



# The Wycliffe Times



## We're back out there



It's been a busy Summer term as Wycliffe pupils make the most of the easing of lockdown restrictions.

From the Pre-Prep to the Senior School, staff have gone above and beyond to ensure pupils have as many educational and sporting opportunities as they can following the challenging academic year.

In the Pre-Prep, parents were able, for the first time this year, to attend a school event to cheer on youngsters for the Pre-Prep Sports Day.

Prep boarders enjoyed an action-packed weekend at the Cotswolds Country Park and Beach while Year 8 took to the water at The Wave Coventry.

During Eco Week, the entire Prep School took part in a range of outdoor learning activities created to foster an appreciation of local species.

Cricket fixtures have returned to the Prep School after what has been nearly a two-year break. The Senior School finally saw its first girls' Cricket match after COVID forced the delay of the launch of girls' Cricket last year.

After the planned 2020 Senior Girls' Hockey and Netball tour to South Africa had to be cancelled due to COVID, the Year 13 girls managed to get away before the end of term for a mini tour to Cornwall.

Finally, the Wycliffe College Boat Club had its first race of the year at the National Schools' Regatta. It is usually the largest event of the

year and this year was held behind closed doors. The lack of spectators didn't deter Wycliffe girls who came fourth in the Girls' Quad missing a medal by a second.

Wycliffe's Combined Cadet Force (CCF) has had a busy term with a range of exercise days and Summer Camps. There has been adventure training in Capel Curig, range afternoons at Imjin Barracks and exercise days at Bramley Training Area.

Duke of Edinburgh's Award participants have been busy with practice expeditions and navigation walks at Sugar Loaf in the Black Mountains, Crickwell and Standish Wood.

The Senior Production, which has been a year in the planning, finally took to the stage in a moving mix of live and filmed performances that reflected pupils' experiences and feelings about the past year and the pandemic.

The Senior School came together for its first whole school event - Sports Day - offering pupils the opportunity to fly their House colours in a range of sporting activities.

There have been opportunities to dress up and come together as a community with a range of events including the Prefects' black tie evening and the Development Year and Year 11 ball.

Since 1882, Wycliffe has been instilling independent thought and a pioneering spirit in its pupils and never has that shone as much as the past year. Finding new and innovative ways to learn and develop has been at the heart of the academic year.



**Bold & Loyal**  
1882...

**Wycliffe Open Day - Saturday 2nd October 2021**

Senior School: 9.00am - 12.00 noon | Prep School: 9.00am - 12.00 noon





## Expeditions are back on track

Navigation walks took place as soon as permitted this term. The first was a bright sunny climb up Sugar Loaf in the Black Mountains on 26 April.

On this day, 28 Silver and Gold level participants from a range of year groups were tasked to navigate a circular route, accompanied by instructors (including Captain **Helene Woodham** from Wycliffe) who fine-tuned their map-reading and compass skills.

The practice expeditions were due to take place near Crickhowell during the last week of term, with the

qualifier in September.

On 16 May, 48 of the current cohort of 51 Year 9 Bronze participants hiked up to Standish Wood and back in preparation for their qualifying expedition.

Sunny weather also accompanied the teams most of the way, although the occasional shower made the cup of hot chocolate at the top even more welcome!

Thanks to the members of staff involved, including **William Helsby, Thomas Lovewell, Samantha Larkin, Lucinda James, Victoria Vicary** and **Andrew Cox**.

# Day brought us together



by Mr Taylor

In an interrupted year for Sport it was great to see the whole Senior School come together for our Sports Day.

For the Year 9 and 10 pupils it was their first Senior School Sports Day and for the Year 11, 12 and 13 they had not experienced it since 2019.

In the morning there was a Legacy Sports Day which was inspired in 2012 by the London Olympics. There were various Sports going on across the school site with the focus on fun and trying something new.

Houses put teams together for various sports that they would not usually play competitively at school, with girls' Rugby and Football, boys' Rounders and Volleyball, mixed Table Tennis and Badminton, Rowing and Squash among

others. Despite the slight drizzle and cloud the pupils were on fine form with smiles right across campus.

The school poured on to the Berryfield in all their House colours for the Sports Day event with wristbands, headbands and face paint showing their allegiances.

There was a brilliant atmosphere as pupils lined the 100m straight.

Pupils gave 100% effort showing true Wycliffian spirit to secure every point available for their House and help build their total.

Highlights of the day was **Sebastian Forrest** (Year 9) in the Junior Boys' 1500m winning by nearly 20 seconds with a time of 5 min, 6 sec. In the Senior Girls' event **Millie Porter** (Year 13) and **Maddie Stokes** (Year 13) had a great battle in the 1500m with Maddie taking the gold.

For the Senior Boys **Tom Rowlands** (Year 13) 400m time of 54 sec was a very impressive run and in the Junior Girls' event **Abi Opaleye's** (Year 9) shot put of 8.40m won the event by an impressive 33cm margin.

As well as the House competition for each age there was also the highly contested **Victor**

and **Victrix Ludorum** trophies for the best individual performances. The results were: Junior Boys - **Sebastian Forrest**; Junior Girls - **Laila Howse** (Year 10); Senior Girls - **Evie Green** (Year 13); Senior Boys - **Tom Rowland**.

Full results will be in the Wycliffian in September.



## Pre-Prep give it their all

Every child from Nursery to Year 2 took part in the Pre-Prep Sports Day. What made it more special was that it was the first event this academic year parents were allowed to attend.

There was a great deal of cheering and laughing as children enjoyed sprint races, throwing events and obstacle races - all in glorious sunshine.

The event ended with the whole Pre-Prep - including staff - taking part in a relay race.

"It was great fun and so wonderful to have parents back at school," said **Mr Aherne**.





# EPQ course is rocketing

Interest in Wycliffe's Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) is growing year-on-year, with approximately 40 pupils undertaking a research project.

The EPQ is equivalent to half an A Level and pupils are able to research any topic which is of interest to them, which leads to a rich variety of outcomes.

It takes commitment to produce either a dissertation (5,000 words) Music or Drama composition, or report/artefact

and it is greatly valued by universities as it supports the development of independent research skills that are required at the next level of education; with an increasing number making lower grade offers to those who are completing one.

This year the topics include: Palm Oil: A positive power or an environmental disaster?; Is the jury system still the most just and reliable way to establish

a verdict? and Should sugar be considered a drug?

**Louise Knighton-Callister**, EPQ Coordinator, said: "Interest in the EPQ has grown enormously and pupils realise how important it is to demonstrate to universities that they are capable of independent research and dissertation writing and the qualification provides an opportunity for them to stand out and demonstrate their academic prowess."



# Eco Week sparks interest in Nature



All Year groups at Prep took part in the annual Eco Week and enjoyed a range of activities.

The focus for this year's event was to foster an appreciation of local species.

"Most children know about tigers and pandas, but can they identify a stoat or sycamore tree?" said **Mr Holroyde**. "If they understand more about local nature, they are more likely to want to protect it."

Pupils used the Woodland Trust app to identify trees in the school grounds plus any invertebrates on them, did a nature trail quiz as well as growing cress heads, planting wildflowers, making bird feeders,

canal dipping, installing bug hotels and tidying up the flowers beds.

Year 3 got up close and personal with African land snails and enjoyed canal dipping. Year 4 explored flowerbeds and Year 6 made bird feeders.

In Year 7 English, pupils designed and promoted their own holiday parks, based on the book they have been reading. **Flo Smalley** and **Chloe Newton** put a great eco-spin on theirs, by including beehives, wind power, a wildflower meadow and a lake full of corn-fed ducks.

Similarly, **Max Meenan** and **Sam Hart** designed an eco-island as part of their

park - you can reach this by sailing on rafts made from recycled plastic bottles.

Some of the feedback included:

"I loved the pond dipping. It was really fun to find out new creatures."

"The Nature Quiz was amazing and I spent the whole time running around learning about different animals."

"The week has been really cool and it has been a rollercoaster of adventure."



## Duo inspired by The Bard

Two Wycliffe Senior pupils have secured places in the national final of the English Speaking Union (ESU) Performing Shakespeare Competition.

In the Regional Final, **Merce Leigh** (Year 10) performed **Mark Antony's** most-often quoted speech from 'Julius Caesar', and **Beth Leach** (Year 10) gave a passionate and moving speech in the role of Lady Anne in 'Richard III'.

Their winning performances mean that they are due to go on to the grand final.

The competition is only in its third year and every year Wycliffe pupils achieve more and more.

In the first and second year Wycliffe qualified for the Regional Finals and in the second year **Naomi Opaleye** (Year 11) was Highly Commended for her performance.

"Sadly, owing to COVID restrictions, Merce and Beth will perform online in the final, rather than live on stage, but it's no less of an achievement as the girls have waited a year for this chance, as the competition had to be halted last year because of the lockdown," said **Ms Browne**, English teacher.

## Destiny wins acting place

**Destiny Thomas** (Year 12) has secured a place at the prestigious National Youth Theatre (NYT).

This is an impressive achievement as thousands of young people all over the country compete for the chance to gain a place in this dynamic, cutting-edge and industry respected Youth Theatre.

Having been offered a place as part of the NYT, Destiny now has the opportunity to further her acting training by taking up a place on their Summer Junior Acting Course.

This is run by professional theatre directors. Having completed the Summer acting course Destiny will then be considered for the NYT REP company - The NYT



REP Company course offers free, practical, industry-based talent development in drama and performance over nine months to a company of NYT members.

Destiny, who started at Wycliffe in 2020, says she first fell in love with the theatre at an early age and is very excited about the NYT place.

## Safi's notable success at music festival



**Safi Curzon** (Year 10), one of our Music Scholars, won two medals at the Cheltenham Festival for Performing Arts for her performance on the violin.

She received a gold in the Grade 6 and 7 Stringed Instrument class for her performance of 'Lament for the Holy City' by **John Rutter**. She also won a bronze in the class for string players aged 14 years and under with a performance of 'The Theme from Schindler's List' by **John Williams**.

Safi currently plays a violin that is almost 200 years old, loaned to her through the Benslow Music Trust.

The Trust is a charity which enables promising young musicians to borrow high-quality instruments from musicians. It is a huge honour for Safi to have been selected to be a recipient of one of their violins.

## Cadets busy on challenges

Wycliffe's Combined Cadet Force (CCF) has had a busy term with a range of exercise days and Summer Camps.

Four Cadets have been accepted at Cadet Centre for adventure training in Capel Curig, Wales.

Two Cadets have been accepted for sea kayaking training while two others will participate in the kayaking training.

Cadets took part in Range Afternoons at Imjin Barracks while a total of 34 Cadets attended Exercise Days at Bramley Training Area.

## Well done Florrie

Congratulations to **Florrie Matthews** (Year 7), who won the district level of The Rotary Club's Young Writer competition. Her piece of writing, 'My Happiest Day', has gone on to be judged in the National Finals.





## Year 8 get an insight into world of work

The annual Year 8 Career Opportunities morning had a virtual twist with all the speakers joining remotely.

**Victoria Vicary**, The Wycliffian Society Manager, lined up a fascinating programme of OW speakers who all began their Wycliffe journey in the Prep School: **Imogen Gray** (P HE 2016), product design with recycled plastic, **Emily Walker Smith** (P C 2012), reducing food waste and sustainability and **Amanda Price** (P SH 2002), Landscape Architect. These were joined by **Andrew Kojima**, renowned local chef

and former winner of MasterChef.

"We are extremely grateful to them all for their time and sharing their route into their present roles," said **Mrs Hiron**, Career Education Manager.

Pupils were enthralled by the personal stories illustrating: courage, flexibility, entrepreneurial and pioneering spirit, innovation, passion and huge enjoyment, to name but a few of their many skills and attributes.

After break the pupils took part in a carousel



of activities exploring online labour market information about different roles and the routes to them, sharing their current hopes and dreams, using Panjango Trumps to consider a range of current and future roles and building their awareness of their own skills and attributes.

## Wycliffe's young Physicists prove their mettle

Wycliffe pupils secured a clutch of awards in the The British Physics Olympiad (BPhO), a series of annual physics competitions and challenges aimed to encourage the study of Physics and to recognise excellence in young Physicists.

Despite the challenges of lockdown, Year 12 competed online, with **Sami Martin**, **Josia Chan** and **Henry Garrard** all achieving Silver and **James Waller**, Bronze.

In Year 10, **Jaden Bartlett** led the results with a Gold. The following were awarded Silver: **Jaxon Anderson**, **Lily Gibbons**, **Luca Webb**, **Izzy Watson**, **Ryan Hann**, **Safi Curzon**, **George Rowlands**, **Jonty Jones**, **Takara Harris**, **Aidan Kitching**, **Beth Leach** and **Harry Mather**.

The following Year 10 pupils were awarded Bronze: **Joe Downey**, **Oliver Grant**, **Ramzi Martin**, **Reuben Baker**, **Rhynell Rusere**, **Maddy Small**, **Megan Newton**, **Sam Hursthouse**, **Henry Willis**, **Toby Gaulton**, **Emmanuel Museka**, **George Vigne**, **JJ Adams**, **Laila Howse**, **Anakin Lam**, **Orla Coyne** and **Poppy Miller**.

**Mr Clements**, Head of Science, said: "The BPhO challenges are not an exam. They are more aimed at giving pupils a chance to have fun practising their problem-solving skills and seeing the real-world potential of Physics. Well done to all who took part."

# Our production is truly a team effort



This year's Senior Production is a testament of determination, dedication and team spirit.

'Looking Back, Moving Forward' reflects the experiences of pupils from the past 12 months. The result was a wonderful mix of live and recorded performance that made you cry one minute and laugh the next.

"While musicals are wonderful they can be restrictive in what freedom we can give to the cast," said **Mrs Russell**. "This year we handed the production over to the pupils so that they could explore current events and how it is affecting them."

Pupils were behind the inspiration. **Sasha** and **Poppy Sathasivam** (Year 12) last year composed and recorded a song as a tribute to NHS workers.

Also, **Naomi Opaleye** (Year 11) composed and recorded a song in response to 'Black Lives Matter' and set it to a video of thought-provoking images.

Both were moving pieces in the production.

**Destiny Thomas** (Year 12) and **Emily O'Brien** (Year 12) performed 'For Good', from the musical Wicked, the lyrics of which describe how two people have been changed for the better by their friendship.

Year 9 pupils, directed by **Mr Thomas**, created a riotously funny piece set as an online Teams



lesson. **Sam Gregory** was a stand-out with his portrayal of the eager pupil wanting to impress his teacher.

Year 10 paid tribute to the NHS in the style of slapstick comedy but with a serious message celebrating our health workers.

Year 10 singers **Maisie-Jayne Tomlinson**, **Grace Gosling** and **Merce Leigh** performed a vocal trio of an arrangement of 'All Things in Time' by **Jason Robert Brown**. Brown wrote this song as part of the 2018 album 'How We React and How We Recover' and the lyrics of the song are particularly fitting to the uncertainty surrounding the pandemic.

Year 11 Drama pupils looked beyond the UK with a poignant ensemble piece about refugees and how frightening it must be to be displaced from the world you know.

Year 12 took a more light-hearted approach

with 'Alice in Covidland' using an exaggerated style to reflect the chaos of the past 12 months. **Hywel Farrow-Wilton's** depiction of **Boris Johnson** as the Cheshire cat will be remembered for years to come.

The production ended on a high with the Year 12 Choir performing 'Somewhere Over the Rainbow', featuring vocal solos by **Millie Capehorn**, **Heath Russell** and **Eve Chandler**, as well as a flute solo by **Ella Clements**.

**Miss Scott** said: "It was fantastic to have the opportunity for pupils to perform in front of a live audience again - it has reminded us of the power of theatre and music in turbulent times."

Special thanks to: the senior girls who worked with **Miss Evans** to create some stunning backdrops; **Jason Murphy** for all things technical and **Mr Davies** for his musical accompaniment and support.

## Miss Willis named teacher of the week

Year 4 teacher **Miss Willis** was named Teacher of the Week in a recent issue of the national magazine, The Week Junior.



She was nominated by **Isabella Webster** and **Darcy Poole** who wrote: "Miss Willis is the kindest teacher in the world. She really encouraged us during lockdown. She makes the most boring lessons fun - for example, when we were learning about contractions and using apostrophes she made the room into an operating theatre; we all wore masks and gloves and cut the affected letter out and then used tape to make the apostrophe mark! She is fantastic at sport and is always positive."



# Team cooks up a business success

by **Sasha Sathasivam, Director of Marketing and Operations**

To reflect upon what has been an educating and enlightening experience for 2021's Young Enterprise group, I have chosen to provide you with an insight into our journey.

Our team of six diverse, aspiring entrepreneurs including: **Augusta (Poppy) Sathasivam, Albert Fan, Harry and Benjamin Tovey, Art Praesomboon** and myself (**Sasha Sathasivam**) were tasked to create a working business.

After much discussion, we set out on a mission to bring our student community and individuals across the globe, simple, fast and delicious recipes.

Known as Quick Cooks, we created a range of tasty, quick and convenient recipes to make pupils' mealtimes a simple and enjoyable process.

Our team qualified for the regional finals and shall continue to build on our business. We wish the team for next year the best of luck! Instagram @quickcooksuk



# It's a smart new look for Pre-Prep



We have been busy giving our Pre-Prep building a makeover to ensure our facilities for the children are in tip top order.

In Reception we have created a larger airier classroom by removing a wall while giving a lick of paint to Nursery, Reception, cloakrooms and hallway.

We have relocated the library to provide more space and filled it with new furniture and lots of new books to engage the children.

Our future plans include improving our outdoor facilities and equipment though that has not stopped us making the most of our great outdoor spaces this term.

The Outdoor Classroom Day is a global

movement to inspire and celebrate outdoor play and learning, at home and at school. On Outdoor Classroom Day itself, which has two dates each year, teachers celebrate with a special day outdoors for their class.

Children are spending less time outdoors than ever before and this is affecting their health, wellbeing and development. Time outdoors – on Outdoor Classroom Day and every day – will make children happier and healthier, as well as equipping them with the skills they need for life.

This year the Pre-Prep celebrated Outdoor Classroom Day in a range of creative ways. Nursery held their French lesson outdoors, playing games to learn numbers and animal names in French.



Ignoring the rain, the Nursery children took clipboards, paper, pencils and magnifying glasses to the garden to make observations of the world around them and drew pictures of their findings.

Year 1 and 2 took their maths lesson outdoors too. **Mr Irwin's** class enjoyed using the quad playground to complete column addition number sentences in chalk. **Mr Aherne's** class used the grid-like paving stones to direct their friends around a grid using vocabulary linked to movement and direction.

Pre-Prep also provides a great range of After School Clubs or Care. In Nursery children have been enjoying exploring oats and flour and making sand art.

## We're feelin' groovy as we go back in time to the '60s



by **Libby Rowlands, Year 6**

We have been studying modern History after the Second World War and when we were learning about the 1960s, we had a themed 'party'.

Lots of us dressed up in 1960s outfits and we listened to 1960s music. We listened to The Beatles, Beach Boys, The Jackson 5 and more iconic songs including 'Sweet Caroline' by Neil Diamond and 'Daydream Believer' by The Monkees.

We tried three classic party foods, Black Forest gateaux, cheese and pineapples on sticks and vol-au-vents with tuna on top.

We learnt classic dance moves like the waddle and the fig. We played iconic games like Twister and table football (Subbuteo). We even talked to **Mrs Coombes** and **Mr Arman** who grew up in the 1960s. It was a great way to learn about this time.

## Trio debate in competition

by **Henry Blythe, Year 8**

Three Year 8 pupils took part in the District 'Youth Speaks' debating competition, organised by The Rotary Club.

My palms were sweating as I awaited the beginning of the debate competition. **Charlie Ashman, Amelia Portlock** and I (**Henry Blythe**) were ill at ease even with the countless weeks of preparation we had recently endured. Competing online was nerve-racking!

We were all given five minutes to present our side of the debate. We discussed whether schools should give priority to well-being sessions in schools over curriculum catch-up following periods of lockdown and online learning.

Despite our nerves, we dived into the competition optimistically, with our heads held high.

Thirty minutes passed before the winners were announced. We later learned that this was because Wycliffe, Badminton and Redmaids had all been nominated 'first place' by three judges, so they had to look to nominations for second place as the decider.

And the winner is... Badminton. It was an expected loss but a first-rate effort!

## Seniors step out for annual ball

by **Mr Hancock**

Pupils turned up in dazzling attire for the annual Development Year (DY) and Year 11 Ball.

Some really embraced the 1920s 'Guys 'n' Dolls' theme, replete with well-tailored pinstripe suits, fedoras and glamorous dresses to suit the Prohibition era setting.

After some chatting outside with drinks, students sat down for a wonderful three-course meal, conducting themselves in a

commendable manner throughout.

In a dramatic about-face from the more restrained sounds of the Charleston drifting over the lawn at the start of the ball, the final hour saw pupils throwing shapes to a range of contemporary pop, drill and drum and bass, along with some classic rock anthems and even a little bit of Neil Diamond!

I hope that they enjoyed the well-deserved and long-overdue opportunity to blow off some steam!

## We watched our trio transform!

by **Elise Workman, Year 5**

Year 5 got to meet the 'butterflies' as caterpillars. They were at the second stage of their life cycle (there are four stages).

They progressively got bigger and hairier. We left food at the bottom of the container. It was a sugary consistency. One day we decided they needed names!

Their names were: Tiny Tim, Dobby and Ross. They eventually went into chrysalis (third stage) but sadly they fell off on to the ground.

Everyone was worried that they died but luckily they lived to see another day. We went out on the day that wasn't too windy to let them go.

We placed them on to a flowerbed. We saw one fly into the distance and others left in their own time.





## Cadets prove they can be real survivors



This term as an added extra, Wycliffe CCF undertook some 'Survival Skills' training.

In week 1 the Cadets were given a flint and steel, one cotton wool ball and a sharp knife and told to make a hot drink in an empty baked bean tin.

This had varying degrees of success with **Jules, Ulysse and Henry Bishop** being the most successful and making hot chocolate in under an hour.

In week 2 the Cadets had to light a fire and make a chimney grill that would allow them to cook a fresh sardine.

Many were not impressed in having to gut their own fish. **Seb Forrest** was the most able filleter and did manage to lightly grill his sardine.



## Year 9 enjoy disco

by Aoife Wright, Year 9

It was great to see everyone dressed up for the Year 9 disco. It was also nice to see people outside of a learning atmosphere.

It was a bit awkward at the start when people weren't really dancing, however when

people got more comfortable with the atmosphere, they started dancing and it was fun. About halfway through, everyone started to sing and dance and it was really entertaining.

Having the disco was a great way to socialise with classmates who I might not be



in many lessons with, so it was pleasant to see them outside a learning area. It was very kind for it to be organised and I think everyone had a great time.

# We love being out and about now



## Farewell to Mrs Baylis

**Mrs Jacqui Baylis** has retired after spending 30 years at the Prep School.

She started as a member of the cleaning team but was quickly encouraged to work within the classroom as a Teaching Assistant. One of her favourite tasks was leading Art lessons in Pre-Prep.



"**Mrs Baylis** is brilliant with the children and very capable of leading classes as well as supporting teachers," said **Mr Aherne**. "She will be missed but we wish her all the best in her retirement."

**Mrs Baylis** is leaving Wycliffe to spend more time with her family and renovate her new home.

## Prep boarders have had a busy term with a wide range of activities in the community.

They had a fantastic weekend at the Cotswold Country Park and Beach, visited Cotswold Wildlife Park and took part in a charity walk, to name just a few.

This term **Miss Oliver** joined Windrush as Girls' Housemistress. "Everyone has been so welcoming," she said. So that the girls could get to know her, Miss Oliver had supper nights with individual year groups and played 'getting to know you' bingo.

"Miss Oliver had an instant impact in Windrush, and her energy and enthusiasm have been a fantastic addition to the house," said **Mr Gloster**, Head of Boarding.

The girls have loved swimming, making bird feeders for the Forest School, dance competitions, movie nights, sports nights, yoga evenings, treasure hunts, cookie making, walks, crazy golf. The list could go on.

Wellbeing continues to play a crucial role in boarding. "We had team sports and we also followed some Beano Lessons which have been delivered in small groups learning about emotions, having resilience and believing in themselves," said Miss Oliver.

"We've also undertaken lots of projects and innovations to the Houses and facilities over the year," said Mr Gloster. "We've created a reading cave, developed a boarders' garden, transformed an outdoor space into a multipurpose area including an outdoor cinema and mini football pitch, redeveloped the Year 8 common room and turned our PE hall into a space where we have house meals, meetings and activities.

"Another initiative that we are proud of is our new relationship with a new military charity, Head Up. We held a sponsored walk in order to raise funds for veterans. We are proud to be promoting community links with our boarders and supporting a charity connected to many of our boarders' families."

## Prep Houses share some kindnesses

This term, Prep pupils have had the opportunity to discuss key themes of kindness, responsibility, and ideas on how to boost our self-esteem and overcome challenges.

Due to the bubble restrictions, weekly assemblies have celebrated achievements within Year groups with a different Head of House.

Alongside this, pupils have had the opportunity to showcase their creative talents by taking part in the Easter house competitions.

The photography challenge was back by popular demand and alongside this, keen bakers could create a menu or dish fit for the Easter bunny. There were many exciting entries from pupils ranging from Nursery to Year 8.

Many enjoyed the opportunity to go outside and take photos, inspired by reflection and shadows. Congratulations to the winners and



# A recipe for University success

by Mr Naish

The excitement of University offers and the pursuit of higher education courses can for some still be a daunting prospect.

Cooking for yourself and being responsible for your own domestic routine can prove challenging and affect overall health in the early years of living away from home.

In Robinson, we are extremely fortunate to have a talented and patient Matron who set out on Wednesday evenings to train our Year 13 pupils to cook.

During the first half term, the boys learned how to buy their own ingredients, prepare meals and cook a variety of dishes. The best part of all, was they were then able to eat them. However, they also needed to leave enough time to wash up.

Spaghetti bolognese, fajitas, chilli and pizza were all on the menu and it provided a great opportunity for the boys to sit around the dinner table and talk about their time at Wycliffe. Most of the Year 13 boys have been at Wycliffe for seven years, while one or two have been here even longer than that

having come through the Prep School as well.

The lessons for life also included cooking a full English breakfast one Saturday morning, a meal which Year 12 Robinson boys were also invited to join in.

Let's hope that what they have learned from their Matron will help contribute to a wonderful and successful experience at University, with some of the boys heading to destinations including Exeter, Harvard, Oxford Brookes and Edinburgh.





## Prefects mark year in style

By **Madeleine Palmer, Head of School**

In previous years, Prefect Teams have had the opportunity to eat out at restaurants and go on bowling trips. As this was not possible this year, an alternative plan to host a black-tie event in Wycliffe Hall was put in the diary for mid-May.

Attending the dinner was **Mr Gregory**, **Mr Woolley** and the 18 individuals who make up the 2020/21 Prefect body. The group enjoyed the jovial atmosphere and appreciate the effort put in to organise what will be remembered as a superb

evening. For the dinner itself, the catering team provided an exceptional standard of food and service which made the occasion particularly special. Following the meal was a set of speeches and light-hearted awards.

The evening coincided with the Prefects' last week "in office" before the new 2021/22 team was handed over leadership. It also marked **Mr Woolley's** final Prefect Team before he retires at the end of this academic year. It therefore felt fitting that this event was especially memorable.



# Aspire helps us discover new options

by **Mrs Hiorns, Career Education Manager**

All Year 12 pupils have been taking part in the Aspire project, which builds on the mock interview practice of Year 11.

It requires pupils to research a career sector, role or company to which they aspire and to showcase why they would be suited to it as well as the necessary steps to be successful.

For some this is straightforward, for others, indeed many, it is quite challenging. The project also gives the opportunity to explore a range of career possibilities or to research a particular passion, priority or value such as the environment, helping people or problem-solving.

Pupils then create a presentation which must last 6-7 minutes. The brief is to talk to time and to engage and inform the listener and their fellow tutees. Most do this live but in the current climate Teams provided a vehicle for those unable to be physically present.

A team of judges are invited to assess the presentations both for content and presentational skills. They were: **Richard Finch** (S 1968), **Ian Day** (P SH 1977),



**John May** (W 1982), **Tristram Southgate** (J SH 1982), **Rupert Harris** (W 1983), **Louise Jensen** (P HE 1990) and **Greg Mason** (R 2011).

The project was launched in January and even before the Easter holidays, having reflected on the brief, several pupils booked to come and talk to me about alternatives to their hitherto focused plan. Others, following judges' feedback and personal reflection, have now booked a careers guidance session.

One pupil said the opportunity to research helped them realise the huge variety of options that exist in their chosen career field and enabled them to work out which

ones were of most interest to them and subsequently which modules are essential to the choice of their future degree.

Pupils varied in their ability to present but others were striking in their use of imagery and storytelling. The Aspire experience will undoubtedly have provided invaluable insights for personal improvement.

We are very grateful for the expertise and insight of the judges who provided valuable personalised feedback to each pupil.

As one judge commented: "It's an invaluable experience for the pupils and a brilliant initiative to get them thinking seriously about life beyond Wycliffe."

## We found our way to make Music



This year's Prep Music Competition took a new creative form as a Virtual Music Festival.

Every child in Prep had the opportunity to get involved in some way, whether it was submitting a performance recording, creating some Art inspired by Music, making their own instrument, writing song lyrics, entering a music quiz with clues around the school, or even composing a piece of Music.

The Music staff also got involved, submitting their own performances for an inspiring Visiting Music Teacher (VMT) concert.

The result was well over two and a half hours of Music – a Middle Prep concert, an Upper Prep concert and the VMT concert. More than 50 pupils submitted recordings, and we had a wonderful display in the entrance to the Studio Theatre of all the artwork and created instruments.

Despite the restrictions, we were able to come together as a school and celebrate our wonderful music making.



# We lit up the stage like a rainbow!

by **Martha Woolley, Year 4**

At the start of the Year 4 Drama Week I felt nervous and excited at the same time! When we went to the Studio Theatre and started to practise, I no longer felt nervous, I just felt excited!

As the week went on we learnt new skills like facing the front and how to express ourselves even when we are not saying our lines. We also learnt stage directions.

When we started to learn new dances as well as new dance moves we didn't want to stop.

When the acting and singing were added it was just amazing.

Then **Mrs Murray** came to the Studio Theatre and gave out some fantastic costumes. Everyone loved them. The Dinosaur costumes were amazing. When we gathered together we looked like a rainbow. All the colourful lights were fantastic as well. It made the play look amazing.

We performed it twice, once in front of the Year 3 pupils and the second time was in front of the Year 6s and we were filmed. It was all so nerve-wracking and fun at the same time.





## Year 7 pupils: This is who we are



Year 7 produced some fantastic autobiographies this year, including colourful chapters about their hobbies, travels, pets, adventures and aspirations.

Congratulations to the winners (one from each class): **Florrie Matthews, Jemima Tapping** and **Noma McBurney**.

Each received a copy of an inspirational autobiography to read and a notebook in the Summer term final assembly.

## We just love a numbers game



Pre-Prep pupils proved that creativity is an important part of learning Mathematics during the NSPCC Number day.

Not only did they raise money for NSPCC but they had fun with numbers and improved their numeracy skills!

Year 1 and 2 put their number bond skills to the test on the AstroTurf. Working in pairs they raced to combine numbers to make a total of 10 or 20 using cubes and plenty of energy.

## Year 6 play was simply purrrr-fect



by **May Epton, Year 6**

At the start of the play Madame (who lives in Paris) has decided to leave all her money to her cats (Duchess, Toulouse, Berlioz and Marie) but her butler Edgar gets jealous and decides to catnap them when Napoleon and his gang of dogs chase Edgar away.

The aristocats wake up scared and cold when O'Malley the alley cat find them and decides to help the aristocats find their way back to Paris.

When the aristocats finally

return home, Edgar puts them in a box and sticks a Timbuktu label on the box but Roquefort the house mouse comes to save the day.

All the animals get together to save Duchess and her kittens, finale song and end of play.

The play 'The Aristocats' (performed by Year 6) is funny and upbeat, full of songs to dance and laugh to and the play interacts with the audience making it a fun experience for all ages.

## We're an Art-ful lot!



During lockdown, pupils were set projects and lessons in Art that were firstly achievable and secondly gave them a little bit of respite in very trying times.

Projects ranged from creating a Manga comic book cover to making a portrait of a teacher out of food.

The quality of the work was outstanding at times and showed how creative our pupils are. The work was both uplifting and inspirational and looked fun to do.

**Mr Stopforth** said: "I won't be forgetting **Mr Arman's** head of curly kale for a while. The exhibition in Etheridge was a reflection of just some of the work done by the children and was a reminder as to how, no matter what, Art can help bring a community such as Wycliffe together."

During the Summer term Year 6 spent a Saturday school looking at land Art. They studied the work of **Andy Goldsworthy, Richard Long** and **Robert Smithson** then created their own Art outside the Art rooms.



## Our own Midsummer magic

by **Charlie Ashman, Year 8**

We started the journey at the beginning of the week in the Studio Theatre. We had been told our parts and (most of us) had learnt our lines over the holiday the previous week.

Spirits were high as we started to go through the script for 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' and block out our positions on the stage. With different timings and places to enter, everyone worked hard to remember their cues and acts.

**Mrs Murray** spent hours over the half term holiday measuring and tailoring our costumes to the right sizes.

Everyone worked so hard to secure the script in their minds and when the time came, seats were filled and the cameras were rolling, the whole cast was ready and prepared for the curtain call.



The play went amazingly and the saying 'it will be all right on the day' really swung into action. We were all in full drama mode and gave it our all.

Everybody was singing their hearts out and acting their best. All the hard work from all the Year 8 pupils, **Mrs Murray, Mrs Taylor** and **Mrs Askew** definitely paid off!

## Great entries for House contest

This year's annual House English and Art Competition was based on the book: 'The Lost Words,' by **Robert Macfarlane** and **Jackie Morris**.

The task was to write an acrostic poem and create a drawing or painting, inspired by nature or wildlife. There were some super entries overall, and prizes were awarded for the following categories in each set of age-groups:

Years 3 and 4: Overall Winner, **Rawdon**



Hattie Akerman

**Dickinson**; Runner-up, **Dylan Bushell**; Best Art, **Archie Gidman**; Best English, **Sammy Hughes**.

Years 5 and 6: Overall Winner, **Abigail Casey**; Runner-up, **Ibrahim Abdur-Rahman**; Best Art, **Amber Macfarlane**; Best English, **Olivia Dunn**.

Years 7 and 8: Overall Winner, **Hattie Akerman**; Runner-up, **Samuel Tsang**; Best Art, **Jemima Tapping**; Best English, **Henry Blythe**.



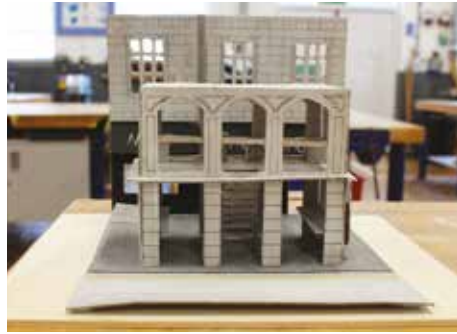
Abigail Casey





## Design & Technology

These two bus shelters were designed by **Augusta (Poppy) Sathasivam** (a shelter for Gloucester) and **Sasha Sathasivam** (a



shelter for Cheltenham) responding to a design brief to design a concept for a new bus shelter that improves functionality and also acts as a distinctive feature within the townscape of the chosen location. Almost all the design work including the model making



were done working remotely at home in the Spring term.

Images: (above left) Model by **Augusta (Poppy) Sathasivam**, (above centre and right) Model by **Sasha Sathasivam**

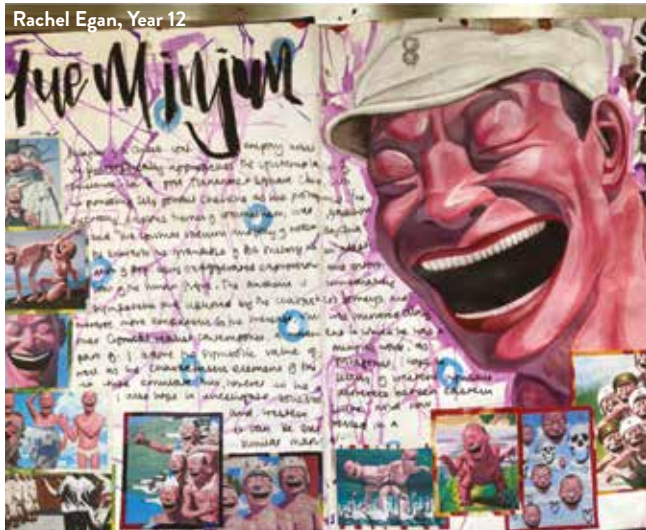
# Creativity rules!



Beth Leach, Year 10



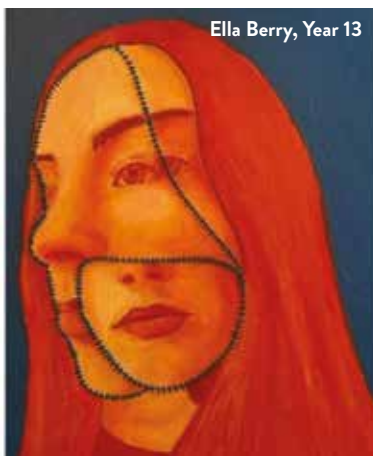
Naomi Opaleye, Year 11



Rachel Egan, Year 12



Nastia Lialina, Year 13



Ella Berry, Year 13



Sergei Bunakov, Year 13

## Film Studies



Above: **Pippa Lima-Taylor**, 'Many Happy Returns'  
Below: **Yaroslav Malaschenko**, 'P.A.V.E.L.'



The Year 13 A Level Film Studies pupils have all produced completed short film projects of a high standard.

These include work by **Yaroslav Malaschenko** (a tale of friendship and the afterlife), **Liberty Maher** (a hilarious mockumentary about a hopeless young entrepreneur), and **Lex Gosling** (a Christmas-based horror set in the woods) – all three of which received Wycliffe Commendations for their submissions.



**Nifemi Peters** - 'Palindrome'

## Seven Wycliffe singers join in global royal celebration

In honour of what would have been the Duke of Edinburgh's 100th Birthday, The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Scheme organised 'A Global Celebration' event that was live-streamed.

It featured interviews with various DofE participants from around the world, and an interview with Prince Edward to discuss the benefits of the scheme and why it was so important to the Duke.

The event finished with a virtual choir performance of the song 'World in Union', which included singers from different countries who each recorded their parts separately. We are very proud to have had seven Wycliffe singers take part in this, with their video recordings mixed together with 23 others to create an international virtual choir.

The pupils involved were: **Eve Chandler** (Year 12), **Millie Capehorn** (Year 12), **Hannah Denning** (Year 11), **Naomi Opaleye** (Year 11), **Jenrola Oyewumi** (Year 10), **Merce Leigh** (Year 10) and **Grace Gosling** (Year 10).

## Walk like an Egyptian!



by **Class 4CB**

Year 4 took part in 'Walk Like an Egyptian Day.' We first made a golden headdress with a cobra at the front and then went to the art room to paint a golden collar.

Then we added jewels by using sticky gems. We enjoyed making mummified Egyptian cats using a cardboard tube, masking tape and more gold paint! Some had cute cat faces but some looked more serious.

We painted sunset backgrounds, using watercolours and designed our own silhouette pictures using black card. We also created our own pharaoh headdress to add to our photographs for a display and wrote our names in hieroglyphics (Egyptian writing).

The funniest part of the day was when we danced to 'Walk Like an Egyptian' on the grass. We learnt so much about Ancient Egypt and it was fun to learn through Art activities.

## We're in the pink!

by **Izzy Small, Year 12**  
**Head of House**

The girls from Haywardsend were joined by the boys from Haywardsfield to take part in Race for Life as they do annually.

Sadly, due to Covid-19, Race for Life could not take place in Gloucester as usual so we held our own at school.

All dressed in pink and glitter, the pupils and staff involved ran six laps of the school to meet their goal of 5k. Fellow pupils and staff there in support were

impressed to see the effort and determination of those taking part to complete their run and raise £250 for Cancer Research UK, a charity close to many of the students' hearts.

To end the evening, **Mr Austin**, Housemaster of Haywardsfield, cooked burgers and hot dogs on the barbecue which were demolished along with the ice creams provided afterwards. Like every year, the two Houses had great fun running with their friends and are looking forward to next year's Race for Life.



## I loved fishing for bugs

by **Anu Zavodna**  
**Reekie-Black, Year 5**

Copsegrove Farm was a lot of fun. I mostly liked the scenery because, for me, it was pleasing to the eye.

My favourite activity was the cooking. We got to cook S'mores and scone twists which were smothered with Nutella. We could add any topping we liked on it. The S'mores were

chocolate biscuit with roasted marshmallow between.

We fished for bugs during the day and I liked to see what we fished out of the water. My favourite was the one that only had arms and they used their arms to swim.

All the activities were fun, especially the free time. My team's flag colour was pink - my second favourite colour.



# OWs Giving Back

This term, our thanks to the following OWs who generously shared their time to support the current pupils.

Straight back to it for the start of the Summer Term, in the Senior School, OWs came in to judge the Year 12 Aspire Presentations: **Richard Finch** (S 1968), **Ian Day** (P SH 1977), **John May** (W 1982), **Tristram Southgate** (J SH 1982), **Rupert Harris** (W 1983), **Louise Jensen** (P HE 1990) and **Greg Mason** (R 2011).

Later in the term, OWs supported the Prep School Year 8 Career Opportunities Morning talking about their chosen careers – **Emily Walker-Smith** (P C 2012) who works for a social enterprise Too Good To Go, **Immy Gray** (P HE 2016) who is a product maker for Gomi Designs; a company transforming plastic waste into everyday technology products and **Amanda Price** (P SH 2002), a Landscape Architect for MHP Design.

We also thank the very recent leavers: **Harry**

**Rapley** (W 2017), **Kirsty Turbott** (M 2017), **Verity Butler** (C 2018), **Max Edgson** (P R L 2018), **Izzy Naish** (P IG 2019), **Nathan Berrecloth** (C 2020) and **Olivia Garrard** (P HE 2020) for kindly responding to our call to produce videos on the universities that they attend to assist our Sixth Form with University decision making. This has given the pupils a unique insight from a fellow Wycliffian. Universities included: Manchester Metropolitan, Oxford Brookes, Cardiff, Warwick, Loughborough, Birmingham and Durham.

We really appreciate all your support, thank you.

## Class of 2021

Once again an apple tree was planted dedicated to the Class of 2021.



Class of 2021 Leavers Tree Dedication group photo featuring (L-R): **Nick Gregory** (Head of Wycliffe College), **Rachel Hatherell** (Deputy Head of School), **Maddy Palmer** (Head of School), **Charlie Jones** (Deputy Head of School), **John Hughes** (J H 1961) (President of The Wycliffian Society)

We look forward to welcoming you back to TWS events and wish you all the very best for the next exciting chapter!

## Honorary Wycliffians

The Wycliffian Society this year welcomed the following new Honorary Members of staff who have each dedicated 10 years' service to Wycliffe.

We would like to thank you sincerely for your dedication and commitment to the College: **Lynn Buckland**, **Ruth Flagg**, **Nikki Green**, **Wendy Jenkins**, **Sheila Morris**, **Richard Pender**, **Marie Perkins** and **Gemma Russell**.



# This year's TWS Award Winner

Following some really well researched and professionally delivered presentations from the Year 13 applicants, the panel unanimously agreed that **Charlie Jones** would make a great ambassador for TWS and Wycliffe in the future with his interest in International

Relations. Charlie will receive £3,000 per year from TWS for the next three years to help support him through university. Further details on applying for next year's Award will be in the next edition of Wycliffe Times.

## The TWS Calendar

### SEPTEMBER

<b>Sat 11th</b>	Wycliffian Day
10:30am	Registration
11:00am	Tours around campus (morning only)
12:00pm	Drinks Reception & AGM in the Chapel
1:00pm	Lunch in Wycliffe Hall
Afternoon	Watch the College play hockey and rugby
	Chapel open for a talk and archives on display
4:00pm	Afternoon tea in Wycliffe Hall
5:00pm	Finish

### OCTOBER

<b>Fri 1st</b>	The Edward Harris Cup, Royal Porthcawl Golf Club
<b>Thur 7th</b>	TWS Drinks Reception at The RAC Club, London
6.30pm – 8.30pm	
<b>Sun 24th</b>	Dean Close Sixes, Ladies' Hockey event

### NOVEMBER

<b>Sun 14th</b>	Wycliffe College Service of Remembrance, Wycliffe Chapel
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### DECEMBER

<b>Sat 4th</b>	Wycliffe Small Boats Head, volunteers needed to help run the event
<b>Sat 4th</b>	TWS Traditional Carol Service, Wycliffe Chapel
6:30pm	

For all events, please RSVP to **TWS@wycliffe.co.uk** or phone **01453 820439**; numbers are required for catering purposes.

All these events listed will go ahead subject to the Government guidelines that are in place at the time. For updates please visit the TWS website. TWS Golf events are to be confirmed and will be added to the TWS website nearer the time.

# OW Sports

## OW Cricket

We were blessed with a gentle breeze and sunshine for our OW cricket on Saturday 1 May. The OW Cricket Facebook group is well supported and as a result team captain, **Nick Morris** (P C 2010) had to pick a team from 25 willing players. Next year, we are looking to revise the format and play 6s with perhaps three or four OW teams playing two school teams over a number of overs in a round robin tournament. We hope this will broaden appeal and make things more competitive.

### Scores

Old Wycliffians 158 for 6 (35 overs)  
Wycliffe 1st XI 160 for 1  
1st XI won by 9 wickets

## Congratulations

Congratulations to OW **Jenny Wicks** (P SH 1998) and her theatre production company, Jenny Wren Productions, for getting back to live shows. Their show of Little Women received a standing ovation at its debut at The Everyman Theatre in Cheltenham in early June.

OW **Dr Camilla Pang** (IG 2010) was a guest curator at The Cheltenham Science Festival also in early June. She hosted a panel of leading scientists discussing 'Evolution – from cellular to social'. There was also a live session discussing her book, Explaining Humans.

British Rally Car driver OW **Will Butler** (P H 2016) is pleased to be back behind the wheel and racing in this year's Goodyear Touring Car Series. We wish him well for 2021!

To all OWs and Wycliffian families who run or own businesses affected by the pandemic, we look forward to you having a busy remainder of 2021. We know, that for

many of you, this has been a very difficult year. OWs who would like us to share and advertise their businesses; particularly in the leisure, hospitality or retail sector, please email **TWS@wycliffe.co.uk**.

TWS have also been following updates from OWs **Jonathan Jones** (H 2010) and **Will Clapham** (P C 2010) who have started a business together called Mogul & Dram.

Having worked in a variety of industries and roles since they left Wycliffe and University, the pair, who were both made redundant during the early part of the pandemic, turned this into an opportunity to take control of their futures and start working for themselves. They spotted a gap in the market for a refreshing whisky and soda drink and have since spent the last eight months bringing their idea to life. We look forward to hearing how they get on.



**Back Row:** L:R Team Photo: **Ian Newns** (P 1994), **Noah Cooper** (H 2016), **Noah Murray** (P C 2019), **Atolani Oyewumi** (P H 2020), **Matt Cole** (P C 2020), **James Elliot** (R 2013), **John Newns** (Hon OW, Umpire)  
**Front Row:** L:R – **Luke Edwards** (W 2005), **Sam Hester** (P C 2007), **Nick Morris** (Capt) (P C 2010), **Jordan McGoldrick** (P C 2004), **Harry Rapley** (W 2017)

## OW Netball

Class of 2017 OWs gave their best in a Netball match against Wycliffe pupils. The score was a respectable 35-28 with the current pupils winning the day.

**Back row:** L:R Team Photo: **Elena Azcona** (C 2015), **Georgie Febery** (P HE 2017), **Sasha Green** (P HE 2017), **Holly Tyler** (Capt) (P M 2017), Mrs **Sally Dudley** (Head of Girls Games at Wycliffe College & SH 1999) **Front row:** L:R **Lucy Haynes** (P C 2015), Miss **Lucy Parker** (Resident Graduate Assistant & P HE 2017), **Martha Burgess** (P IG 2017), **Natalie Newport** (P C 2017).



## Deaths

This term we sadly said goodbye to:

**Peter Harvey** (P J SH 1945),  
**Patrick Morgan** (J S 1955),  
**J Nick Cotton** (J SH 1976).

To read any obituaries visit:  
[www.wycliffe.co.uk/the-wycliffian-society/news/obituaries/](http://www.wycliffe.co.uk/the-wycliffian-society/news/obituaries/)

## HOW TO GET IN TOUCH

Please let the TWS Office know of any announcements to go in the next edition. Contact Victoria Vicary, Wycliffian Society Manager at **TWS@wycliffe.co.uk**

## JOIN US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

The Wycliffian Society

thewycliffiansociety



The Wycliffians



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# Young hopefuls show off their talent

The Ultimate Rugby Sevens (UR7s) is an academy that selects talent from across the country to represent them in tournament and develop talented players.

They would usually travel the country watching tournaments and selecting players from there but with all tournaments cancelled due to COVID they have been going into schools to run the Talent Development Days and select talented players directly through schools.

Wycliffe put forward 24 boys from Years 8, 9 and 10 to attend the session on the Berryfield that was hosted by coaches and current players from the UR7s, one of whom has played for

England 7s and was still playing with WASPS Rugby (**Will Wilson**). The coaches put the boys into various games and scenarios to see how they adapted to the games and managed the challenges. All the boys played well and worked incredibly hard showing their skills and game management.

The following boys have been invited by the UR7s to attend their training camps: Year 10 (Under 15): **George Rowlands, Ollie Leonard, Jay Evans, Ross Lubbe, Finn Russell**; Year 9 (Under 14): **Sam Gregory, Toby Grant**; Year 8 (Under 13): **Will Welby, Harry Hursthouse Codi Beachus**.



# Howzat! Prep players are back on the pitch



Cricket fixtures have returned to the Prep School after what has been nearly a two-year break.

Extra-curricular Cricket has run throughout the first two terms enabling pupils to rediscover their form and prepare for a busy summer of Sport.

We have planned our fixtures for all teams throughout the school, from Under 8 to Under 13, for those who play externally and at a higher level and for those who are new

to the sport and would like to put their newly learnt skills into action in a fun, competitive environment.

It has been brilliant to see our Sports pitches filled again with visiting teams competing against us at all age groups.

The camaraderie between teammates and opponents are vital life experiences and helps us to develop our sporting culture within the Prep. Fixtures have been against Beaudesert, Tockington Manor, Dean Close Prep, The Elms, Clifton Prep, The Downs Malvern and Malvern.



Giving all our pupils the opportunity to play in competitive matches is incredibly important in their development, the chance to experience fixtures on the senior school site also enhances individual's whole school experience and aides in the transition of Prep to Senior.

## Making Sport a lifelong passion

Providing Prep pupils with the chance to find a sport they enjoy is incredibly important. It helps them to release stress at the end of the school day, build communication skills, increases confidence and helps improve their mental health.

Sport options at the Prep School have been varied with more than 10 different clubs on offer throughout the year led by specialists across both school sites and external

coaches from different sports providers.

**George Ford** led our Cricket provision throughout the three terms with numbers continuing to rise. **Mark Wontumi** delivered a popular summer term Tennis club for Years 3 to 8.

Our Extra-Curricular Sport clubs focus on the further development of skill that has been covered in our usual games sessions.

It gives pupils the chance to try a new sport

or continue to build on their knowledge of one particular sport. Being coached by different staff enables the pupils to hear and see different styles of coaching and allows them to gain a better understanding of how they learn best.

From September there will be a larger emphasis on the sharing of the College's facilities, helping to further develop the ease of the transition from Prep to Senior.

## Rowers pull out the stops at Regatta

After a long year of no racing and hard training for Wycliffe College Boat Club the time finally arrived to head off to the first race of 2021.

National Schools' Regatta is usually the largest junior event of the year lasting three days with thousands of competitors. This year the event was two days and held 'behind closed doors'.

In the Boys' Championship Quad, **Lucas Rant, Henry Garrard** (both Wycliffe College), **Gwil Johnson** and **Finlay Worthington** (both Wycliffe Junior Club) beat 14 other crews, to secure a place in the 'C Final'. They fought hard to finish in 6th, placing them 18th overall. A great achievement for a crew that had limited experience together.

In the Girls' Championship Quad, **Rhianna Sumpter, Rachel Egan, Grace Denning-Smitherman** and **Stella Fielder** put in a brilliant performance in their time trial gaining themselves a 5th place finish and a spot in the 'A Final'.

Despite the windy conditions it was a fantastic race with four out of six crews battling the whole course for medal places. The girls came away with 4th place, missing out on a medal by just one second.

**Maddie Taylor** (Wycliffe College) and **Megan Edwards** (Wycliffe Junior Club), who had a mixed amount of race experience, secured themselves a place in the 'B Final of the Girls' Championship Double. This was Maddie's first ever race. After an incredibly close battle the girls came away with 2nd place, finishing 8th overall in the event, an achievement everyone was proud of.

## In the swim of it!



Children from Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 returned to the swimming pool for the first time this academic year. They were excited but understandably slightly apprehensive. That said, the progress they have made over the weeks is commendable and they are now fully confident being back in the water. They have been practising basic water skills and a range of swimming strokes. We hope Nursery will return to the water in September.



# Awards recognise pupils' commitment to Sport



It was great to be able to hold the Junior and Senior Sports Dinners again. For Years 9 and 10 it was their first Senior School Dinner and they all dressed to impress looking very smart.

We were lucky enough to be joined by **Paige Reed** from the Severn Stars Super League Netball team who handed out the awards and spoke to the pupils about her journey in sport which was great to listen to as it was so relevant to many of the sporting journeys that the pupils are going through now.

As well as the usual awards this year we added a Strava Lockdown Award to recognise the pupils who completed the most

activity during lockdown and for the Senior Dinner we added the Elite Sportsman and Sportswoman award to recognise excellence in one sport.

The winners of these awards were **Grace Dening-Smitherman** for Rowing and **Tate Harms** for Squash. **Laila Howse** and **George Rowlands** were named Junior Sportswoman and Junior Sportsman of the year.

At the Senior Dinner it was also a chance to award the new colours scarves to recognise Year 13 pupils' achievement in their sport. **Hugo Murray** was named Sportsman of the Year and **Evie Green** Sportswoman.

Full report in The Wycliffian in September.



# Girls bat their way into Wycliffe history



## The Senior School saw its first girls' Cricket match this year.

The first match was on the newly laid Collingwood oval with our Under 15 girls hosting Cheltenham Ladies' College's Under 15 girls.

Wycliffe went into bat first and kept their wickets well only losing one in their innings. Highest score was from **Maddy Small** (Year 10) and Wycliffe ended their innings 265 for 1 wicket setting a tough challenge for the visiting team. In the field the girls bowled well and worked hard as a team to back up each

other and keep Cheltenham on their toes. Wycliffe took five wickets with the pick of the bunch coming from **Grace Gosling** (Year 10) and **Maddy Small** who claimed a wicket each with the ball. The final score was a win for Wycliffe 265 to 236.

The next match was the Under 15 HMC T20 Cup. While this was the girls' first year playing Cricket we wanted to give them the chance to experience as much of the sport as possible to enable them to develop their skills.

With examinations meaning that many of the Under 15 girls were not available, we took a

young but keen group of the Under 14 girls who played exceptionally well in terrible conditions.

Despite the rain, hail, snow and wind the girls stuck at it against a more experienced Clifton side in their first match. Next was Cheltenham Ladies' again but this time the Ladies' College came out victors. Last was Denmark Road in which the girls played their best Cricket of the day.

It has been great to see the girls develop over the term with the support of the Gloucestershire County coaches in games sessions.



The Sports Captains for the Summer term were: Cricket: **Ollie Wood** (Captain), **Harry Brownless** (Vice Captain); Boys' Tennis: **Joe McCoubrie** (Captain), **James Palk** (Vice Captain); Girls' Tennis: **Francesca Lundie** (Captain), **Evie Green** (Vice Captain); Rounders: **Emily Vaile** (Captain), **Freja Telford** (Vice Captain).

## Finally, a tour!

After the planned 2020 Girls' tour to South Africa had to be cancelled, the Year 13 girls managed to get away for a mini tour to Cornwall.

**Mr Taylor**, **Mr Shopland** and **Miss Sherwood** set off with 13 Year 13 girls to Holywell Bay. On the way down we stopped off at Blundell's School for a Netball fixture where we played five 10-minute games mixing up the team and all getting stuck in.

The next day we headed to Truro School for some Hockey and Netball matches. Again we rotated the team giving all the girls a chance to play together one last time. Winning both the matches was a great way to finish the competitive fixtures of the tour and the post-match tea of Cornish pasty was a lovely surprise.

On the last day we headed to Falmouth and Swanpool Beach for paddle boarding and coasteering. Lots of fun was had trying to run across all the boards lined up and a few cheeky nudges to get people into the water.



## Charlie hits it home for charity

For his Kirby Challenge **Charlie Ashman** (Year 8) organised a barefoot Cricket match in aid of the Foundation of Goodness in Sri Lanka.

The charity has worked extensively following the 2004 tsunami to develop a one-of-a-kind holistic rural community model and delivers a wide range of programmes to over 31,500 beneficiaries annually from over 400 villages free of

charge. Charlie and his family live in Sri Lanka and he has been able to witness the great work this charity does.

Charlie's match for the Year 8s included a barbecue after and an online interview with **Kumar Sangakkara**, one of Cricket's most famous names, a former Sri Lanka captain and holder of 28,016 runs across all international formats. Kumar is on the Board

of Trustees for the Foundation and helps to spread the message of the Foundation. Kumar talked to Charlie about how each centre strives to empower disadvantaged communities so that they may have equal opportunities to excel in life.

Charlie's match helped to raise awareness of the charity and his project highlighted so many of the basics we take for granted here in England.



For comments or news on this publication, please contact us on:

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