

Old Salopians 4 - 0 Old Shirburnians

Monday 2 November 2020

The first round of the Arthur Dunn Cup saw a very convincing 4- 0 win for the Old Salopians.

We started the game strongly putting together a very nice flowing move for the first goal. Tom Kelly was laid in behind the back line and squared it to Dan Humes who put it away with a very relaxed finish. From here on in it was all us, and for the second goal, all Max Pragnell. Carrying the ball from just inside the opposition's half, he dribbled his way through a number of players only to slot it into the bottom left corner, 2-0 Old Salopians.

The second half saw much of the same, Tom Kelly getting on the end of a Charlie Pilkington header making it 3-0. A shout out must go to Tom Shaw who made an outstanding penalty save to keep it at 3-0 before Adam Parker went down the other end, rounding the keeper to make it 4.

A great result for the Old Salopians. Onto the 2nd round!



Letters from Shrewsbury No. 18: Dear Ben Gone to the Sea

Thursday 5 November 2020

The latest in the Headmaster's series of 'Letters from Shrewsbury'. A letter to 'Dear Ben Gone to the Sea'

Please follow the link to enjoy reading it:

[No. 18: 'Dear Ben Gone to the Sea'](#) (25 October 2020)

Links to the Headmaster's earlier 'Letters from Shrewsbury' are published below:

[No. 17: 'Dear Minister for Exams'](#) (11 October 2020)

[No. 16: 'Dear John on the Mainland'](#) (7 October 2020)

[No. 15: 'Dear Earth-Creeping Mind'](#) (2 October 2020)

[No. 14: 'Dear Dr Johnson'](#) (27 September 2020)

[No. 13: 'Dear Jeremiah'](#) (4 September 2020)

[No. 12: 'Dear Gavin'](#) (16 August 2020)

[No. 11: 'Dear Upper Sixth Leaver'](#) (16 June 2020)

[No. 10: 'Dear Myrtle and Maud'](#) (2 June 2020)

[No. 9: 'Dear Video-Conferencing App beginning with Z'](#) (11 May 2020)

[No. 8: 'Dear Cricket'](#) (26 April 2020)

[No. 7: 'Dear Candidate'](#) (24 April 2020)

[No. 6: 'Dear So'](#) (29 March 2020)

[No. 5: 'Dear School As We Disperse'](#) (25 March 2020)

[No. 4: 'Dear Mothering Sunday'](#) (22 March 2020)

[No. 3: 'Dear Detectorist'](#) (15 March 2020)

[No. 2: 'Dear Gerald'](#) (2 February 2020)

[No. 1: 'Dear 2020'](#) (9 January 2020)

Fantastic First Lunchtime Drama Showcase

Friday 6 November 2020

Wednesday 4th November saw our first lunchtime drama showcase in the foyer of the Barnes Theatre.

Students from both the Upper and Lower Sixth were able to perform work to a small and socially distanced – but very enthusiastic – audience.



The programme began with Orlando W (U6) performing two pieces he is preparing for his upcoming Drama School auditions, the laddish Berowne from *Love's Labour's Lost* contrasting with the heartbroken Henry from Tom Stoppard's *The Real Thing*.



This was followed by HRB's Lower Sixth Drama set performing an extract from Euripides' *The Bacchae*, transposed to contemporary Bible-belt America where Dionysus (Hamish G) bore an uncanny resemblance to a famous political demagogue.



The chorus of Bacchae (Ella B, Georgina C, Charlotte H, Thea H, Ashleigh P, Amber W, Tabitha W) gave powerful and at times terrifying performances, taking unearthly delight in the dismembering of Pentheus (Dom Mc).



Historic Fives Championship Win

Friday 6 November 2020

Congratulations to Seb Cooley, Master i/c Fives, and Tom Dunbar for winning the Kinnaird Cup this year for a record-equalling 10 in a row championship titles.

The Kinnaird Cup is the most prestigious trophy in men's fives: the National Championships for adults. The semi-finals of this competition had been scheduled for 28th March this year and were therefore postponed. Semis and final were able to be played over two weekends in October half term, all players having had several months away from any competitive matches. The permitted crowd was one spectator per player, plus two neutral officials from the Eton Fives Association: rather fewer than would usually watch!

History was in the offing as the top seeds aimed to equal the pairs' record of 10 consecutive wins set from 1981 – 1990. In winning, Tom Dunbar extended his lead as the most successful player of all time, having now won an astonishing 16 titles.

Other notable Salopian winners of the Kinnaird Cup include headmaster J.M.Peterson (himself a former Head of School and School House boy) and A.R.B. (Robin) Mouldsdales, former housemaster of Moser's who in recent years has occasionally still visited the school to support the 1st XI footballers or the top fives pair. He once, although in his 50s, beat the pair who set the 1981 – 1990 record: he was a fine player even at that age and the young champions were rattled by his method of sitting by the buttress and meditating between games.

The footage below is a rally from the Kinnaird Cup.

Futures & Higher Education Bulletin

Friday 6 November 2020

Futures and Higher Education Bulletin Edition 4 Michaelmas Term 2020 from the Futures Department, full of useful information, reminders, resources and weblinks for Fifth and Sixth Formers and their parents.

Please follow the link to download it as a pdf: [Futures Bulletin Edition 4, Michaelmas Term 2020.](#)

Remembrance Sunday 2020 - 'The School will not forget'

Sunday 8 November 2020

We will remember them. Today the school paused to remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice in conflict to preserve our many freedoms.



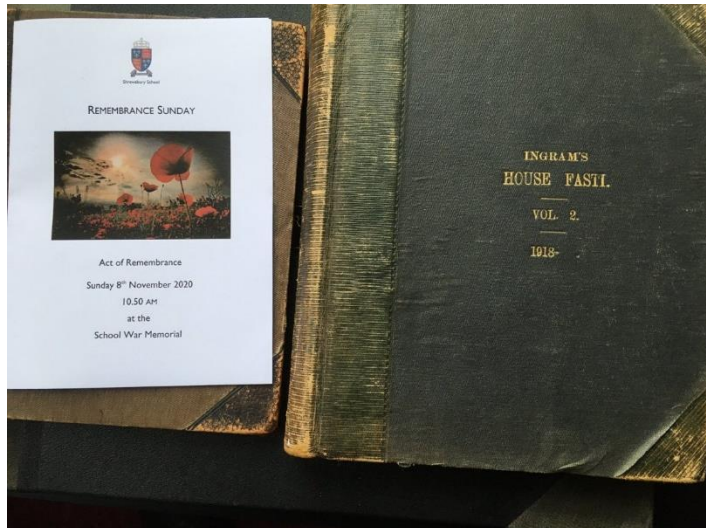
On Remembrance Sunday the school remembered the 580 Salopians and staff that gave their lives in the World War I, World War II and the first Gulf war.

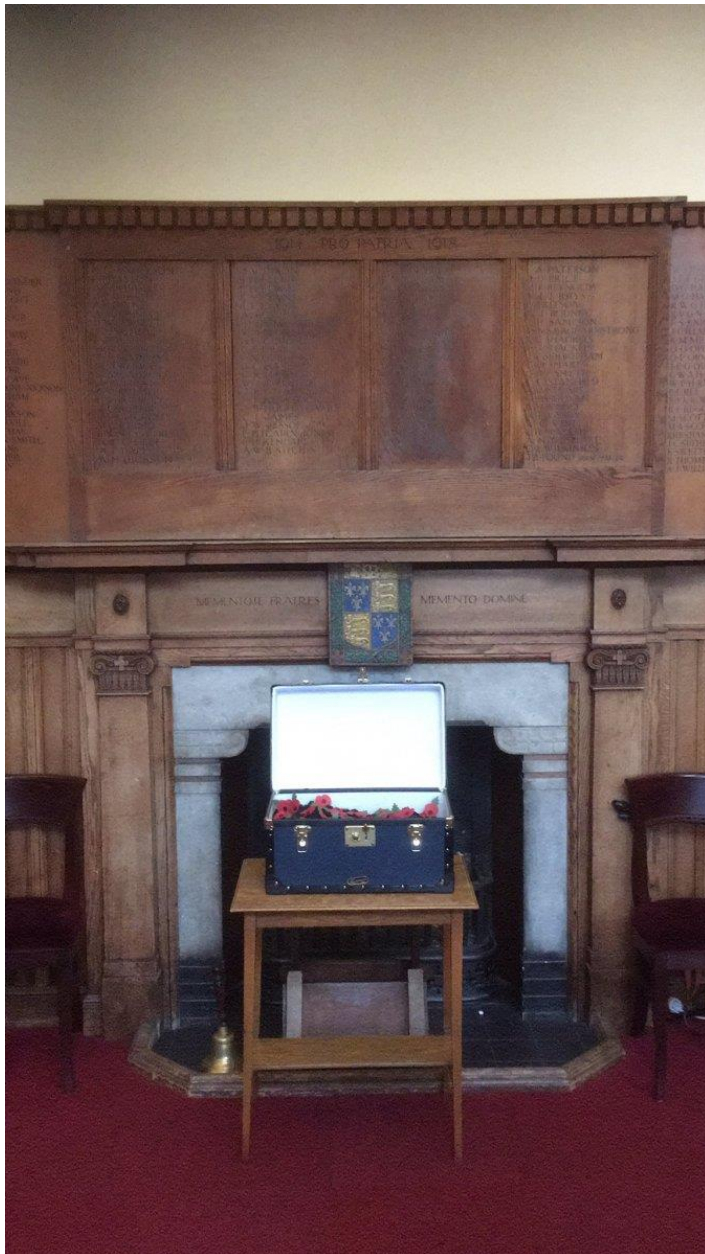
At the Sir Philip Sidney War Memorial, a safely distanced short ceremony was officiated by The Reverend Alex Aldous. Wreaths were laid by the Headmaster together with Heads of School Finn Sansom and Imogen Jones. Second Master Mike Tonks also laid a wreath in the Masters Garden to remember those staff that gave their lives. In the stillness of an Autumn morning the last post and reveille was beautifully played by Kira Ward.



After the CCF colour party had marched away, additional poppies were placed at the base of a large tree close to the memorial, and these will remain there as a mark of our joint respect and gratitude to all the fallen.

Pupils gathered in houses for a safe ceremony to reflect on those house alumni that had made the ultimate sacrifice for the freedoms we enjoy today. Over the course of their five years at the School, each pupil will hear the names of all 321 Salopians killed in World War I and the 259 killed in World War II.





"The School will not forget" is a line from a poem written by Revd C.A. Alington, Headmaster of Shrewsbury School from 1906-1916, which was published in *The Times*: [To the School at War](#)

To the School at War.

We don't forget—while in this dark December
We sit in Schoolrooms that you know so well,
And hear the sounds that you so well remem-
ber,

The clock, the hurrying feet, the Chapel bell;
Others are sitting in the seats you sat in,
There's nothing else seems altered here—and
yet

Through all of it, the same old Greek and
Latin,

Be sure we don't forget.

We don't forget you—in the wintry weather
You man the trench or tramp the frozen snow,
We play the games we used to play together
In days of peace that seem so long ago.
But through it all, the shouting and the cheer-
ing,

Those other hosts in graver conflict met,
Those other sadder sounds your ears are hear-
ing,

Be sure we don't forget.

And you, our brothers, who for all our pray-
ing

To this dear School of ours come back no more,
Who lie, our country's debt of honour paying
—And not in vain—upon the Belgian shore,
Till that great day when at the Throne in
Heaven

The books are opened and the Judgment set,
Your lives for honour and for England given

The School will not forget.

C.A.A.

House Football Competition 2020

Friday 13 November 2020

An update on the recent quarter-final results as our House Football Competition continues.

It is well known that Football, as a formal game, was established and rationalised in the public schools of England during the 19th Century and Shrewsbury School had a key role in the development of this. Indeed, the school has a copy of the original Cambridge Rules from 1856 which predate the Rules set out by the F.A. (1863).

By the 1860s football was established sufficiently for all Houses to field a 1st and 2nd XI side across all age groups and in 1888 the House Football Knockout Competition was established.

Whilst the F.A. Cup predates this (1871), the Shrewsbury School House Football Competition is one of the oldest continuous Cup competitions in the world, perhaps only pre-dated by Charterhouse's own House Cup Competition, as neither had breaks during the World Wars as the F.A. Cup did.

Whilst 2020 has been a year of change and to some extent upheaval, the Football House Knockout Competition has continued, and perhaps helps to serve as a reminder and a symbol of the stability during turbulent times that Schools like Shrewsbury afford its pupils, community and wider society.

Quarter-final Results

The eagerly anticipated House Knockout Competition kicked off last week. Saturday afternoon witnessed 12 quarter-finals played under very tight COVID-19 guidelines and restrictions. However, these did not dampen the spirits, enthusiasm and competitiveness of the afternoon's games.



In the 1st House Competition, pre-tournament favorites Port Hill negotiated a tricky opening game against Ingrams with a comprehensive to a 5-0 win. Having claimed victory in their preliminary round v Churchills, it was one game too far for Oldham's as they were defeated 5-1

by a strong Radbrook outfit. The next two games were much closer with School House edging out Riggs 1-0, and Severn Hill beating Ridgemount 4-2, in a tight game which could have gone either way. Every House will now be hoping to avoid Port Hill when the draw is made for the semi-finals.



In the 15 House competition it is again Port Hill, who seem to be the team to beat. They were convincing winners in their game against a spirited Severn Hill side. Radbrook also looked particularly strong as they cruised past School House in their game. However, Riggs appear capable of upsetting the Day Boy House dominance in the competition, as they beat Ridgemount 8-2 in their game. The final semi-final place was claimed by Oldham's, who played well to beat Ingrams 4-0. An interesting semi-final draw awaits.



The 2nd House competition witnessed four extremely well contested games. Severn Hill made it two semi-finals out of the three competitions with a hard fought 3-1 victory over Churchill's. In another really close game, Port Hill edged out Ridgemout 3-1. School House also made it into their 2nd semi- final of the afternoon as they claimed a 2-1 victory against a spirited Oldham's, scoring in the final couple of minutes to secure the win. The final semi-final place was claimed by Radbrook, as they overcame Riggs 2-0.



All Houses will be looking forward to the Semi Final draw which will take place on Monday 16th November with Semi Final games taking place on Friday 27th November.

Co-Curricular Continuity: Senior House Debating

Friday 13 November 2020

An update on the Senior House Debating competitions involving all thirteen houses.

Pupils and staff have had to think creatively this term in order to ensure the full breadth of the Shrewsbury co-curriculum remains a vibrant and enriching aspect of school life. One such activity that has found a way to thrive under new restrictions is the Senior House Debating competition.



Usual procedure would see house teams visit one another to compete in weekly fixtures across the term before the strongest teams progress to the knock-out stages. Due to restrictions on year group and house mixing, the competition has been held exclusively digitally this term but has retained its popular appeal with the pupils nonetheless. Pupils deliver their five minute speeches now to camera rather than a packed house hall but the rules and structure of the debate remains much the same – a staff judge times and adjudicates before providing individual and team feedback at the summation of each debate.

All thirteen houses have been proactively involved in the competition this term and have debated topics as varied as the British nuclear deterrent, individualism versus the collective and whether computers should eventually replace teachers...!



The competition now hots up as the quarter-final round beckons for eight remaining teams on Thursday 12th November. Against the backdrop of national lockdown and significant restrictions here in the school community, the ongoing successes of the Senior House Debating competition serve as a reminder that with a flexible and can-do approach our pupils can continue pushing themselves beyond the confines of the classroom and develop key life-skills such as public speaking, research and the art of persuasion – even if they're unable to be in the same room as their peers in these uncertain times. Watch this space for updates as the competition reaches its finale later in the academic term.

H.G. Mackridge (Head of Academic Enrichment)

STEM Masterclass Lectures

Wednesday 18 November 2020

On Saturday 14th November, the Shrewsbury cohort of year 10 STEM Potential students had their second experience of STEM masterclass lectures, alongside Year 10 and 11 cohorts in the Oundle School locality.

The event, jointly presented by teachers at Shrewsbury and Oundle Schools, was supported by Imperial College London through their Teams virtual classroom environment; the College have had a flagship STEM Potential programme for a number of years and began a collaboration with Oundle three years ago. With that pilot course a success, Shrewsbury School has now also entered partnership with Imperial using this exciting and successful model. A move towards digital and online supported learning has catalysed a huge amount of innovation in schools generally, and so too with this programme. State-school students across the country are getting the opportunity to join events that bring together leading academics from the College research groups and top teachers in STEM from Shrewsbury and Oundle, all with the common goal of boosting performance and engagement in the Sciences from Year 10 to Year 13 in disadvantaged areas around those three hubs.

The event included four talks:

- Head of Science Outreach at Shrewsbury, David Wray, began with a talk centred around factors that affect the rate of chemical reactions, including the demonstration of four investigative experiments. Interspersed between these were live analysis of the data from the experiments, so that conclusions could be drawn about a quantitative rate at various times and how concentration and surface area of reactants each affect it. The action of catalysts was discussed with a final investigative approach into which of a number of solids is the best catalyst for a given reaction.



- Head of Community Partnerships at Oundle, Gordon Montgomery gave a thoroughly engaging talk on the apparent coincidence that the difference of two consecutive triangular numbers (N and $N+1$) is equal to the cube of $(N+1)$. Using algebraic skills from GCSE mathematics, he demonstrated a comprehensive proof that this must be the

case in just a few lines, using physical models to back up his assertions. From the expression for the Nth triangular number to building cubes from the differences before our eyes, this was both fascinating and informative.

The screenshot shows a digital whiteboard interface with the following content:

For example.... $(1 + 2 + 3 + 4)^2 - (1 + 2 + 3)^2$

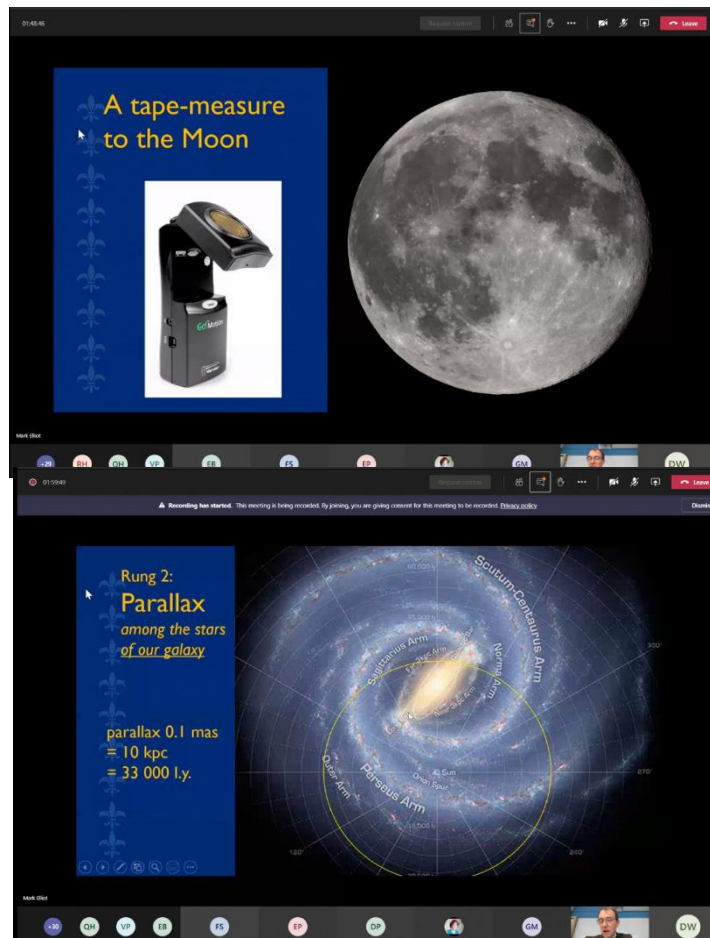
(Bigger Triangular Number)² - (Smaller Triangular Number)²

$$\left(\frac{1}{2}(n+1)(n+2)\right)^2 - \left(\frac{1}{2}n(n+1)\right)^2$$

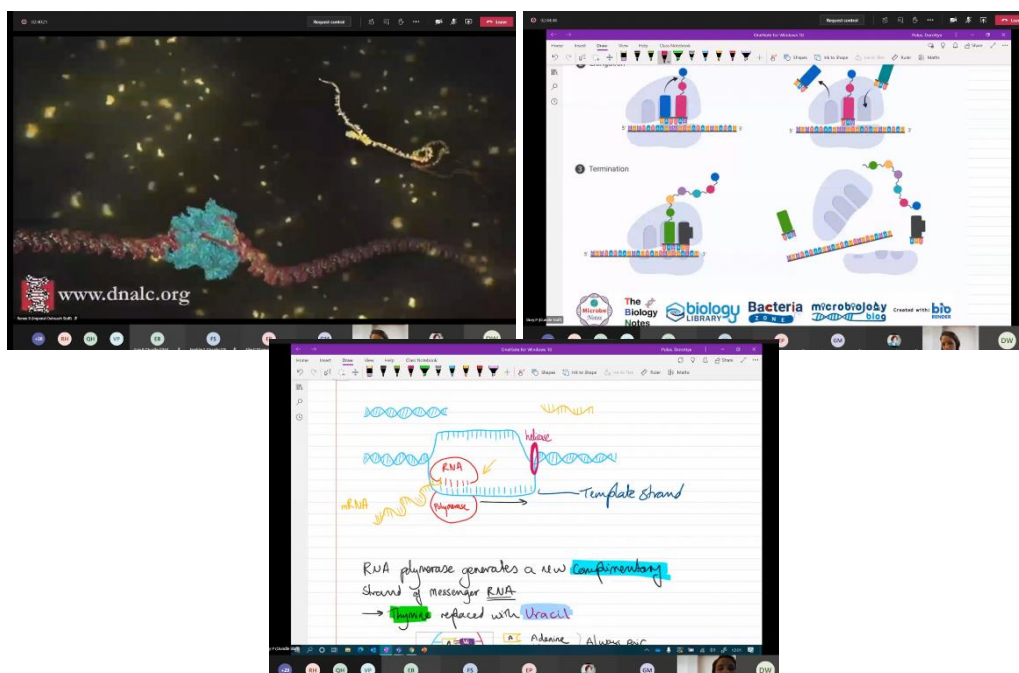
$$= \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 (n+1)^2 (n+2)^2 - \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 (n^2)(n+1)^2$$

Handwritten in red: $(ab)^2 = a^2 b^2$

- Shrewsbury School's Head of Astronomy and Teacher of Physics, Dr Mark Elliot, continued with a talk entitled the "Ladder to the End of the Universe". With links to various aspects of the GCSE Physics course, including parallax error, the inverse square law for light intensity and the Doppler effect, this insight into the limitations of measurement from our viewpoint on Earth as well as the incredible scale of the known universe was well-received indeed. Dr Elliot touched upon big ideas like redshift, type 1a supernovae, the cycles of cepheid variable stars and apparent brightness versus absolute brightness to illustrate how scientists determine astronomical distances; from a few thousand kilometres to 4 gigaparsecs in 25 minutes!



- In the final talk, Oundle School's Outreach Fellow, Dory Polos, who is completing her PhD at Imperial College, covered the nuances of DNA and its replication. From the 4 types of base and their pairings through transcription and translation into proteins, this was a comprehensive look at the vocabulary and skills required in this area at GCSE. Linking to a contemporary theme towards the end, Miss Polos was able to clearly explain how RNA from the Covid-19 coronavirus can be duplicated to facilitate testing for the virus. With the addition of fluorescent markers selectively to viral RNA (and not the host human DNA), followed by exponential increase in RNA in the sample, a visible signal may be produced. Finally, a common cause for 'false negative' test results was explored, in terms of a detection threshold for the markers and a limit to the number of duplication cycles that are performed.



Events like these are set to continue through the rest of the academic year, until such a time as we can once again welcome groups of external visitors to School and plans are already underway for the Lent Term in collaboration with Oundle and Imperial. Aside from these, the Shrewsbury cohort have also been encouraged to think about science careers and its impact on the world through direction towards online interviews and talks with eminent scientists as well as get hands-on at home with a few curriculum-based practical experiments: extracting DNA from Strawberries, creating indicators from vegetables and measuring the strength of gravity in their own homes. We are all very excited to continue to develop the programme through the year and beyond, as we expand to have new Year 10 students in September, while retaining the current group into Year 11.

David Wray, Head of Science Outreach, Shrewsbury School

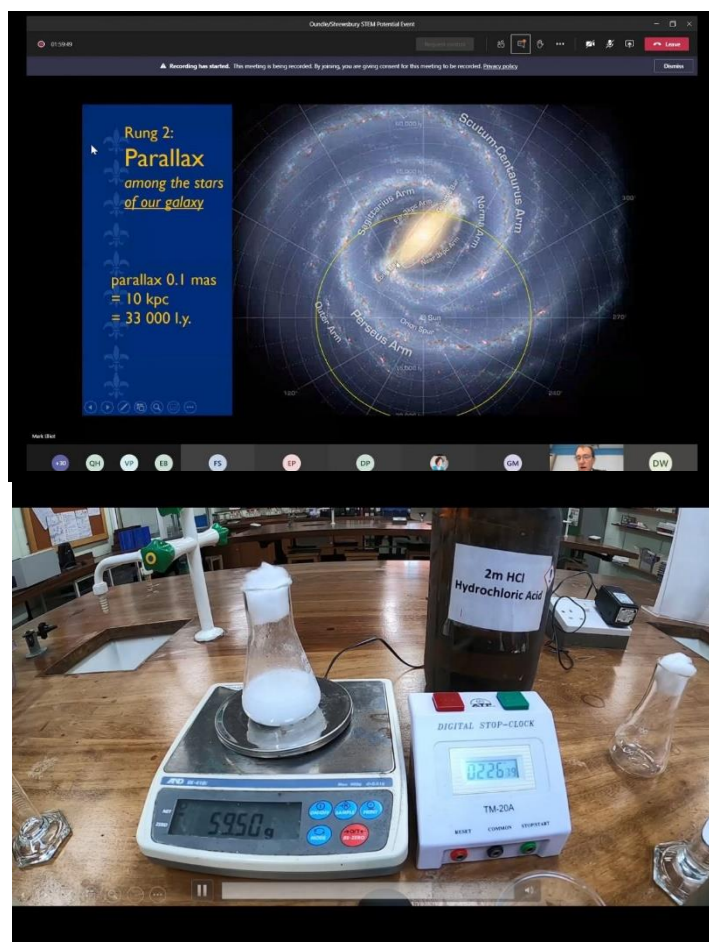
Power of Partnerships - An update on Partnership and Community Engagement

Friday 20 November 2020

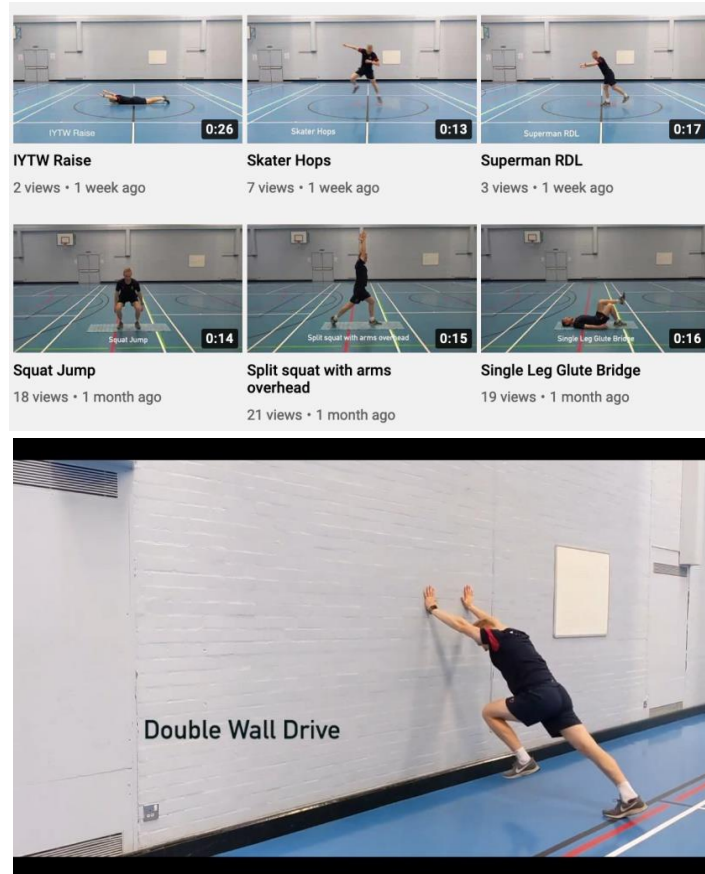
This week Shrewsbury School has been celebrating and raising awareness of its wide-ranging partnership and community engagement work – proudly adding our contribution to the wider national picture of the exciting and important work in this area being showcased by the Independent Schools Council – see #schoolstogether and #powerofpartnerships.

Staff and pupils at the school are involved in dozens of projects, covering all aspects of the Salopian experience – academic, co-curricular and pastoral. Great time and energy goes into the planning and delivery of these projects, but the effort is always worthwhile as we engage with partners, collaborating for mutual benefit. The sheer range and quality of what we achieve together gained recognition in this year's [Independent Schools of the Year awards](#) – an accolade we can quietly enjoy, but one which spurs us on to do even more!

Among the academic highlights of the term has been the launch of our [STEM Potential programme in conjunction with Imperial College London and working with colleagues from Oundle School](#). A cohort of 14 gifted Year10 students from schools across Shropshire in the Marches Academy Trust attended two virtual conferences. The topics presented and explored have been wide-ranging, challenging and intellectually stimulating: analysing the soundscape in rainforests to assessing impact of human activity on biodiversity; potential Alzheimer's treatment using ultrasound drug delivery; the mechanism of zebrafish healing; measuring gravitational waves from the collision of two black holes; GCSE rates of chemical reaction; mathematical coincidences (or not); GCSE DNA Replication and uses in Covid testing; and the various ways to measure distance across the universe. My thanks go out to colleagues in the Marches Academy Trust for their support in setting up the partnership. Closer to home, my thanks go to the Science Department at the School, and in particular to David Wray, our Head of Science Outreach, who has co-ordinated and in addition provided additional inspirational materials via e-bulletins. Early feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, with one participant commenting – 'I thoroughly enjoyed participating in the event. I think it was brilliantly planned and can't wait for the next one to take place!' and another stating 'the experience was fascinating and educational and all-round fun to do'.



Our 'Dedicated Athletes Programme' continues to flourish, albeit in remote mode also, in support of 14 talented and ambition young sportsmen and sportswomen from Shrewsbury Academy School, Meole Brace School and the Priory School. We have set up access to strength and conditioning sessions and are providing mentoring to help aid sporting development across a range of sporting specialisms. We are looking to provide these young athletes with the knowledge and regimes required to further develop and to maximise future potential, possibly in the professional arena. My thanks goes to the PE Department here at School, especially to our Lead in S&C, Sam Mitchell, and also to the Heads of PE from our partner schools for their support.



As ever the School has been active with charity work, fundraising and volunteering over the term. Although a direct physical presence has been largely impossible due to Covid restrictions, we have endeavoured to maintain and develop our support for local charities, creatively looking at ways to engage. A good many of our music concerts on site have been recorded, edited and sent to a number of local care homes. Through a programme run by a charity called 'Kissing It Better' we are training a group of our Lower Sixth Students in order to gain skills in talking with vulnerable and lonely elderly people and will soon be engaging in practice. Our Global Social Leaders have been working hard and inventively to maintain our strong link with the Food Bank+ in Coleham, with collections of goods and planning of fundraising events in lieu of the sad loss of this year's Christmas Fayre. Similarly, as we near the end of a busy and productive term, we are preparing to support the Shewsy and its 'Big Give' campaign – where all funds raised by the Salopian Community up to £20k will be match-funded. We hope that we can raise significant sums of money for both the Shewsy and the Food Bank+ between now and the end of term – your support for both, so close and so important to the Salopian Community, and above all so vital serving their respective communities, will be much appreciated.

food bank PLUS



Stuart Cowper, Head of Partnership and Community Engagement

Futures & Higher Education Bulletin

Friday 20 November 2020

Futures and Higher Education Bulletin Edition 5 Michaelmas Term 2020 from the Futures Department, full of useful information, reminders, resources and weblinks for Fifth and Sixth Formers and their parents.

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The Queen Elizabeth Prize for Engineering

Friday 20 November 2020

We are calling all creative young designers of Shrewsbury School who might want to be part of one of the world's biggest engineering prizes.

@QEPrize have launched their #CreatetheTrophy competition, for ages 14-24 around the world to design a trophy to be presented by royalty.

This is an opportunity to enter an international competition open to young people to design the trophy for the £1 million Queen Elizabeth Prize for Engineering, regarded as the world's most prestigious engineering accolade.

Last year the trophy was presented to Dr Bradford Parkinson, Professor James Spilker, Hugo Freuhauf and Richard Schwartz for their work creating the first truly global, satellite-based positioning system – GPS.

The winner every two years receives a 3-D replica of his trophy design and a high-end laptop computer.

Last year's winner was invited to see the trophy made to his design being presented to the prize winners in a ceremony at Buckingham Palace.

Miss Perkins states that:

'Imagination is all around you, the ability to show creativity and the ability to design is not limited by age, I hope this inspires more young creatives to enter into the world of design and engineering and take up this opportunity.'

Create the Trophy is currently open for entries, until the closing date on 21 December 2020 at 12.00 GMT

[Please follow this link for more information](#)

Details on how to enter

CREATE your trophy using the QEPrize 3D Design Studio app - Pupils need to download the QE Prize 3D Design Studio app

SHARE your design to social media after applying filters and effects in the photo studio.

SUBMIT your finished design to the Create the Trophy competition.

Click on the buttons below to download the QEPrize3D app on iOS and Android devices.

Further Links:

- <https://qeprize.org/>
- <https://qeprize.org/trophy>

Fantastic Field Day - November 2020

Friday 20 November 2020

Field Days are a termly event here at Shrewsbury and this was a Field Day with a difference!



Normally we would be scattering far and wide across Shropshire and Wales, however, this term we have adapted to an entirely on-site event. The ingenuity and innovation of our staff coupled with our spacious site enabled us to provide a large range of group activities for all pupils.



We set some specific aims for the day: to deliver the usual activities 'as normal', to provide experience and challenge, but also to create a moment of fun, variation and shared enjoyment.





Our pupils, from Third Form to Lower Sixth Form, chose to undertake activities from twenty-five options, with a varying choice provided to different year groups. Our third formers learnt about first aid and took part in an energising multi-activity competition, while other year groups were able to have a go at mountain biking (yes on site!), bird ringing, climbing or attempting to make a coracle sufficient to carry them across our swimming pool.



We are producing a Field Day highlights film, which we hope will capture the breadth of activity and the essence of fun and enjoyment.



It was so heartening to witness the excellent innovation from our staff and I believe we created a programme that was filled with sheer thrill and enjoyment, making the day a fantastic experience for pupils.





What more would you expect from the best independent school in the country!

Nick David, Director of Activities

Salopian Kindness and Fundraising Excellence

Friday 20 November 2020

An update from Mr Giles Bell on Salopian fundraising and charitable events.

It has not been a good time for buskers of late! Is anyone carrying cash around with them? At least if you do happen to be doing some essential shopping and you come across a hopeful busker you can throw money at them from a distance. Luckily Harry W, who is in the 5th form and in Radbrook, has been 'well educated' and had worked out that if one was to raise money for charity by busking, it would be good to do it before the second lockdown. I caught up with him and sat nearer enough to catch his thoughts on busking and nothing more sinister!



Harry is a keen singer and has ambitions to be a solo artist in the future. That said he is currently part of a duo with a friend of his called Liana. He has been moved by the work of the NHS during the pandemic and wanted to show his support for the people who have been risking their lives and working hard for us all. It didn't take him long to work out that he could practice his singing and raise money at the same time. "It wasn't exactly a Eureka moment just an obvious thing to do" Harry told me. So, he and Liana spent several days busking for up to four hours at a time in the Shrewsbury market square and on Pride Hill. They sang covers of numerous songs and some of his favourites included 'When I look at you' by Mylee Cyrus, 'Say Something' by Christian Aguilera and 'Stuck with you' by Ariana Grande and Justin Bieber which funnily enough is a song my wife sings to me on a regular basis. Harry does write his own material too but had decided as part of his fund-raising drive not to unleash it on the 'paying public'.

Harry was amazed by the generosity of people. The first woman to give was a homeless woman and she stayed for the entire event. Harry wondered if this might have something to do with her loneliness rather than just an appreciation of his music. At one moment a crowd of around 30 people held up their phone lights and that gave Harry a real lift. 'Despite the cold it was a really enjoyable thing to do and raising over £500 for Children in Need and the Friends of the Hospital gave me a real sense of achievement and self-worth.' Harry agreed this feeling can best be described as a happy surge! His one final piece of advice was 'have a go, you will be amazed

what you can achieve!’ I might just add that Harry and Liana ended up being interviewed by Radio Shropshire and I sense they are well on their way to superstardom.



Talking of superstars, another person who has been raising money is Imogen V who is in the 4th form in the Grove. She raised over £800 for the Little Princess Trust, a charity which provides free real hair wigs to children and young people, up to 24 years, who have lost their own hair through cancer treatment or other conditions. Not only did Imogen raise lots of money, she also donated her own hair. She did have lots of her own hair as she was keen to tell me. “I have lots of my own hair Mr Bell” she said. She then informed me that even after a radical haircut, she would still have more than me. Going to the barbers is something I get very excited about as it is a fairly infrequent event in my life. I wondered what it had been like for Imogen. She told me that everyone in the Salon she went to made a real fuss of her especially when she explained what she was up to. I sensed that all the hairdressers were keen to work on Imogen and other customers may have had to do their own hair that day! Imogen admitted that she too had a happy surge when she realised how much money she had raised, and she was awarded a badge by the charity. “I got a real buzz from hearing my phone vibrate as yet another sponsor signed up to donate” she exclaimed.

Freddie Norval is in the upper 6th in Radbrook and over half term he embarked on a 24-hour marathon gaming session. We are not talking football or cricket here. Freddie took on the challenge of Xbox to raise money for MacMillan Cancer Support. I asked Freddie how he had found the experience. “I played on Xbox whilst my friend was using his computer. We played mostly Battle Royale games and Rocket League, which is a game that involves cars playing football. My most successful game was Warzone, which is Call of Duty's take on a Battle Royale mode, where 100 players are dropped into an arena and must find weapons around the place and

fight to be the last man standing. These games became highly competitive and were therefore very difficult to play in the last few hours due to fatigue.

Playing for 24 hours without a break was undeniably difficult, although the after effects were nowhere near what I thought they would be. Throughout the 24 hours, I stayed hydrated and well fed, and felt no pain in my wrists or hands in the end, just very tired within the last few hours. After I had finished, I slept until the next day and was fine from then on out, with no lasting negative effects. In the end, we managed to raise £335 and I would absolutely do it again considering how I felt compared to how much money we raised.” I like the idea of cars playing football and I am delighted to hear that Freddie managed to stay well hydrated and fed during his marathon gaming session! It does in my mind conjure up images of pizza boxes and large cokes, but I am sure that was not the case for Freddie and his friend.

Five fabulous school artists have designed some amazingly unique and awesome cards for you to buy on behalf of the Shrewsbury Food Hub. Jennifer H, Nell W, Ruby R, Elsa Wand Kaitlyn O. Here is the link if you would like to donate or purchase the cards. <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/Team/ShrewsburySchoolArtists>



It will be easier for us to send cards home with your offspring so please liaise with them! If that is not possible please email Giles Bell gifb@shrewsbury.org.uk and he will make sure you receive them.

You can also support the [Ingram's House Iron Man challenge in aid of Justice defenders](#) which will be taking place next weekend.

Mr Giles Bell

Jonathan Crown

Friday 20 November 2020

In Memoriam of Jonathan Crown, M 1978-82.

Jonathan Crown, M 1978-82, died from a heart attack on 19th September 2020. He was 56. Jonathan was a north London property manager, he was also a philanthropist, and a founder of two charities, [The Jennifer Vyvyan Foundation](#) and [Project Harar](#).

A charity working with people in Ethiopia, Project Harar, has helped more than 8,500 children born with facial disfigurements.

Jonathan contributed to The Salopian, issue no. 165 – Winter 2019-20, an update on Project Harar:

‘Over nearly 20 years, 8,500 individuals have been operated on in Addis Ababa. Every February a team of 35 volunteer NHS medics, consisting of top surgeons, doctors and nurses travel to Ethiopia for two weeks to perform 50 operations on the most complex cases encountered. These include tumours, burns, animal attacks and noma (a facial gangrene). At £3,000 per operation we need to raise £150,000 for every mission. Please visit www.projectharar.org for more information.’

Jonathan was also a big supporter of The Shewsy, donating generously to their ‘The Big Give’ appeal last year, having also given them advice about how they could fundraise through such events.

The Daily Telegraph refers to Jonathan as ‘A man of great energy who did much of the fundraising himself’. In support of Project Harar, Jonathan would visit schools across England, provide talks, organise fund raising events, and secured an appeal through BBC Radio 4.

Jonathan Courtenay Langdon Maurice Crown was born in London on 16th September 1964, the son of Leon Crown and his wife Jennifer (nee Vyvyan), who hailed from a long line of Cornish baronets.

Jonathan studied at Shrewsbury from 1978 until 1982 and was in Moser’s Hall. Peter Cox, Moser’s Housemaster (1976-1991) remembers Jonathan as being an independent pupil, who was not afraid to be unconventional and outside of the norm, but someone who was also a sensitive thinker, due to the loss of his mother at an early age, which had affected him deeply. He was a gregarious student with lots of interests across all aspects of school life and he greatly enjoyed playing sports.

Jonathan progressed from Shrewsbury School to the Polytechnic of Central London, now the University of Westminster, where he completed a degree in business studies. He also qualified as a chartered accountant at Casson Beckman.

Jonathan is survived by his wife, Josephine King, and by his daughter Tia and son Theo.

The Real Inspector Hound - House Play Review and Video

Friday 20 November 2020

This week the gentlemen of Severn Hill opened the new Barnes Theatre with their witty and stylish production of Tom Stoppard's The Real Inspector Hound.

At a time when live theatre is a rarity, it provided a real tonic of laughter both to a distanced group of staff and pupils and to a much wider audience on a live stream, something we hope to continue for future productions.



The production gets off to a pacy start thanks to Fifth Formers Ryan M and Sam U, who ably opened the show as two bickering theatre critics, Birdboot and Moon. As the critics take their seats in the theatre to watch a new Murder Mystery, the lights dim and the play-within-a-play begins. For Moon, reviewing this production is his big break, a chance to fill in for his paper's number one critic Higgs, who has mysteriously gone missing. The single-minded Birdboot is more interested in starting a liaison with a beautiful young actress.

Will U makes a memorable entrance as Mrs Drudge, the cleaning lady who hovers the drawing-room of Lady Muldoon's country residence while bopping to Queen's *I want to Break free.* His natural dramatic timing and comic scuttle were a highlight in an evening rich with laughter. The jokes came thick and fast as Stoppard's clever pastiche of Agatha Christie's *The Mousetrap* unfolds and the cast's breezy handling of plot exposition piled on the dramatic irony.



Jos G made a very credible stage debut as the dashing Simon Gascoyne who mysteriously arrives across the clifftops just as the radio announces that a killer is on the loose. His debonair charm instantly draws the ladies close, something which will later come to haunt him.

Before Simon can make his assignation with the glamorous Lady Muldoon, he bumps into his former flame, Felicity Cunningham. Though expert mastery of the hair flick, Harvey I humorously portrayed the changeable Felicity's combination of coquettishness and cattiness.

However, Felicity is no match for Lady Muldoon, winsomely played by Felix R as a husky femme fatale and glamorous Amazon in four inch heels.

When Simon is shot by an unknown assailant, suspicion falls on the whole household, including Lady Muldoon's long-lost cousin, played by Third Former James B who impressed with his confidence and professionalism in his first performance at Shrewsbury.

By popular request, Guy G reprised his hit role of 'Dead Body', which wowed in the last Severn Hill play, treating the audience to numerous well-timed sight gags.

Also honing his craft was Jago A who made a successful return to his personal specialty playing police officers. His brisk Inspector Hound lent gravitas to proceedings and provided an excellent comic foil trying to bat aside the simpering Mrs Drudge's advances.

Pulling no punches, the cast capably delivered the tonal shift when Stoppard's modern classic takes an increasingly surreal turn as the action returns to the theatre critics watching the production and becomes a play-within-a-play-within-a-play.

Ryan convincingly captured the vanity of the irascible Birdboot, who marches on stage in a fit of temper to answer the phone. Sucked into the action, the play loops until the philandering Birdboot gets his comeuppance with a bang.

The striking monochrome set and costumes designed by director Mr. Percival comes into its own as Moon is left trying to solve the murder, write his review, and escape his own existential crisis in one fell swoop. Sam wowed with his adept handling of Stoppard's verbiage, conveying the heartfelt anguish at the heart of the farce.

The production ended in a blaze of colour washing the Ashton stage, with the dependable Henry H and Will W operating the lights and sound. A fine dramatic baptism for our wonderful new space.

Here is the full play:

Rowing Virtual Match

Friday 20 November 2020

On Friday and Saturday afternoon the Boat Club took part in its first ever virtual match in a fixture against Shiplake College.

The format of the racing saw each crew complete four one kilometer runs with two into the stream and two with the stream to make some allowance for the varying river conditions between the two locations. Each crew raced with a mobile phone in the boat linked to the mobile tracking application Strava. After the four runs the average speed was calculated for comparison between the schools.



While obviously second to actual side by side competition for excitement, the racing provided an added focus and drive in what were wet and windy conditions on Saturday afternoon.

In the racing on Friday afternoon the result was two wins a piece for the senior boys with Shrewsbury quickest in the coxless fours and Shiplake winning in the coxed fours. The narrowest margin between the crews came between the second of the coxed fours with 0.1 seconds separating the two crews after four kilometers of racing.



On Saturday, the Senior boys U6th and L6th eights again share honours with Shiplake with the Upper Sixth posting the fastest average speed of the day. The Lower Sixth VIII lost out to a strong performance from Shiplake.

In the J16 Eights honours were again even as the fastest of the three Shrewsbury crews took the win with the second boat narrowly losing out to Shiplake's second boat.



The two Senior girls' quads lost out to Shiplake in two close matches.

The event proved a great success in reducing the sense of isolation created by having no external competition on the water since the Wycliffe Head held in February. The Boat Club are planning to race in a second virtual match against St Edwards, Radley and Shiplake on the 28th November if river conditions allow.

Letters from Shrewsbury No. 19: Dear Donald

Sunday 22 November 2020

The latest in the Headmaster's series of 'Letters from Shrewsbury'. A letter to 'Dear Donald'

Please follow the link to enjoy reading it:

[No. 19: 'Dear Donald'](#) (20 November 2020)

Links to the Headmaster's earlier 'Letters from Shrewsbury' are published below:

[No. 18: 'Dear Ben Gone to the Sea'](#) (25 October 2020)

[No. 17: 'Dear Minister for Exams'](#) (11 October 2020)

[No. 16: 'Dear John on the Mainland'](#) (7 October 2020)

[No. 15: 'Dear Earth-Creeping Mind'](#) (2 October 2020)

[No. 14: 'Dear Dr Johnson'](#) (27 September 2020)

[No. 13: 'Dear Jeremiah'](#) (4 September 2020)

[No. 12: 'Dear Gavin'](#) (16 August 2020)

[No. 11: 'Dear Upper Sixth Leaver'](#) (16 June 2020)

[No. 10: 'Dear Myrtle and Maud'](#) (2 June 2020)

[No. 9: 'Dear Video-Conferencing App beginning with Z'](#) (11 May 2020)

[No. 8: 'Dear Cricket'](#) (26 April 2020)

[No. 7: 'Dear Candidate'](#) (24 April 2020)

[No. 6: 'Dear So'](#) (29 March 2020)

[No. 5: 'Dear School As We Disperse'](#) (25 March 2020)

[No. 4: 'Dear Mothering Sunday'](#) (22 March 2020)

[No. 3: 'Dear Detectorist'](#) (15 March 2020)

[No. 2: 'Dear Gerald'](#) (2 February 2020)

[No. 1: 'Dear 2020'](#) (9 January 2020)

House Art Competition and Big 'Green' Draw 2020

Friday 27 November 2020

This year's House Art Competition was part of our BIG DRAW event and the theme for 2020 theme was 'a climate of change'.

Staff and student representatives from all 13 houses drew and painted trees on the tree trail designed by Shrewsbury Biologists... **with broccoli and asparagus!**

The aim of the big draw is to get the nation drawing regardless of age/gender/background/experience and it was great to see the fantastic creativity of pupils and staff from across the school community.

Lucy Caddel, Head of Art Faculty

Here are this year's winners:

JUDGE's CHOICE:

Gold:

- Student – Hester L (Moser's)
- Staff – Matt Barrett (Rigg's)

Silver:

- Student – Oscar C (Radbrook)
- Staff – Will Simper (School House)

Bronze:

- Student: Ruby R (MSH)
- Staff: Richard Case (Radbrook)

PEOPLE's CHOICE:

- Student: Jasper H (Oldham's)
- Staff: Emma Davis (Port Hill)

Field Day Freefalling Frenzy

Friday 27 November 2020

This year's Field Day saw students in Fifth Form and Lower Sixth embark on a half-day investigation into free-fall. A challenging project which all the students said they would do in real life!

The project was based around the amazing feats of Felix Baumgartner and Alan Eustace who both broke the sound barrier with their skydives, a great accomplishment not just for them individually but for their whole STEM team.



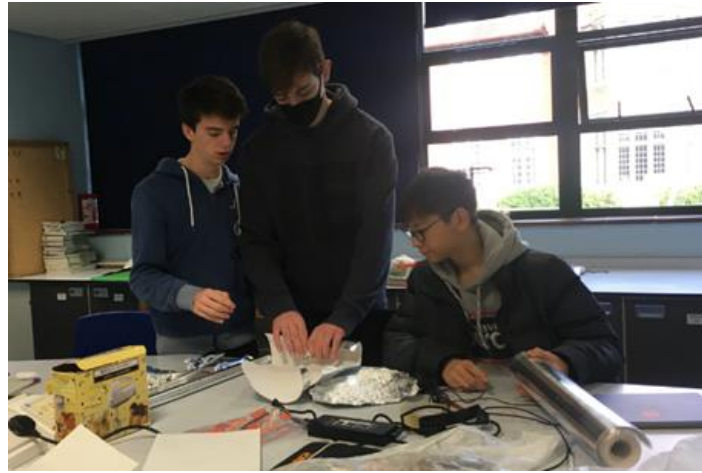
We firstly experienced as best we could what it would be like to skydive using virtual reality goggles. After the students made it through that stage, they investigated various factors that are important when trying to beat a world record for skydiving.

Students made use of light gates and a model of their skydiver to decide whether angle of fall mattered and to determine whether their skydiver would reach terminal velocity. One of the Fifth Form teams discussed that they would model this mathematically, considering the limitations of physical modelling.



The groups had to figure out how they would get their skydiver to decelerate enough for a safe landing and spent time preparing a parachute for their model skydiver, an egg. Once faces were drawn on the eggs and names given to them, each group felt a deep connection to their egg and felt duty-bound to protect them. The parachutes took on a range of designs using various materials, one impressive design used only paper and tape, successfully protecting the egg during landing!

Students then investigated the most effective way to insulate their skydiving egg from extremes in temperature. To do this, they aimed for their egg to not cook in a hot water bath. During a skydive from heights such as Eustace and Baumgartner reached, the skydiver would experience freezing temperatures. Rather than try to not freeze their egg, a more exciting method is to use the theory that insulation works both ways.



Insulation and eggs at the ready, students submerged their eggs in the water bath hoping they would remain uncooked on exit. When it came time to crack the eggs, all eggs remained raw with just a couple of yolks seeming more firm than others (although the students would not agree with this!).

Finally, we discussed the role of the whole STEM team on a project such as this. Ranging from coders, engineers, marketing (in the case of Red Bull and Baumgartner), mathematics, technology and of course scientists.

The Shewsy Big Give Christmas Challenge 2020

Friday 27 November 2020

Find out how you can support The Shewsy's Big Give Christmas Challenge and help young people in Everton.

It's my great pleasure to introduce you to the Shewsy's Big Give Christmas Challenge for 2020 and to ask for your support in reaching the £20,000 fundraising target which, if achieved, will be doubled via secured external match-funding.

As you know, our relationship with the Shewsy is one that we cherish – all staff and students at the school have the opportunity to get to know the Shewsy, to learn about its history and to understand the crucial role it plays today in serving its community in Everton and wider locality.

As the week of the Big Give unfolds, 1st December to 8th December, you'll hear messages from the Shewsy and from the School in support of their Christmas Challenge – please take the time to listen to what is said, to learn more about our partnership with the Shewsy and the amazing work that it does and, above all, support where you are able.

Below are details from The Shewsy on how to support their Big Give Christmas Challenge 2020.

Stuart Cowper, Head of Partnerships and Community Engagement



The Big Give is a fundraising effort which every year engages charitable giving trusts and foundations who will MATCH pledged funds that the individual charity can secure. Once that process is complete then the individual charity seeks donations in a single week in December each year. If the charity can raise donations within the week that MATCH the total secured to date, then the final target is secured, four times the pledged funds.

Our campaign is entitled **Refreshing Shrewsbury House**.

“Shrewsbury House is undergoing a much needed refurbishment but beyond basic replacement and maintenance, we need to respond to the needs of our children partially highlighted by the Covid pandemic. There are over 50 children per after school club session where we provide a warm and welcoming environment, but this is not enough. We need to provide sensory space, a computer room and disabled access with specialist staff to deliver life coping skills for all our children and teenagers.”

Thanks to our wonderful team of Pledgers, by the end of August we had secured our initial target of £10,000. At that point it became a question of would a charitable trust match it..... and the marvellous Four Acre trust have done just that. They too will give the club £10,000, with one proviso.... We must now MATCH the promised funds by raising our own £20,000 in just ONE week. That's the deal. That week starts at midday on Tuesday 1st December and lasts until 12.00

noon on 8th December. Please go to our website WITHIN that week <https://www.shrewsburyhouse.org.uk/> or click this link to donate directly <https://donate.thebiggive.org.uk/campaign/a051r00001exLOTAA2>

We need a huge number of you to show support, give what you can and also spread the word and ask others to do the same. We have already made great progress in refurbishing our beloved building and it's in great shape, but we do need to do more to equip us for the coming decades. In addition to that, your generosity will keep our superb part time staff team going. Thank you. Thank you for your past support. Thank you again for supporting us now.

Exception - Modern Languages Magazine

Friday 27 November 2020

Discover the latest edition of Exception the modern languages pupil led publication.

Much delayed by the two lockdowns, I am delighted that pupil initiative has created a new edition of our occasional languages newspaper, *Exception*. Having originally hoped to publish for Speech Day 2020, this has become a bumper edition, with some extra contributions from the previous Upper 6th while in remote.



We have several aims for this publication:

- To promote foreign-language learning.
- At the time of the Brexit endgame, it is even more important to look beyond the British Isles and Europe and have a more global outlook.
- To support the integration of the diverse school community and promote positive inter-cultural relations.

Please follow this link to read Exception

Tim Whitehead, Head of MFL