGS girl. Ruby and Libby, plus Katie McNally (Year 12) and Bradley Bissett (Year 11) all took part in the twelve strong Song in a Modern Style class. Bradley, as outstanding as ever, won with his take on Bruno Mars' "When I was your man. Despite there being an extra class for songs from the shows, making 4 (for different ages) in total, there was still a lot of competition in each one. The 16 and under class had 19 entrants including Ruby, Katie, Molly Jones (Year 10), Bradley and Maedhbh. Bradley won again, with a mesmerising rendition of "You'll be Back" from Hamilton. He won cups for both these classes. Another six of our students were in the even larger 13 and under class; Libby, Claudia Sunshine, Kelsie Bissett and Meredith Cloke (all Year 8), Harriet, and Carys Weedon (Year 9), and, in the 18 and under class, Beth McKeand wowed us with "Maybe this Time" from Cabaret and won the class and cup.

The Pianoforte section followed on the next Saturday with four of our students taking part; Louca Theodorou-Bunce and Luka Knight-del Sastre (both Year 8), Reuben Grier (Year 11) and Hannah Baker (Year 13) who took part in three classes and won the Senior Cup.

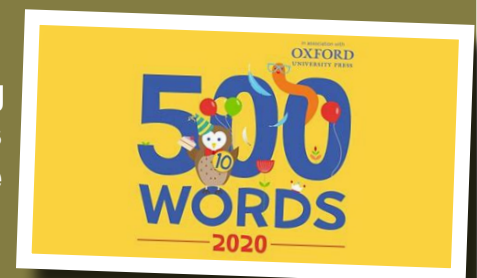
Most of the Dance trophies could not be awarded, but amongst those taking part from CCGS were Joseph Shelton, Libby Field, Alice Bonnell, Mia Austin, Lily Dunn, Anna Redmond, Logan Remedios-Sykes, Maya Shakeshaft, Aimee Hancock, Madeleine Doody, Kine Thompson, Betsy Bridger... and Harriet Tyman who did win a cup; the Sara Bakeri Musicality trophy.

We were really fortunate, with a lot of extra social distancing rules etc, to be able to squeeze in our new Signing Choir section before lockdown. Three choirs took part and the Inspiration Youth Signing Choir won the new sh).

If you have never been to the Thanet Festival, you're missing out! Next year's will be our centenary, and we sincerely hope that nothing will prevent it taking place in its full glory!

500 Words' Live

500 Words' Live is the UK's biggest short story-writing competition for children between the ages of 5 and 13 and this year we had our biggest uptake for the competition, with the whole of Year 7 getting involved! Together they created some wonderfully imaginative and original stories. Jake Amir and Henry Rowden-Jordan were selected from 134,709 entries to go into the next round, which was a fantastic achievement. This year, due to the pandemic a special virtual final took place. If anyone else went further into the competition and forgot to tell us, we would love to hear from you so we can give you a special mention too! Special thanks go to Mr Potter and Mrs Gibbons (yes, a second Mrs Gibbons staff member) from the English Department for helping me to collect in and read through all the entries! And a massive well done to all of Year 7 for taking part from Mrs Gregory!



MFL

During consolidation week in June those KS3 students who were up to date with their work were set a number of French and Spanish challenges. Students completed scavenger's hunt in French around their homes, a scavenger hunt in their local area, watched some French series or films and cooked some typical French and Spanish food. Here are photos of the most delicious looking food.



Computer Science House Cup

This year's cup took place prior to the lockdown period commencing.

Winners of this year's Computer Science Cup are Tilia Elliston and Iman Kamal who represent Thomas Sharman.

The entry for an application which helps society, is designed to assist those with their mental health. Their entry was innovative and stunningly well designed. It was also clear that the girls had thought very carefully how to make their entry as original as possible.



We would like to congratulate everyone who worked so hard in their designs, and as always this year's entries were very difficult to judge.

Charity Collections

Whole school Charity Collections this year were as follows:

Children in Need - £1193
Save the Children - £476
Sports Relief - £917

House Charity collections were affected as not all Houses were able to hold their House Charity week due to Coronavirus lockdown. The money raised totalled:

Take Off (KH) - £191
MacMillan (MS) -- £339
Bliss (RP) - £1342
Pilgrim Hospice (TS) - £831

UKMT Senior Maths Challenge

What an excellent set of results for this year's Senior UKMT maths challenge! There were 10 gold, 15 silver and 12 bronze certificates. Well done to everyone taking part!

There were 8 students who qualified for the next round (Senior Kangaroo) and 2 students who made it to the demanding British Mathematical Olympiad Round 1.

The following students achieved a certificate.

Gold certificates:

Year 13: Tom Ansell, Kazki Fairman, William Burgess, Katrina Booth, Jonah Worledge, Jonathan Hurford, Tim Attwell

Year 12: Divya Agrawal, Noah Dodson

Year 11: Lydia Nottingham

Silver Certificates:

Year 13: Joshua Bentley, Lucy Manning, Rosie Axon, Elena Dalecki, Jack Lamport, Umar Huzure, Aniq Ismat

Year 12: Pawel Lisowski, Leon Munt, Brady Smith, Ewan MacPhee, Freddie Askew, Tom Piggott, Giotto McCourt-Welsh, Sophia Pegden

Bronze Certificates:

Year 13: George Pittock

Year 12: Sean Pointon, Toby Saunders, Abbie Kennedy, Alfred Manville, Jack Cave, Rhys Gullick, Jack Barton, Abdullah Hashmi, Melissa Palmer, Nicole McCorry, Michael Adekoya

Senior Kangaroo 2019

This year's competition took place prior to the lockdown period commencing.

Kazki Fairman, William Burgess, Katrina Booth, Jonah Worledge, Jonathan Hurford and Tim Attwell from Year 13 and Divya Agrawal and Noah Dodson from Year 12 qualified for this year's Senior Kangaroo. This is a demanding test full of challenging maths problem solving.



Divya and Kazki achieved an impressive merit in this competition!

Well done to all of our brilliant mathematicians! We are proud of you!

British Mathematical Olympiad Round 1 December 2019

This year's competition took place prior to the lockdown period commencing.

Lydia Nottingham (Year 11) and Tom Ansell (Year 13) qualified for the British Olympiad Round 1. They had to sit a 3.5 hour mathematical paper consisting of 6 demanding questions. Full written solutions were expected. They both did brilliantly. Lydia achieved a merit and Tom scored a distinction. What an achievement for both of them. Well done!



This is one of the questions from the competition. Have a go! Of course both Lydia and Tom got full marks on this question!

Two circles S_1 and S_2 are tangent at P . A common tangent, not through P , touches S_1 at A and S_2 at B . Points C and D , on S_1 and S_2 respectively, are outside the triangle APB and are such that P is on the line CD . Prove that AC is perpendicular to BD .

Mathematical Olympiad for Girls

This year's competition took place prior to the lockdown period commencing.

Divya Agrawal (Year 12) and Lydia Nottingham (Year 11) took part in this year's Mathematical Olympiad for Girls. Over 1400 girls nationwide participated, with top 25% receiving a Certificate of Distinction. The Mathematical Olympiad for Girls is an event run by the UK Mathematical Trust, introduced in 2011, to help schools nurture the talents of enthusiastic young female mathematicians. It is aimed at girls in Year 13 and below.

Lydia achieved a certificate of Distinction and Divya a certificate of participation, well done girls!

This was one of the questions on the paper. What would you score on it?

Let n be a positive integer. Tracy writes a list of 10 whole numbers between 1 and n (inclusive). Each number in the list is either equal to, one less than, or one more than the number before it. For example, when $n = 7$: Her list could be 5, 5, 6, 7, 6, 6, 5, 5, 6, 6 or 4, 4, 3, 2, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1. Her list could not be 1, 3, 3, 4, 5, 5, 6, 7, 7, 7 or 5, 6, 7, 8, 7, 6, 5, 5, 5, 5.

(a) Suppose that $n = 3$. Stacey forms a list by copying Tracy's list, except that whenever Tracy writes a 1, Stacey writes a 3, and whenever Tracy writes a 3, Stacey writes a 1.

(i) Which lists could Tracy write that would cause her list to be the same as Stacey's?

(ii) Explain why Tracy can write as many lists that start 2, 2, 1 as start 2, 2, 3.

(b) For which n between 1 and 10 (inclusive) is the number of lists that Tracy could write odd?



UKMT Junior Maths Challenge

We were lucky to have 70 of our Year 7 and Year 8 mathematicians to take part in the Junior Maths challenge, This is a national competition organised by the UK Mathematics Trust. This year the challenge was set up online for students to work on at home and our mathematicians achieved impressive 6 gold, 14 silver and 20 bronze certificates.

A special mention must go to Vincent Huang (Year 7) and Mac Yang (Year 8) for achieving the best score in their year group.

Gold certificates went to:

Year 7: Vincent Huang and Isabelle Ling

Year 8: Mac Yang, Charlie Hayman, Mia Milne, Zaia Zaman

Silver certificates went to:

Year 7: Henry Cleverdon, Fletcher Greenan, Deividas Pakulis, Lucy Tuffs, Joseph Walton

Year 8: Luke Broad, Jake Crudgington, Erin Gardner, Jem Harris, Luke Harrop, Harry Huang, Lizzie Laffey, Alfie Meise, Louca Theodorou- Bunce

Bronze certificates went to

Year 7: Polly Cooke, Delaena Debre, Harry Harrison, Freya Mooney, Joshua Prentis, Orlendra Zebua

Year 8: Libby Field, Kaden Golden, Drew Greenstreet, Nathaniel Harsent, Lilia Jones, Anna Page, Charlie Page, Ellis Plumridge, Jude Pullman-Green, Benjamin Quinney, Jasika Rajkumar, Harriet Tyman, Minette Vickery, Thomas Andrew

Well done to all students taking part. What a fantastic opportunity to participate in this national competition and we are so pleased that our students did not miss out because of lockdown and made us proud.

Italian Maths Olympiad at CCGS

We had a request from a scientific Lyceum in Turin (Liceo Scientifico Filippo Juvarra) for one of their best mathematicians to sit his Maths Olympiad with us at CCGS. Edoardo was on his school's one week language trip at one of the Ramsgate English Schools and would have missed his regional round. Of course we said yes, we would always help out a fellow mathematician. Edoardo sat his 3 hour paper with us during half term, our caretaker even turned the heating up for him. We hope to find out whether he made it to the national level of the competition. Good luck Edoardo! Buon lavoro!



Staff Departures

We are saying goodbye to the following staff at the end of term, sadly we will not be able to get together to say goodbye at the moment, but hopefully we will be able to celebrate their time with us at some point in the future when it is safe to do so.

Mrs Jarvis - Maths is retiring after 35 years at the school, making her the longest serving member of the school. I can't even begin to calculate how many students she has taught over those years (though being a maths teacher maybe she can!!) however she must be responsible for ensuring that thousands of students have left the school numerate and many with a love of maths, that has taken them on to University and subsequent careers involving maths. She will also have been a form tutor to over a thousand students during her career, supporting students pastorally with both kindness and wise words through their school life. Obviously she is going to be sadly missed by all, the school and the maths department will not be the same without her. We wish Mrs Jarvis a long and happy retirement, and I am sure her new puppy will keep her on her toes!!

Mr De Paolis History, Sociology and Head of House is retiring after 25 years at the school! Like Mrs Jarvis I can't calculate how many students have been taught by Mr De Paolis, but not only that, as a long standing member of the pastoral staff both at Chatham House and when the schools merged, how many students have been cared for and supported by him. I think the best way to describe him is as straight talking, students are left in no doubt as to what he thinks about them if they have misbehaved or have not been working hard enough, he always has the best interests of all students at the heart of all his pastoral dealings with students. For those students both in his House and in his classes who have struggled in adverse circumstances they will have found him most caring, compassionate and supportive. Mr De Paolis will be sadly missed, but we wish him much happiness, I know with a new granddaughter he will be kept very busy in the future as a doting granddad.

Mrs Magill – Drama, is retiring after 16 years at the school. In her time at the school she has inspired hundreds of students to love drama, ensuring the subject has remained popular at both GCSE and A Level. She has organised trips to the theatre both locally and in London to give student access to a wide range of theatrical genres. She has encouraged and enthused students to get involved with school productions and House Drama competitions and was instrumental in getting the school involved in the Shakespeare for School Project. I have been privileged to watch some stunning performances from our students both in school and at the Theatre Royal Margate, all ably supported or directed by her. Mrs Magill will be missed by us all and we wish her a long and happy retirement, I know she is looking forward to spending more time with her family, especially her grandchildren.

Mrs Newton - Maths is retiring after 15 years at the school and like Mrs Jarvis she will have instilled a love of maths into thousands of students. Mrs Newton has also been responsible for finding fun ways for students to learn maths including organising the bowling trip for Year 7 for many years and organising the Disneyland Paris trip for Year 10, which I am sure students (and staff) will remember as the best trip they have ever been on (I am one of those people). Mrs Newton has also been a form tutor throughout her career and I am sure there will be many students who will remember her kindness and support during their time at the school. Mrs Newton will be sadly missed in both the maths department and by all staff and we wish her a long and happy retirement.

Mrs Tunmore - MFL and Head of House is retiring after 12 years at the school, encouraging students in her classes to see the benefits of learning a foreign language. As a long standing Head of House, Mrs Tunmore has supported and cared for hundreds of students in her House with their wellbeing and academic progress. Fiercely competitive, Mrs Tunmore encourages all students in her House to get involved with all aspects of House activities, leading by example by always being involved too! (possibly being more excited than the students at the prospect of winning the House Cup!) We all wish Mrs Tunmore every happiness in her retirement and future adventures!

Mr Walton – Government & Politics, History & Games is retiring after 9 years at the school and is also a former student of the school and parent of students at the school, so has a long connection with us! As a teacher of Government & Politics and History he has passed on his passion for his subject to students at both ends of the key stages. His other passion is Sport (he was formerly the SSCO for the school) and he has coached teams in both football and cricket to success in local competitions. We all wish him a long and happy retirement, hopefully (lockdown rules permitting) it will give him more opportunities to see Spurs play mid-week!!

Miss Kourellias – MFL, is leaving us to take up a teaching post at another school and we wish her every success in her new role.

Miss Jones - Cover Supervisor is leaving us to take up a teaching post abroad and we wish her every success in her new job.

Finally I would like to say a massive thank you to staff for all their hard work this year but especially since lockdown in adapting to the new way of working, either setting work remotely or offering online lessons from the start to older students and more recently to KS3. I would also like to thank the students for their hard work and to the many who have kept in regular touch with teaching staff and with me, we have really appreciated your emails! Finally to parents a really big thank you for all your kind messages of support during the past 4 months it has meant a lot.

The term will end on Friday 17th July and recommence on Wednesday 2nd September for Years 7, 10 and 12 and for all other year groups on Thursday 3rd September. The details of students return will be sent out separately to parents. I would like to wish you all a safe, socially distanced summer break and we look forward to seeing you all safe and well in September.

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