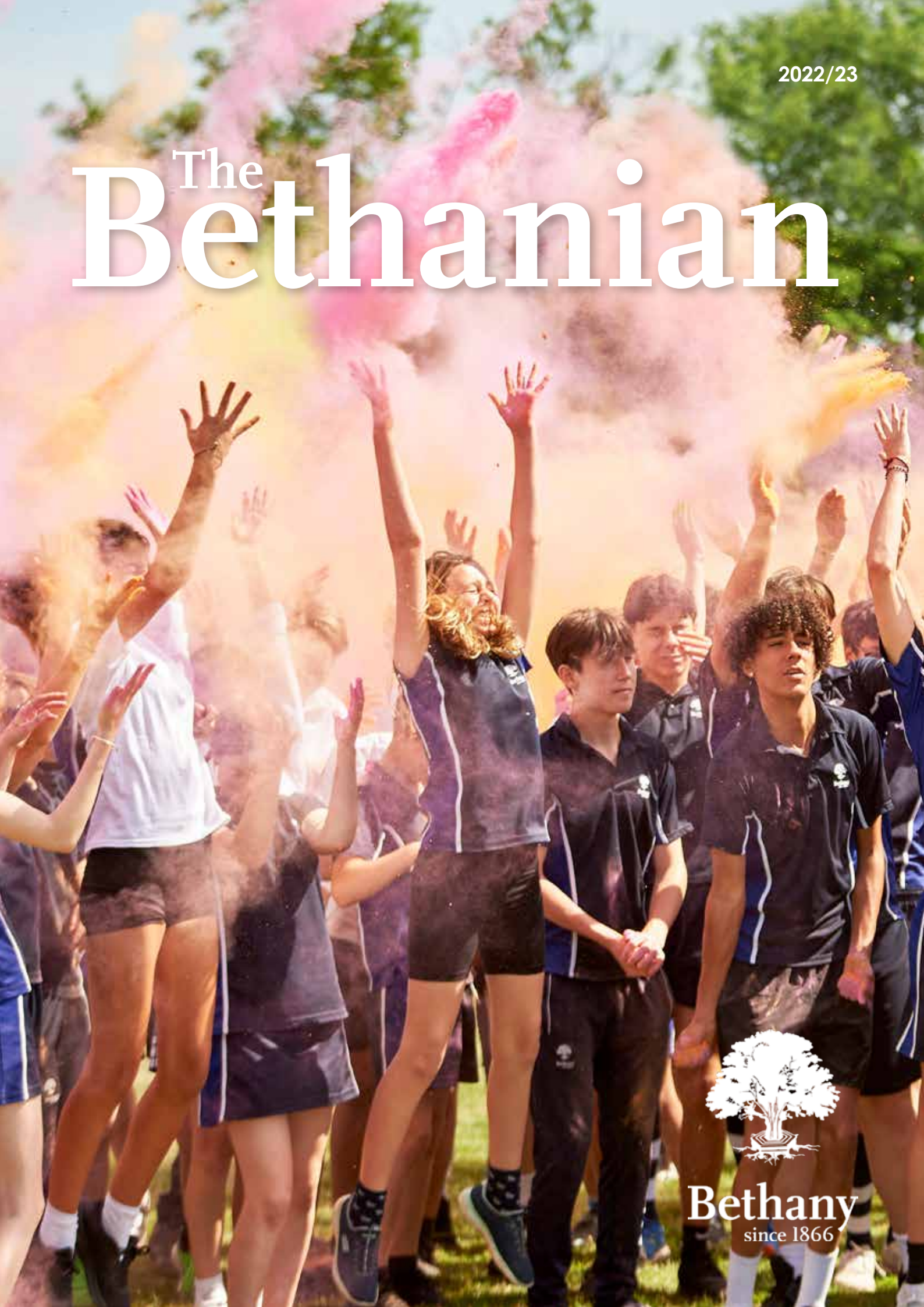


2022/23

The Bethanian



Bethany
since 1866



Our team

Governors

Mr Jonathan Fenn LLB (Chair)
Mrs Wendy Kent (Vice Chair)
Mr Peter Askew
Mrs Susan Bonell OBE BA FCIS
Mr Keith Buckland
Mr Roger Clark
Mrs Elizabeth Connell BA LLB
Mr Andrew Cunningham
Mr Matthew Harman BSc (Hons) MCIOB
Mr Nigel Kimber BSc, FCA
Mrs Gabby Power
Mrs Lindsay Roberts BEd (Hons) NPQH FCCT
Mr Dan Shaw BA LLB

Senior Staff

Headmaster

Mr Francie Healy BSc HDipEd NPQ

Bursar

Mrs Clare Morey BA (Hons), ACA

Deputy Head Academic, Teacher of English

Mrs Emily Hill BA (Hons), PGCE

Deputy Head Pastoral, DSL, Teacher of Games and Geography

Mr Alan Sturrock BEd (Hons)

Director of HR, Deputy DSL

Miss Toni Carter Chartered MCIPD

Director of Marketing and Admissions

Mrs Wendy Owens

Teaching and House Staff

Mr Jack Allsopp – Teacher of Religious Studies

Miss Samantha Baker BA (Hons), PGCE – Assistant Director of Performing Arts

Mr Ritchie Beckham BA (Hons) – Teacher of English and Media

Mr Dariius Bell BA (Hons) MRes, PGCE – Teacher of English, Media and History

Mr Alex Bolton BA (Hons), NPQSL – Director of Performing Arts, Head of Key Stage 4

Mrs Nicola Clough BDes, PGDE – Teacher of Art and Textiles, Assistant Head of Key Stage 4, Head of Kiplings

Mr Richard Clough BA (Hons), PGCE – Teacher of History, Assistant Head of Year 7 and 8

Mr Cliff Cooper MSc – Director of Extra Curricular Activities, Teacher of Maths

Mr Simon Davies BA (Hons) – Head of History & Politics, Housemaster The Orchard

Mr Simon Duff BEd, TEFL, NPQML – Head of Business Economics, Second Assistant Housemaster The Orchard, Head of 6th Form

Miss Mathilda Fuller BA (Hons)- Teacher of Mathematics, Second Assistant Housemistress The Orchard

Mrs Sarah Fuller BSc (Hons) – Speech Pathology and Therapy, Learning Support Assistant and Exam Access Arrangements

Mr Alejandro Garcia – Teacher of Spanish

Mr Sherrick Hamilton BA (Hons) – Head of Computing and IT Services

Mr Steve Hampton BSc, PGCE – Teacher of Food and Nutrition, Second Assistant Housemaster The Orchard

Mrs Kate Harper BSc (Hons) QTS PGCert SpLD – School SENCo, Head of Dyslexia and Learning Success, Learning Support, Specialist Teacher

Miss Katie Hayward – Trainee Teacher

Mrs Frances Healy BA SpLD – Teacher of English

Mr Tom Henson BA (Hons) – Teacher of Games, First Assistant Mount House

Mr Anthony Khan BA (Hons) PGCE – Teacher of Business Studies, Head of Student Enterprise

Miss Sam King BA – Head of Girls' Sport

Mr Adam Manktelow BSc (Hons) PGCE – Head of Maths

Miss Claire Mills BEd (Hons) PGCert SpLD – Learning Support Specialist Teacher, Head of Year 7 and 8

Mr Marcus Norman BEd (Hons) – Head of Design & Technology

Dr Clare Notley BSc (Hons), PhD, PGCE – Lead Teacher of Biology

Mr Matt Payne BSc (Hons) PGCE – Director of Sport

Mrs Rachael Payne BA (Hons) PGCE – Lead Teacher of Dance

Mr Devin Reilly BSc (Hons) – Teacher of Science, Competitive House Coordinator

Ms Nicola Rendall-Jones BA (Hons), DTEFLA, PGCE – Head of EAL

Mr Ceri Roberts MSc BSc (Hons) PGCE – Teacher of Geography

Mrs Caroline Rowell BA (Hons) – Teaching Assistant Apprentice

Ms Debby Sanjaya MSc, PGCE – Lead Teacher for A Level Maths

Mrs Carly Shapland BA (Hons) – Head of English and Media

Miss Fleur-Estelle Shaw MA PGCE – Head of Geography, UCAS Coordinator

Mrs Sarah Smart BA (Hons) PGCE NPQML – Head of Art, Assistant Housemistress The Orchard

Mrs Anne-Marie Sturrock BEd (Hons) – Teacher of DLS, EAL, PSHCE Coordinator

Mr Mike Thomas MSc PhD – Head of Science, Lead Teacher of Physics, Second Assistant Housemaster Mount

Mr James Vickerman BSc (Hons) PGCE – Lead Teacher of Chemistry, Housemaster Mount

Mrs Jules Wareham BEd (Hons) – Teacher of Maths and Games, Head of Year 9, Careers, Second Assistant Housemistress The Orchard

Ms Laura Williams – Teacher of Music

Mr Michael Willis BA (Hons) PGCE – Head of Modern Foreign Languages

Ms Leaf Ye Zhao BA PGCE – Mandarin Teacher

Non-teaching Staff

Mrs Karina Austen – Lead Housekeeper, The Orchard

Mrs Danielle Barwick – HR & Compliance Officer

Ms Tracey Batt – Cleaning Manager

Mr Richard Beeson – Assistant Bursar (Estates)

Mrs Verena Boot – Pupil Welfare Officer

Ms Lisa Chapman – Swimming Coach

Mrs Sara Cooper – Marketing Assistant

Mr Phil Crafter – IT Technician

Mrs Andrea Discombe – PA to Headmaster, Part time Registrar

Mrs Jacky Elliman BA (Hons) – Transport Co-Ordinator and Data Assistant

Ms Stacey Ellis – Senior Science Technician

Ms Rhiannon Eyre RN BSc (Hons) – Senior Sister Wellness Centre

Mr Paul Feeseey – Lay Chaplain

Mr Jamie Forde – Swimming Pool Manager

Mrs Mandy Hallett – Housekeeper, Acorns

Mr Sam Harris – Communications Officer

Ms Tracey Jones – Netball Coach

Ms Abbie Lancaster – Hockey Coach

Miss Karen Lane – Housekeeper, Mount

Ms Claire Leaper – Active Listener

Mr Mick Levett – Design & Technology Technician

Mrs Sally Martorell BA (Hons) – Registrar

Mrs Gemma Mewett – Teaching Assistant Apprentice

Mrs Amy Mewse – School Receptionist

Mrs Ceri Mooney – School Receptionist

Mr Aaron Mulcahy – Finance Officer

Mr Shiraz Muhsin – Finance Manager (Maternity)

Ms Louise Pettifer – Art Technician

Mr Alasdair Ramsay – Cricket Coach

Mr Aaron Ramsden – Performing Arts Technician

Mrs Claire Rendell – Librarian and Archivist

Miss Hayley Rigg – Finance Manager

Miss Natalie Stockford – Food and Nutrition Technician

Miss Gabriella Swart BSc (Hons) MSc (res) – Science Technician

Ms Sam Sweatman – School Nurse

Mr Chris Thorncroft – IT Technician

Ms Katja Thornton – Exams and Data Manager

Mrs Helen Worthington – Food and Nutrition Technician (Maternity)

Estates team

Mr Jonathon Bourne – Head Groundsman

Mr Vinny Boxall – Minibus Driver

Mrs Sarah Butler – Minibus Driver

Mr Andrew Austen – Maintenance

Miss Cheryl Austen – Cleaner

Miss Maria Cotterill – Cleaner

Mrs Alison Goldsmith – Cleaner

Mrs Shirley Goldsmith – Cleaner

Mrs Anita-Jane Gill – Cleaner

Mr James Harris – Minibus Driver

Mr Steven Hickmott – Maintenance Operative

Mr Christian Hindley – Minibus Driver

Mr Ben Howe – Sport Turf Apprentice

Mrs Lucia Jaramba – Cleaner

Mr Alan Jones – Cleaner and Maintenance

Mrs Louise Kirby – Cleaner

Mrs Jane Marrable – Cleaner

Mrs Jean Relf – Cleaner

Mr Steven Sault – Maintenance

Mr Danny Sears – Maintenance Co-ordinator

Mr Jakub Slecza – Maintenance

Mr Richard Smith – Minibus Driver

Mr Martin Sunderland – Minibus Driver

Mr Matt Tatnell – Minibus Driver

Mr David Taylor – Minibus Driver

Mrs Sue Wilson – Cleaner

Mr Robert Wright – Minibus Driver

Pupil Leadership Team

Heads of School

Charlotte Ensor

Sophie Lumsden

Deputy Head of School

Ibukunoluwa Olagunju

Prefects

Jos Beauchamp

Arthur Cairns

Sean Cameron

James Caney

Arabella Charles

Alexander Clarke

William Garner-Hutton

William Harby

Ethan Hill

Beth Kuhepa

Laura McGee

William Stoneham

Yui Ki Wong

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Headmaster's welcome



It was great to start a new academic year without having to make allowances for Covid testing. The start of term, of course, was overshadowed with some tumultuous events on the national stage. We had a new Prime Minister, Liz Truss, and our beloved monarch, Queen Elizabeth II, passed away. The country entered into a ten day period of mourning and Bethany had a special assembly to commemorate her passing.

The Wine and Canapes event at the start of term was understandably a muted affair. We held our annual Charity Walks on Friday 16th September, and once again our pupils behaved impeccably as they walked around the Kent countryside.

The first Open Morning of the academic year took place on Saturday 24th September, and we had a record number of attendees.

September ended with a bank holiday due to the Queen's funeral which was watched by millions all over the world.

Our Sports Afternoon in late September was enjoyed with Speakers narrowly beating Roberts and Kiplings.

The last day of September saw Bethany host a Meet the Tutor evening for all parents. This was a most enjoyable and well attended event.

October was Black History Month, and we celebrated at Bethany with assemblies which included a number of eloquent submissions from pupils articulating what it was like to be black at Bethany.

In another first for Bethany, our Year 7 and 8 pupils enjoyed a virtual trip to Madrid. During this 'trip' they interacted with other pupils based in Madrid with activities that included decorating a flamingo fan and learning a Spanish song.

Just before half term we had a Jaws n Claws workshop organised by the Geography Department, which involved Year 8 pupils getting up close and personal with some reptiles and insects.

We also launched a World Challenge trip to Tanzania on Friday 14th October for the senior pupils.

Also, just before half term, I found out that former pupil Kipp Popert who was a weekly boarder at Bethany for 7 years and left some years ago, became the number one

disabled golfer in the world. A short film about him was released and I am far too modest to say that I had a starring role in it!

As has become the practice in recent years, we had a two week half term break which was appreciated by the pupils and staff.

We held a Sixth Form Open Evening on Friday 11th November, which was very well attended.

Our Year 7 entrance assessments (for entry in September 2023) took place on Saturday 12th November with record numbers attending.

The national economic picture remained topical and we had a new Prime Minister Rishi Sunak on the 25th November, thus creating history by being the first non white British Asian and Hindu Prime Minister of the United Kingdom.

During Remembrance Week we had special morning services in chapel.

FOBS organised a sponsored charity disco for pupils in Years 7, 8 and 9 on Friday 18th November, and a great night was had by all. A considerable sum of money was raised

for two charities namely Great Ormond Street Hospital Children's Charity and the Cystic Fibrosis Trust.

There is a Sixth Form cultural society called The Pengelly Society, and I attended one of its meetings on Thursday 17th November where I was informed that by 2050 there will be regular and sustainable trips to Mars. That is certainly an interesting thought!

In November the football World Cup also started, and grabbed the attention of the children particularly when England had such a comprehensive win in their first match.

It was great that we were able to host our Annual Carol Service, and it took place on Tuesday 6th December in St Dunstan's Church in Cranbrook. The Bethany community sang their hearts out during the service which was wonderfully delivered. The total raised for the Carol Service collection was over £1300.

In addition, we received the great news that two of our Sixth Form artists Beth Kuhepa and Willem Curtin, were

successful in the John Downtown Arts Awards and their works were shown at the Turner Contemporary Art Gallery.

The last day of the Autumn term was Christmas jumper day and a considerable sum of money was raised for the charity Save the Children. Of course, the last day of term is also the date for Christmas lunch and our pupils ate their fill.

We were also very lucky with the weather because just after we broke up for Christmas, we had a few days of snow, which impacted some of the staff training days that had been organised.

The Pengelly Society meeting in January had an excellent talk given by former gambling addict Patrick Foster. The silence in the room was palpable as the Sixth Formers were captivated by his compelling life story.

Our Year 11 musicians laid on an excellent music concert on Wednesday 23rd January and this was closely followed by our annual School production called School of Rock which took place in early February. >>



The first Open Morning of the new year took place on Saturday 4th February and once again was very well attended.

On Saturday 18th March there was a FOBS sponsored Quiz evening which raised record amounts of money for various charities as well as fund additional seating and playtime activities for our pupils. The quiz night started off well as Ireland beat England to win the Grand Slam in the Six Nations Rugby series! It set me up nicely for the remainder of the evening.

The Council for the Registration of School's Teaching Dyslexic pupils (CReSTeD) visited us on Wednesday 1st February and were complimentary about the education we offer all pupils - especially our dyslexic ones.

I was so taken by the devastation caused by the earthquake in Northern Syria in February that with the help of the parent body, I organised a raffle so that a pupil at Bethany would become Headteacher for a day and I would become a pupil. The raffle took place on Wednesday 1st March. I became a Year 7 pupil on the Thursday whilst Year 7 pupil, Felix Hardie, became Headteacher for a day on the Friday. I enjoyed my time as a pupil and Felix had a great time as Headmaster. But most importantly it raised £4,000 for the DEC earthquake appeal.

Thursday 2nd March was also World Book Day, and several teachers dressed up as literary characters.

Our GCSE pupils had a sobering history trip to Ypres on Friday 3rd March and returned the following day. They visited war graves and paid their due respects to those who died in both world wars.

Somewhat unbelievably we had a small amount of snow in early March and although some schools locally closed for the day, Bethany carried on as normal.

Our mid week Open Morning on Wednesday 15th March was another great success.

I attended an outstanding Year 10 evening of drama on Thursday 16th March where our Year 10 drama pupils performed extracts from Bouncers Shakers and Gas Station Angel.

Smoothwall is the monitoring software we use on our School internet system, and they have an excellent website with plenty of help and advice on how parents can help their children safely navigate the internet. On Monday 20th March, Smoothwall gave an online safety presentation to parents and School staff to help them speak to children about safe digital behaviours.

Our annual Festival of Scholars event took place on Friday 24th March. It was an outstanding evening, the talents of the pupils were only surpassed by their humility.

The Easter Concert on Tuesday 21st March was another great event.

The Staff v Leavers football match on Thursday 30th March was a keenly contested affair. It ended as a score draw with Year 13 beating the staff on penalties. The pupils were suitably jubilant!

On the very first day of the summer term I got a call from Independent Schools Inspectorate to inform me that we were being inspected that very week. I had been expecting that call every Monday since September, and so part of me was relieved to have received it. The inspection went very well, and Bethany was judged to be excellent in both pupils' academic and other achievements and pupils' personal development.

Bethany paid homage to the King's Coronation by having a tea party on Thursday 4th May, and I also gave a coronation pin badge to every pupil and member of staff in the School. The tea party was a great success. The caterers provided delicious food, and it was great to see the pupils relax and mingle with each other so effortlessly.

Also, the start of May saw the construction of the Performing Arts Centre begin in earnest, and it is due to be finished in June 2024.

The Year 13 Leavers' Ball which was held in Tunbridge Wells on Friday 5th May was a most enjoyable evening with the parents outdancing their children!

On Monday 15th May Jenny Langley from the Charlie Waller Trust, gave an excellent presentation to parents on the theme 'Understanding the Teenage Brain so that you can Connect with your Teenager'.

On Thursday 25th May, I was delighted to welcome the boarders over to my garden for their annual barbecue. As has become the norm, it was a most entertaining evening. The boarders were excellent company as they always are. The fine weather also played its part.

On Saturday 17th June we had our annual Getting to Know Bethany Day, which is an event for children starting in Years 7, 8 & 9 at Bethany and their respective parents to spend some time at Bethany and become more informed about how we operate at parent and pupil level. It is very popular and hugely appreciated.

The following Saturday saw Bethany host its annual Speech Day/Leavers' Day/Reunion Day. The weather was wonderful, the day itself started off with a champagne breakfast for our Year 13 leavers. This was followed by a joint Leavers'/OBS service in chapel. From 10am, in the centre of campus, we had various subjects on display as well as

music and drama performances, in addition to refreshments. The day was exceptionally warm and there was a lovely atmosphere throughout campus. The prizegiving ceremony started at 11.30am, and the OBS AGM started at the same time in the Holmes Building. Our guest speaker was Matt Weston who is the current world and European skeleton champion and he gave an inspiring talk about optimism to the pupils.

June finished with two performances of the junior production which was called 'On the Stage' on Thursday 29th and Friday 30th June. The pupils were magnificent and the quality of the production was the best one to date. Every year, the quality just gets better.

Also, on that Friday we had 75 Year 5 pupils spend a day at Bethany attending various workshops in creative arts, performing arts and sport. All of them had a hugely enjoyable time here. Most of these will attend our entrance assessments in November.

The last week of term is called Activities Week, where pupils across the age range take part in various activities as diverse as bushcraft to writing university statements and visiting theme parks. It was a high octane finish to the academic year and a great way for the pupils to finish the summer term.



The Government decided that A level and GCSE results this year should be benchmarked against the 2019 results. Bethany pupils rose to the challenge and once again all of our Year 13 pupils were accepted into their preferred destinations, be that university or the world of work. Our Year 11 GCSE pupils were similarly elated with some high quality results which justified their hours of hard work in preparing for their various exams.

This has been an excellent year for Bethany. Our pupils continue to scale new heights and we have been judged by the Independent Schools Inspectorate to be an excellent School.

I would like to pay a particularly warm tribute to our Board of Governors who are all volunteers and trustees of the Bethany charity. Their strategic direction and guidance is focused on doing right by the children in our care and they remain my critical friends which is as it should be.

Finally, I would like to thank all the staff in the marketing and admissions department for coordinating the contents of this annual magazine. It is a thankless task at times but without their persistence and encouragement this magazine would not have been possible.

Francie Healy
Headmaster



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The Mount

Number of pupils

23

“Learn as much as you can while you are young, since life becomes too busy later.”

Dana Scott



Last summer saw big changes for my family and I when, having been Kendon Housemaster for the previous eight years, I made the switch to The Mount. Of course, the changes were just as significant for the boarders as some also made the move with me, whilst the existing Mounties had to adjust to a new Housemaster, and the new boarders had to acclimatise to a whole new way of life altogether.

It is therefore testament to all of the boarders that this has been such an amazing year, and it's all thanks to their incredible efforts, together with those of my fantastic colleagues, Assistant Housemasters Mr Henson and Mr Thomas, and our Housekeeper, Karen. My heartfelt gratitude goes to every single one of them for all of their hard work, enthusiasm and brilliant support throughout the entire year.

There have been some excellent trips out, not least the one to Brooklands back in the Autumn Term. The boarders had the opportunity to explore all manner

of British motoring and aeronautic history up close and many of them were genuinely fascinated by all that was on offer, including the exciting Concorde experience, and it's always great to see them get so much out of these trips.

There have, of course, also been the obligatory meals out and birthday celebrations, and several poignant moments that were experienced collectively, such as the passing of HRH Queen Elizabeth II and the coronation of King Charles III, and it is these moments, perhaps more than any other, that will stick long in the memory.

However, these shared events are ultimately the icing on the cake but what really makes a boarding house are the little things and it's these which make the biggest differences: the daily interactions, the togetherness, the humour, and the spirit.

And it's also the stories that accumulate over the years (I reckon I have enough to write a book now!). For example, there

was the boarder this year (who shall remain nameless) who had recently arrived from overseas and was still learning both the language and how to make a bed; he asked the member of staff on duty, "Sir, can you help me make my bed?". My colleague responded that he felt there was a polite word missing from the end of the sentence. The boarder thought for a moment and then, in a flash of inspiration, blurted out, "Now!!!".

Of course, in any large community there will always be the odd trial and tribulation that comes along to test different individuals at different times as well, but (and here's the thing) the support that the boarders and staff all provide to one another is absolutely second to none and everyone knows that there is always someone looking out for them, and that is what makes The Mount such a special place.

James Vickerman
Housemaster



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The Orchard

Number of pupils
42

Head of House:
James Caney

House Committee:
James Caney
Tilly Hatton
Anna Bearfield
Lera Maier
Will Garner Hutton
Will Stoneham
Dan Reilly
Matthew Jones



An eventful year, this one. Some of our very finest Year 13 pupils making their way to the end of their School careers, several boarding here at Bethany since Year 7, some incredibly hard workers and polite, friendly individuals. Some terrifically enthusiastic and fun younger pupils, thoroughly enjoying being in a senior House, making the most of the independence they were given. A bunch of Year 11 boys who, in almost all cases, worked hard throughout the year, aiming for the best GCSE results they could manage. As I look back on this academic year in The Orchard the majority of our pupils were absolutely magnificent the vast majority of the time.

The autumn term was overshadowed for many by the death of the Queen, and several of the senior pupils joined me around the flagpole immediately after hearing the news to lower the Union Jack to half-mast. Many of us found it an emotional time and there were many pupils who watched and read a huge amount of the press coverage in the days following. On a somewhat lighter note, I know that I wasn't the only one to find it somewhat incongruous that the Queen should start her reign with one of the titans of the 20th Century as her PM – Sir Winston Churchill – and end it with,

well, Liz Truss. A life-size picture of Her Majesty appeared in Acorns the week after her death and remained there for the rest of the year.

Despite the difficulties our Year 11s and 13s have faced due to Covid, as a cohort they still managed to pull out exam results that beat 2019, despite the government deciding that this year would be a good time to return to pre-Covid grade boundaries. Many of our pupils performed with aplomb in the School productions, many performed in front of their friends (always a tough crowd!) and other pupils in our various formal and informal music concerts. They played leading roles in the competitive House events, setting a fantastic example to those below them. They piled into the duty office, often when boarding staff were feeling tired, and proceeded to amuse us with various tales and gossip. A certain pair of siblings would often bicker like the proverbial old married couple (if I can say such a thing in the modern world without offending too many), affording us frequent entertainment. Many in the House came together with commendable enthusiasm to decorate the Common Room as garishly as ever for Christmas. Acorns received its own tree, festooned with political figures, though whether in tribute or lampoonery



I never quite established. And so, as ever, this year produced many fantastic memories and just as many fantastic pupils that we will all miss.

We said a sad goodbye to Mr Hampton, who moved off site after two years in boarding, and an even sadder goodbye to Mrs Smart, who has been the most brilliant of Assistants, supporting me and – more importantly – the pupils tirelessly for the last five years. Thankfully both remain at Bethany, so we will not lose them completely (and they are, of course, more than welcome just to pop in and do a night's duty every now and again for old times' sake if they so wish.)

It only remains for me to say a huge thank you to my Head of House, James Caney, for his constant attempts to keep me cheerful and the House on an even keel. Equal thanks to the fantastic boarding staff who will be returning for whatever 2023-24 throws at us – Mr Duff, Mrs Wareham and Miss Fuller – and last, but by no means least, our quite brilliant housekeeping team: Mandy, Louise, Stacey and Maria, and, especially, Karina (or, as I call her, the boss).

Simon Davies
Housemaster



Upper Sixth Leavers



Olaoluwa Amusan

A levels: Biology, Chemistry, Physics

Next steps: Employment



Edward Attiogbe

A levels: Biology, Chemistry, Physics

Next steps: North Kent College



Jos Beauchamp

A levels: Business, History, Art

Next steps: Gap year - South Africa



Louis Binfield

A levels: LIBF Finance, Drama and PE

Next steps: Gap year - working visa in Canada



Arthur Cairns

A levels: Biology, Physics, Chemistry

Awards: The Biology Prize for A level, The Chemistry Prize for A level, The Physics Prize for A level

Next steps: Harper and Keele Veterinary School - Veterinary Medicine and Surgery



Sean Cameron

A levels: History, Politics, Economics

Awards: The Alex Ward Memorial Prize for Politics

Next steps: University of Aberdeen - Politics and International Relations



Amaya Candappa

A levels: Applied Business, LIBF Finance and EPQ

Awards: The Fenech Cup (for being compassionate and considerate)

Next steps: Early Years Education course, Ireland



Ben Caney

A levels: Drama, LIBF Finance, BTech PE

Next steps: Hartpury University - Sport and Exercise Sciences



James Caney

A levels: LIBF Finance, Drama and History

Award: The Hooper's Applied Business Studies and Finance Prize

Next steps: Oxford Brookes University - Economics, Finance and International Business



Kathy Chan

A levels: Economics, Mathematics

Awards: The Timothy Sedgewick Cup (courage in the face of adversity)

Next steps: City, University of London - Business Management

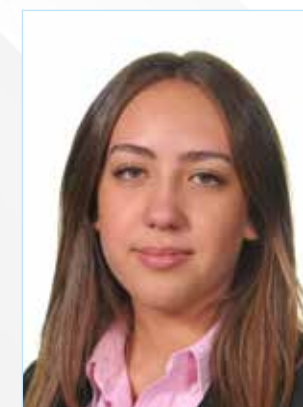


Arthur Chan

A levels: Economics, Mandarin, Photography

Awards: The Timothy Sedgewick Cup (courage in the face of adversity)

Next steps: London Metropolitan University - Business Management and Human Resource Management



Arabella Charles

A levels: Business, Textiles, Media

Awards: The Textiles Prize

Next steps: University of the Arts London - Fashion Marketing and Content Creation



Alexander Clarke

A levels: Business, Media, Politics

Awards: The Alex Marks Trophy for Endeavour

Next steps: University of Sussex - International Business



Charlotte Ensor

A levels: Drama, English, Politics

Awards: The Ross Turnbull Prize (for service to the community)

Next steps: University of Sussex - International Development



**Will Garner Hutton**

A levels: Geography, Chemistry, Music

Next steps: Harper Adams University - Agriculture

**William Harby**

A levels: LIBF Finance, Applied Business, PE

Awards: The Roy Farquarson Trophy for Senior Sportsman, The Pippa Blackman Trophy for excellence in academic PE

Next steps: Gap year - Australia /New Zealand playing cricket then signing a professional contract with Kent Cricket

**Max Rogers**

A levels: Media, Applied Business, Art

Next steps: Employment - Graphics Designer in Dubai

**Eden Shead**

A levels: Graphics, Art, Media

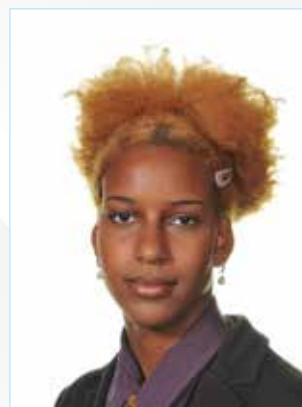
Next steps: Gap year - Australia

**Ethan Hill**

A levels: Media, English, History

Awards: The Senior Media Prize. The Royal Society of St George Senior History Prize

Next steps: Queen Mary University of London - Film Studies

**Beth Kuhepa**

A levels: Media, Art, Textiles

Awards: The Douglas Prize for Senior Art, Senior Sportswoman

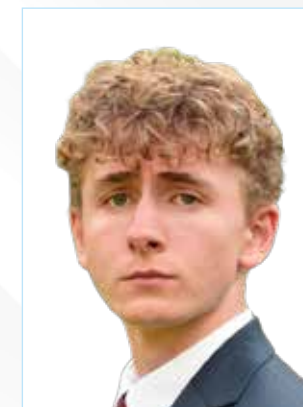
Next steps: Foundation Year UAL

**William Stoneham**

A levels: Music, Biology, Computer Science

Award: The Turing Prize for Computer Science

Next steps: Employment

**Jake Taylor**

A levels: Drama, History

Awards: The Roche Prize for Drama

Next steps: University of Essex - Acting and Stage Combat

**Sophie Lumsden**

A levels: Art, Economics, English

Awards: The McLaren English Prize

Next steps: University of Nottingham - History of Art and English

**Laura McGee**

A levels: Art, Biology and Drama

Awards: The Michael Williams Photography Cup and Prize

Next steps: Bournemouth University - Sports Management

**Will Taylor**

A levels: French, Art, Photography

Awards: The Mason Prize for Languages

Next steps: Ravensbourne University London - Animation

**Cem Ucer**

A levels: History, LIBF Finance, EPQ

Awards: The Robert Coupland Prize (for academic and social progress)

Next steps: University of Essex - Accounting and Finance (including a foundation year)

**Olubi Nihinlola**

A levels: Applied Business, LIBF Finance, Media

Next steps: University of Leicester - Business and Management

**Ibukunoluwa Olagunju**

A levels: Maths, Economics, Chemistry

Awards: The Stobart Prize for Business Studies and Economics, The Lord Stamp Memorial Prize for A level Mathematics

Next steps: Queen Mary University of London - Mathematics with Finance and Accounting

**Nicole Wong**

A levels: Biology, Chemistry, Maths

Awards: The Stamper Prize (social skills helpful)

Next steps: Loughborough University - Foundation year Computer Science





Inter House Competitions

At Bethany, we have three competitive Houses: Kiplings, Roberts and Speakers.

Bethany's competitive house system helps to build and develop several desirable attributes in pupils: resilience, perseverance, and tenacity. It is also a fantastic vehicle by which to develop skills in teamwork and leadership, whilst also building the sense of school identity.

These three houses battle it out for points throughout the school year in various events. The house with the most points at the end of the school year wins the coveted Jessel Shield. Events cover the broad spectrum of all parts of school life: academic, extracurricular, sporting,

creative, performing arts and sometimes just plain silly.

The big highlights from the Autumn term were Speakers opening the year in fantastic fashion winning both Tug of War and Sports Day. They similarly ended the first term on a high, claiming victory in the ever-memorable House Shout. However, not to be out done, Kiplings and Roberts both stayed hot on their heels, winning Football and Netball tournaments alike, as well as leading the way in both effort and merit points.

In the Spring Term, Kiplings and Roberts completed their comebacks, with Kipling cooking up a storm in the annual Pancake Race, and Roberts claiming

victory in the highly controversial House Chapel, success criteria was key and a tie-break judge was needed.

Kiplings added a few more notches to the leaderboard tally in the summer term, winning the International Quiz run by the EAL department, and the Girls' Cricket tournament, and the summer Enrichment Challenge afternoons. Speakers made a last-minute dash towards the finish line, winning the Douglas Swimming Cup and the Diversity Colour Run, however it wasn't quite enough to challenge the top spot.

Devin Reilly
Competitive House Coordinator



Roberts
447 points

Kiplings
447.5 points

Speakers
393.5 points





Questions

Hunter Essay Prize Winner

It starts small.

**“What was your name again?”
“Sorry, how old were you?”**

Then, it's hard to focus, “Oh, do you remember that occasion when...” and it starts to become difficult to remember what you are doing. It can be hard sometimes to follow someone speaking, or to find the right words to respond with “I just wanted to say ... um... sorry, could you repeat that”. Then it becomes harder to remember where things have been left. “What did I do with my slippers?” “How old are you again?” and people around you start to realise something might be beginning.

Then it starts to become hard to remember the last big celebration.

“Um... I'm sorry, I don't remember” and over time close family and loved ones start to notice something is not right. Then it becomes harder to be interested in other conversations “um... okay... but...” but soon the reason and thread of the conversation is lost. It slowly becomes clear to people dear that something is wrong.

Then it seems like people get randomly angry when you talk to them, they look upset but there is no obvious reason as to why.

Soon it is easy to forget the time and place and how long one thing has been happening “When's lunchtime? It's 10am” and life starts to go much slower and faster at the same time, it becomes easy to lose track.

After a while, normal daily tasks seem more complicated and questionable: “Do I really have to do this?” “Um...What was I doing again?”. But then the opposite also happens “Did I take my medication this morning?” And then the same task is repeated over and over, until it is forgotten again.

Soon, sleep is confusing, waking up in different locations “Why are you here?” “You didn't fall asleep here”. And it

becomes scary to go to sleep because there is no way of knowing if waking up means awakening in the middle of the garden or somewhere worse.

Now, shopping becomes hard, change is confusing, and it is often challenging to work out how much things cost. “Please can you say how much this cost, and how much change I would get with a £20 note? I have forgotten”

Then, as time moves forward, unfamiliar environments seem very strange, and out of place. It is suddenly much harder to adjust.

And all these situations and scenes and people and tasks that are normally commonplace seem really scary, “I really don't want to do that, it's too frightening” “What if...” and it starts to be normal to be isolated from everyone to avoid being anxious.

Planning also becomes a challenge. “When is that date again?” “Um... Oh, sorry... I forgot”

After a while, routine things like walking seem different and harder, like there is more to organise and co-ordinate. It also becomes harder to stay standing up for long periods of time. “You really should sit down now”.

Moreover, seeing things, hallucinating, is not uncommon, seeing things that aren't there, and hearing things too. “Who's Evie, was she your mother?”

People come and people come and they try to explain, but it never quite sticks. Each time they do it for the first time. They often seem frustrated, sometimes gentle, it can be so tricky to tell.

Eventually you forget who you are. You forget what your name is and how you got to where you are. You forget who your family is and who you love. You forget where you live and just who that man is on your wall. Time flies by, slow and fast, but you are always stuck in the same place.

Forgetting.

By Will Parsons

A voice from the shadows

C.A.R.E Essay Prize Winner

Watching as the drops of water were scattered down from the clouds above, L stared into the stormy darkness, jumping ever so slightly when thunder or lightening were to strike. He had been subjected to another splitting headache, the third one that week, along with another painful nosebleed. No medicine seemed to be doing anything. He had contemplated going to the doctor about these ailments, but he thought that they would pass soon. They started when L mysteriously passed out while at the end of a virtual reality game, but he figured that it was just stress or motion sickness. What else could it possibly be?

L rolled over onto his back, clutching his head as he stared at the ceiling. There was no way he could go to sleep like this, it was far too painful. He stood up slowly and began to walk to the kitchen, reaching around in the darkness for some sort of pain relief medicine.

That was when he saw *it*.

A strike of lightening lit up the room for a split second, illuminating almost everything. L looked away from the window of where it was coming from to face what would've been his shadow, but the outline was not of him. It was much taller and skinnier, like L himself had been stretched out on a rack.

As the light died from the strike, L's heart began to beat faster, swearing to himself that he was just hallucinating it all. Another strike, and the outline seemed to get closer. Backing away from it, L kept his eyes on where it would be, his headache become even more painful. Another flash, and it was even closer, almost right in front of him.

"Who's there? Get away!" he yelled, stumbling backwards towards the door, hands fumbling around the frame. A sudden click could be heard as the light in the kitchen flickered on, and the figure was nowhere to be seen. L caught his breath, standing up straight, his eyes darting around the room to check for it. He looked everywhere but didn't see it. Well, almost everywhere. There was only one place that L didn't check.

Behind him.

"That headache sure hurts, doesn't it, boy?" A scratchy voice whispered from directly behind him, terrifying L as he practically threw himself to the other side of the room.

"Where are you?" L screamed, the source of the voice still unknown, as it seemed to not have a form.

The source of the voice was to his left again. It sounded somewhat joyful. "You look so full of misery, there's no need to be that way around me!"

"Stay away from me!" L swatted at the air, trying any way to get the voice to stop. It didn't make sense, there wasn't anything there.

"Didn't you hear me? I'm here to help! I would never hurt you!" the voice was laced with sarcasm and malice, but in L's panicked mind, he could barely register it. "Please, L. Stop swatting the air as if I'm a fly. You won't find me."

"What're you talking about? Where are you?" he couldn't help but obey what the voice told him, but he still looked around the area.

"You would never believe me."

"Are you sure about that?"

"Yes, because it would sound stupid to say that I'm in your mind,

wouldn't it?" There was a pause as L stopped looking around and became confused, but then he agreed.

"Yeah, it does sound stupid. Where are you actually?" L didn't take it seriously. There was no possible way that it could be in his mind.

"Like I said. I'm in your mind. I've been the one messing with you all this week, with all your headaches and nosebleeds! I can basically control you!"

L thought for a moment. This couldn't actually be the reason his week was going horribly, could it? This was all crazy, completely insane.

"Listen. Currently, I do not wish to control you, but I have a wish to grant. You've got a pounding headache, yes?"

"Yeah, I do," L had half forgotten about it, too distracted by the disembodied voice. "Why do you ask?"

"Well, I can surely help! Go back to your room and lay down on your bed. I can resolve that headache for you."

"I don't trust," L started, but felt his legs begin to march forwards, despite his mind's orders. "What's going on? Stop!"

"There's no need to fight against me, L. I'm doing this for your own good," the voice followed him to his room as he desperately tried to cling to anything to stop himself from

continuing, screaming loudly. His attempts were unsuccessful.

As L fell onto the bed, panic was starting to set in. His body was no longer controllable. He couldn't move anything at all. "What's going on? What're you doing?"

"I'm helping you. Now, lay down on your back. Relax, please," as L was forced to obey, the voice moved as if it were standing next the bed. "Close your eyes. Let all feeling go..."

There was something strange about the voice that made L stop resisting. He opened his mouth to try to protest, but slowly closed it again. Now thinking about it, he really did need to get some sleep. His eyelids fluttering, he just managed to catch a glimpse of the figure again, looming above him, glaring down. However, L wasn't alarmed, letting his eyes shut, his headache rapidly dissipating. His conflict was solved, his migraine was fading, but that wasn't the only thing that he couldn't sense anymore.

"Goodnight," he heard the voice say as all feeling in his body died, slipping into sweet subconsciousness, never to be woken again, as he never felt the knife as it slid gently into his neck.

By Lewis St Clair Bishop

English & Media Studies

Writing this, having had a week or so to digest the thoroughly outstanding results the department achieved in summer 2023, I confess to being a little intimidated about how we will achieve it all again with our current cohorts in the year to come. But onwards and upwards – and in English and Media it certainly isn't a case of 'the sky's the limit': our stratosphere busting results show what stars our pupils are.

In Year 13 Media Studies particular mention should go to Alex Clarke for achieving A* overall and Ethan Hill (A), Beth Kuhepa (B) and Max Rogers (B) for their coursework which, in all 3 cases, fell only one or two marks shy of full marks. Arabella Charles (B), Olubi Nihinlola (B) and Eden Shead (C) also produced outstanding work and were an absolute credit to the department.

Year 13 English Literature was also very successful with Charlotte Ensor, Ethan Hill and Sophie Lumsden all achieving grade B. Their dedication to their studies was beyond impressive and as a class were probably the most diligent I have ever taught, both at Bethany and beyond.

Sophie Lumsden heads to Nottingham to study Literature and Ethan Hill heads to Queen Mary London to study Film Studies, having been particularly inspired by their A Levels. We know that all of our other Year 13s will benefit from their time with us too as they head off to degrees in International development, business, Art and Fashion. The department wishes all

of our Year 13 pupils every success with their onward journeys.

Year 11 did equally well with 100% pass rate for English Language and 96% English Literature. Perhaps more excitingly, a value added score (where final grades are measured against target grades) of nearly 2 meaning that, for every grade predicted for pupils by cognitive ability testing, they did better by nearly 2 grades. In English Language we really couldn't be more proud of our Year 11 pupils. Special mention goes to the following pupils for achieving grade 8 or 9 in one or more of their English GCSEs: Anna Barefield, Oliver Carpenter, Fifi Charles, Luca Chettier, Alice Coleman, Theo Delevan, Claudia Hodgkinson, Alex Matthews, Theo Mitchell Clarke, Charlie Motram, Lawrie Pettit, Gwyn Rabbetts, Ben Sanderson, Lucy Shaw, Rory Skinner, Thomas Sutton, Twinkle Tappenden, Elsa Taylor, Samuel Watson.

Media Studies GCSE saw 88% of pupils pass and special mention goes to Ophelia Charles grade 9 and Gwyn Rabbetts and Ella Smith grade 8.

But of course, Bethany School has never been just about the academic achievements and we enjoyed supporting our pupils in a range of extra curricular activities last year.

On Fridays I worked with Mr Bolton to run BBC Young Reporters enrichment activity. Across a 3 week period the groups planned, wrote, practiced, presented, recorded and

edited their own news programmes. As well as fostering performance and team working skills the pupils from Year 7-10 had access to the resources of the Media suite to learn and upgrade their digital skills.

Trips to the theatre have always been a core part of the English and Media department's offering and it was fabulous to finally be able to offer a wide range of experiences to our pupil in this post- pandemic era. To Kill A Mockingbird with Year 10 Literature pupils and Woman in Black with Year 9, both in London, were both very successful trips. An Unexpected Twist at The Marlow Theatre in Canterbury for Year 8 was another wonderful experience.

Spring 2023 also saw us receive a visit from the author Andy Mulligan, writer of Trash, The Boy with Two Heads and Dog. Pupils from Year 7 to 9 heard him speak about his experiences as a writer and his inspiration and asked lots of perceptive and interesting questions of him.

Media Studies pupils in Year 11 and 13 enjoyed trips to the British Film Institute for revision lectures, something which is becoming an annual event for us.

Our busy and exciting department continues to spread its influence across the wider school. Mrs Rendall our librarian enjoyed many 'pop up clubs' appearing in the Library at different points throughout the year. Art embraced the Chinese New Year with lantern making and design challenges; Mrs Rendall-Jones (Head of

EAL) worked with the MFL department to encourage the attending pupils to explore a range of languages and even Mr Hampton and Food Technology popped up in the library with some gastronomic and literary activities. This is all in addition to our library 'regular features' of Diversity Group and Board Games.

Mrs Rendell has also run many competitions and activities over the last year alongside the school's literacy co-ordinator, Mr Beckham, including: World Poetry Day, complete with poetry writing; designing a book jacket; Book Buzz for Year 7 where all pupils receive a free book; Page Turners the local book awards reading group; following the Carnegie Medal awards with a group of keen readers; supporting our internal Reading Challenge of Key Stage 3 (well done Year 9 for reading the most books in 2022/23!) and World Book Day, which saw staff dress up as famous book characters and the pupils complete a treasure hunt trying to identify them all.

Carly Shapland
Head of English and Media Studies

“Reading back over all that we achieved last year I marvel at the energy and dedication of the Bethany staff and all they do to support us. The energy of our pupils is clearly infectious and I look forward to doing it all again in the year to come, even bigger, better and more brightly.”

Maths Report

UKMT Maths Challenge

At Bethany we have had a long standing tradition of entering pupils to sit extra-curricular mathematics competitions, and the UKMT Mathematics Challenge is one of these. The aim is "to advance the education of young people in mathematics" by organising and promoting enrichment events involving problem solving and team work. They provide challenging questions that are completed with no calculator, no measuring equipment – just a pencil, some paper and 5 possible answers to choose from.

These Challenges are aimed at high-attaining mathematicians, they are designed to stretch the most able mathematicians across the country. But a good work ethic, willingness to take on a challenge and a positive bond with mathematics are equally important attributes. The challenges are open to any pupils that want to take on the questions.

In each Maths Challenge, pupils are competing to obtain a Gold, Silver or Bronze certificate, but success is also the willingness to approach problems with determination and enthusiasm. In my eyes however, a successful challenge is one where a group of determined and

enthusiastic pupils push themselves with some challenging mathematics.


Those in the top 10% achieve a gold certificate, the next 20% a silver and the next 30% a bronze. This year Ashton Lacey received a Gold certificate, Oliver Hughes, who achieved Silver, and qualified for the next round despite

being ill and only coming in to sit the paper and Kim Lung who achieved best in Year 11. Other award winners were Oleksii Afonin, Sam Kennedy, Alvin Cheung, Ryan Chan, James Duncombe, Tom Dadswell, Jonathan Lam, Matthew Kiddell, Alice Colman, Andrew Ho, Alex Matthews and Ben Ucer.

Here are some of the Maths challenge try-at-home questions.

Question 1: (taken from Junior Maths Challenge April 2021) A cube has edge length 10 cm. Starting at the vertices, dots are placed along every edge at 1 cm intervals. Part of this pattern is shown. How many dots will there be in total, once the pattern has been completed?

A 128 B 116 C 112 D 108 E 104



Question 2: (taken from Junior Maths Challenge April 2021) Alex has a pile of two pence coins. She swapped exactly half of them for the same number of 10p coins. Now she has £4.20. How much money did Alex have initially?

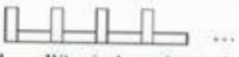
A 42p B 84p C £1.12 D £1.40 E £1.68

Question 3: (taken from Intermediate Maths Challenge February 2022) What is the difference between 40% of 50% of 60 and 50% of 60% of 70?

A 9 B 8 C 7 D 6 E 5

Question 4: (taken from Intermediate Maths Challenge February 2022) One hundred rectangles are arranged edge-to-edge in a continuation of the pattern shown. Each rectangle measures 3 cm by 1 cm. What is the perimeter, in cm, of the completed shape?

A 800 B 700 C 602 D 600 E 502



Question 5: (taken from Senior Maths Challenge November 2021) Three dice, each showing numbers 1 to 6, are coloured red, blue and yellow respectively. Each of the dice is rolled once. The total of the numbers rolled is 10. In how many different ways can this happen?

A 36 B 30 C 27 D 24 E 21

Celebrating Year 11

In the Mathematics Department we offer the opportunity to sit their IGCSE early, in the first week of January (this is moving to November from next year). For many, this offers the opportunity to have banked a grade before moving onto the Higher Tier or even the OCR Additional Maths qualification. While for others it is the chance for pupils to get one of their subjects out the way and allow them to concentrate on other subjects.

Across the ability scale there were some incredible results, Alice Colman, Sam Denny, Andrew Ho, Matthew Kiddell, Jonathan Lam, Kim Lung, Archie MacDonald, Alex Matthews, Lucy Shaw and Ben Ucer all achieved highly and completed the Additional Maths examination in June. Valeria Maier, James Candeloro and Fifi Charles all achieved well above their target grades, while Tom Sutton, Ben Nicholson, Holly McClure and Rory Skinner also achieved well.

I also wanted to highlight the deliberate practice that took place in order to make these results achievable and to set a challenge to the current Year 10 pupils to try and better this. Last Year Fifi Charles improved by 43 marks from

	Improvement in Marks	Dr Frost Questions completed
Fifi Charles	43	3581
Ella Smith	39	2717
Thibault Grub	34	1888
Elias Broersma	34	5483
Alice Colman	33	1821
Tom Marron	32	2182
Josh Malin	31	1981
Sam Denny	30	1772
Alex Matthews	29	1743
Holly McClure	28	2802

her Year 10 examination in March to her IGCSE examination in January, completing an incredible 3581 practice questions on Dr Frost along the way. The grid shows the top 10 pupils based on their improvement between the 2 examinations. As you can see there have been a number of pupils who have

completed a huge amount of targeted practice and this has paid off. There are other ways to revise and practice, and Dr Frost isn't for every pupil but there is definite evidence that purposeful practice does make perfect!

Well done last year's Sixth Form

Well done to the 3 Year 13 pupils who all passed their A Level Mathematics examinations, and in particular Ibukun Olagunju who achieved a Grade B.

3 pupils from Year 12 completed their A Level Mathematics as well, with Lily Fraser achieving an

A and Sam Dobson a B. Both are now going onto study Further Mathematics in Year 13.

Adam Manktelow
Head of Maths

Science Report



Greetings to all pupils, parents, former pupils and staff members! We are pleased to present the annual report of the Science Department, summarising the exciting developments and achievements throughout the past academic year.

Will the affinity for screens ever beat our pupil's enthusiasm for practical work in science?

At Bethany, Science is everywhere! It is in the food we eat in the school canteen, the water we drink, the ground we trample on and permeates all aspects of our lives. We are a package of science ourselves and science is us! It is for this scientific entanglement that Bethany pupils spend a good measure of time carrying out practical work within the science department.

There is debate in the media about whether school pupils should be doing experiments considering that all the discoveries have already been completed. It is further argued that pupils spend enormous time confirming laws of physics, biology and chemistry, like confirming that a tree grows towards the skies! This is further from the truth. To answer this question, readers are referred to the example of the candle. The scientists who designed the candle thought there was nothing else that could overthrow the candle. Their invention was the best. Did they ever think that a light bulb would be possible? No! Didn't Einstein's relativity overthrow Newtonian physics? It is for these reasons that Bethany pupils have zest and zeal for hands on science experiments. For example, each year, the Science department hosts the Happy Chicks project, where the department

receives chicken eggs to incubate and have them hatched. The pupils love to cuddle the chicks! They also learn about farming and looking after animals at school as they cuddle! According to our Bethany scientists, the lifecycle of a chick is approximately 21 days. Quickly upon arrival to the school, the chicks started hatching! Some pupils were lucky enough to see it in action and learn from observing than read about it in the textbooks!

We now live in a world of screens that stick. Our science experiments are sticky too and foster a lifelong love of science! Our pupils are inquisitive and observant. They explore new horizons in science. As they do the practical work, Bethany scientists ask new questions that nudge reluctant scientists to be inquisitive. Would Newton's laws of motion have been discovered if the ancient scientists had spent more time on their mobile phone screens? Is global warming happening or it is imagined? The science department has access to data-loggers that helped some of them to investigate the greenhouse effect and relate what is happening on a small scale to a global warming.

Our learners master life skills through practical science experiments. Lifelong skills such as recording data, adapting experimental procedures, making decisions, drawing conclusions and solving problems are etched in our science laboratories. For example, in recent practicals, pupils compared the effect of iron cores in a coil of wire wrapped around an iron nail. Also, in other experiments, to gain a better understanding of a fish's respiratory system, pupils were tasked

with a fish head dissection. Bethany pupils successfully dissected the fish head, to gain access to the fish's gills, where they were able to cut away a few gill filaments. After washing the filaments, in distilled water, they were inspected under a microscope. These are the true future surgeons!

Some experiments are messy, and some are explosive! When pupils get to handle the equipment, they make even deeper observations. The experiments will make the pupils' understanding last longer. To become an accomplished scientist requires one to have curiosity and the desire to learn. For anyone to become an expert in science, they must practice, and practice! A scientist must be prepared to go above and beyond the tasks that have been delegated to them.

Bethany science pupils are good at investing in themselves. They know that the learning journey for one to become a scientist is long and not always easy. Hours of deliberate practice are required to transition from novice to expert. The science investment is done in knowledge and not money!

A good scientist develops work discipline and dedication that others want to emulate. When you are good at your work, others will notice, and the Science department does this well through practical work. Our remarkable laboratories are the anvils on which future Elon Musk's are nurtured!

The department continues to review its curriculum. We have revised our curriculum to align with the latest scientific advancements and educational standards, ensuring pupils receive a comprehensive understanding of core scientific concepts. We no longer offer the IGCSE Single Award and instead, pupils can choose to study one, two or all three subjects from Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Also, our dedicated team of educators embraced innovative teaching methodologies to foster a dynamic learning environment. We have continued to enhance and implement hands-on experiments, inquiry-based learning, and the use of technology to enhance pupils' scientific inquiry skills and critical thinking abilities.

Our pupils participated in various national science competitions, showcasing their knowledge and skills. We are proud of their exceptional performances and commend their enthusiasm for scientific exploration. Several pupils were recognized for their outstanding achievements in the Physics Challenge and were worthy winners of Gold, Silver and Bronze Awards. Ashton Lacey and Samuel Kennedy won Gold Awards. Six pupils won Silver Awards 29 won Bronze Awards. One A-level pupil won a Silver Award in the A-level Chemistry Olympiad, and another won a Bronze.

The Science Challenge competitions are designed to engage and challenge pupils of all abilities by offering them a range of problems to solve. Although most of the questions are based around the current curriculum, pupils will be able to gain more marks if they have a general knowledge in science as well as taking a keen interest in practical work in lessons. The key aim is that pupils enjoy taking part and are encouraged to do more science. They do not need to cover technical topics outside the syllabus, but they might be shown some pictures of famous physics for example, and asked to identify one (Hawking, Galileo or Newton for example). Some general knowledge and everyday interest in physics, biology or chemistry would be an advantage. The purpose is to be fun for the pupil and to be inclusive rather than discriminating between very able candidates.

The Science Department actively collaborated with other departments such as Maths to promote cross-curricular integration. For example, the Maths department offered extra lessons to pupils who were not studying A Level Maths for A Level Physics. We hope to organise guest lectures, workshops, and field trips, providing pupils with opportunities to interact with experts and gain insights into scientific advancements in the next academic year.

Dr Notley, our biologist and Stacey Ellis, our science technician organised and successfully supervised the Creative Education Day for Year 5 pupils. The primary school pupils were enthused with exciting experiments including a forensic investigation! Some of our pupils



actively participated in science outreach events, such as Open Morning, inspiring younger learners and fostering a love for science within the wider community. Our dedicated science staff continuously pursued professional development opportunities to enhance their subject knowledge, pedagogical skills, and keep abreast of emerging scientific research.

We would like to express our gratitude to all the pupils, parents, and staff members for their unwavering support and dedication. Together, we have fostered a vibrant scientific learning environment, nurturing the next generation of innovators, thinkers, and problem solvers.

We look forward to another exciting year of scientific exploration and continued excellence within the Science Department. Stay curious, stay inspired, and let's make science a captivating journey!

Mike Thomas
Head of Science

Drama

Mother Courage

The Sixth Form performed an adaptation of Brecht's Mother Courage for their Level 3 BTEC qualification. The story follows a woman determined to make money out of war. This was an opportunity for Sixth Form Drama pupils to demonstrate the "verfrumdungseffekt" to a live audience.



Gas Station Angel



The Sixth Form also performed Ed Thomas' "Gas Station Angel". The plot takes place in house on the brink of falling into the sea and incorporated naturalism with Frantic Assembly.

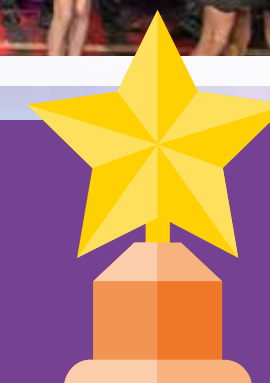
Whole School Production School of Rock

This years whole school production certainly brought the house down with School of Rock. The story follows the hapless musician Dewey Finn as he works with group of young maestros to fulfil his dream of winning battle of the bands. The cast comprised of pupils from Years 7 to 13 starring James Caney and Charlotte Ensor. Over sixty pupils took part in the show and brought together a mixture of dance, drama and music. The pupil band supported the show with show stopping numbers including "Stick it to the Man" and "Where did the Rock Go?". The production was a huge success and has raised the bar again in terms of how much our talents pupils can achieve.



LAMDA success

In March, 100% of all pupils taking their LAMDA examination achieved a Distinction award with notable accolades from Drama Scholar Jake Taylor, who attained a Gold Award at Distinction level and moves to Drama School in September 2023.





Dance

A group of dance enthusiasts visited Trinity Theatre, Tunbridge Wells in September, to see a dance adaptation of Beauty and the Beast - the Guardian of the Forest performed by Chantry Dance. Pupils found the performance very insightful, leaving the message that the beauty of a person should be determined on how they are inside rather than their outward appearance. Many were impressed with the intriguing, colourful design features which contributed to the overall production. Our pupils were additionally captivated by Pan, danced by a former contortionist and aerialist as she moved around a rotating circular frame. At the end of the performance, Bethany dancers actively engaged in a question and answer session with the company.

Chantry Dance followed up the performance later in the academic year with a workshop with the company's director and choreographer, Paul Chantry. Paul led two workshops delivering company repertoire from Beauty and the Beast and also a section from his stage show, Gangsta Granny. Paul spoke to the pupils about his pathway into his dance career.

Dancers shone again at Bethany's Festival of Scholars evening where

the audience enjoyed a mix of solos, a duet and a group piece. Dance scholar Ella Smith worked collaboratively with Junior Dance Scholar, Daisy Riddiford, to choreograph the group dance which also included Hazeley Kalisch and newcomers Florrie Dearing and Nelly Adams. Young dancers thrive when working together across years as they learn new skills, gain positive performance opportunities and develop new friendships.

The Key Stage 4 RSL vocational dance course has given pupils the opportunity to

perform their dances to parents and other pupils in the school. Year 11 are the first cohort to complete the course and created dances based on the given theme, 'Power' in their preferred dance styles. Ella Smith created a breathtaking solo dance about life being a game of survival and Anna Kiddell's dynamic piece was inspired by Greta's Thunberg's fight for climate change. The Year 10 pupils created a contemporary piece inspired by The Tasting Dance from Matthew Bourne's Nutcracker! and an upbeat group dance influenced by Itzik Gallili's A Linha Curva.



Music

Music in Key Stage 3

Music at Key Stage 3 has been adapted this year to develop and support the music industry. Bethany School Music Department has increased the size of its Apple Mac suite to enable music technology to be taught to all key stage 3 classes. Not only that, Bethany School has also purchased a brand new Behringer X32 compact desk that will now enable pupils to learn how to become sound technicians. This is in the hope that the Music School will be able to offer both Music Performance and Music Technology as a GCSE option from 2024 onwards.

Pupil success in music

The Year 13 Music Performance pupils put together and ran the Easter concert 'On the Rocks' to a sell-out audience. Pupils raised over £250 for the Macmillan charity. The concert had a high turnout of parents, and the local Scouts group is now going to be regular attendees for any Bethany concerts or performances. This was the first concert of the year that also included both music

and dance and had a mixture of all pupils from Key Stage 3, 4 and 5.

Year 11 Music Performance pupils put together and ran the Winter concert 'Amplified' to a sell-out audience. They raised £200 for their chosen charity, Jessie's fund, where money goes to purchase instruments for pupils with learning difficulties.

Bethany School Music Production Band

Bethany School's Production of "School of Rock" took place in February enabling the Performing Arts subjects to come together. The brilliant cast were supported by the pupil led band playing

the instruments their counterparts were performing on stage. The music was exceptionally tricky, with West End standard sheet music, but the pupils took this in their stride.



Art & Design

We are thrilled to report the outstanding successes of our talented pupils in the Art Department over the past year. They have not only demonstrated creativity and enthusiasm but have also achieved outstanding results in various projects and exhibitions.

Year 7

In Year 7, our budding artists embarked on an exciting project on the theme of birds. They were captivated by a special visit from real owls, which flew around the classroom, providing an up-close and personal experience. This unique encounter with nature sparked their imagination and inspired them to create stunning artwork based on these majestic creatures. The pupils showcased their skills in various mediums, including drawing, painting, and mixed media.

Additionally, Year 7 achieved tremendous success in their recycled sculpture project. They demonstrated their commitment to environmental sustainability by transforming discarded materials into sculptures. Their innovative creations not only showcased their artistic abilities but also highlighted the importance of recycling and repurposing materials. We were also delighted when the collection of creations made by pupils was selected for the Rise Up exhibition at the Turner Contemporary Gallery. This incredible achievement was a testament to their talent and dedication.





Year 8

In Year 8, our pupils focused on developing their skills in Fine Art and Ceramics. They explored the vibrant world of fruit, drawing inspiration from renowned artists like Kate Malone. By closely examining the colours, textures, and forms of various fruits, they created stunning compositions. These projects allowed the pupils to experiment with different artistic techniques and mediums, helping them to refine their skills and broaden their artistic horizons.



Year 9

Year 9 pupils truly excelled themselves in a challenging portrait project. They dedicated themselves to honing their skills in drawing and painting, capturing the likeness and character of their subjects. Through meticulous observation and careful study of facial features, proportions, and shading techniques, they created impressive and lifelike portraits. Their commitment and attention to detail were evident in each artwork, showcasing their refined skills and artistic growth.





Year 10

Year 10 pupils embarked on an exciting journey exploring the theme of 'Materials'. To kick-start their project, they had the incredible opportunity to visit the Turner Contemporary Gallery. This visit not only exposed them to a diverse range of artworks but also served as a source of inspiration for their own creative endeavours.

Pupils were also fortunate enough to participate in three different workshops held in artists' studios. These workshops encompassed marbling, letterpress print, and large-scale imaginative drawing. Through these hands-on experiences, pupils were able to explore various techniques and mediums, expanding their artistic skills and knowledge.

Building upon their newfound inspiration, Year 10 delved into creating exciting sketchbooks that explored different techniques in paper, plaster, and printmaking. These sketchbooks served as a visual diary of their creative process, capturing their experimentation, discoveries, and artistic growth.



Year 11

Year 11 pupils exhibited immense dedication as they worked diligently to complete their personal projects. The range of mediums and art forms they explored was vast, including photography, textiles, painting, digital art, and sculpture. Each pupil brought their unique perspective and artistic vision to their projects, resulting in a diverse and captivating body of work.

In addition to their personal projects, Year 11 pupils faced the challenge of sitting their examination unit for the first time since 2019. They rose to the occasion with passion, original ideas, and a display of their abundant artistic skills.

To further enrich their artistic experiences, Year 11 pupils embarked on a visit to the prestigious V&A museum. During their visit, they had the opportunity to participate in a fashion workshop and admire the works on display in the 'Africa Fashion' Exhibition.



Sixth Form highlights

John Downton Awards

Willem Curtin, Year 12, achieved the prestigious 'Gold' award at the John Downton Awards, showcasing his exceptional talent and artistic skills. Beth Kuhepa, Year 13, was recognised with the 'Highly Commended' award, demonstrating her artistic prowess. These accolades were a testament to their hard work, creativity, and commitment to their craft.



Public speaking

Willem also represented the school at the Articulation Awards for public speaking, where he delivered a mature and articulate presentation on the renowned artist Mark Rothko. His passion for art and ability to communicate effectively earned him this incredible opportunity.

Trips

Sixth Form pupils enjoyed a series of enriching visits to London, where they explored various renowned art institutions, including Tate Britain and the V&A. They also had the unique opportunity to scale the heights of St. Paul's Cathedral, gaining inspiration from the architectural marvels of the city. These visits provided valuable exposure to diverse artworks, expanding their artistic perspectives and knowledge.





Projects

Year 12 Photographers presented their brilliant projects, delving into the technical aspects of photography while showcasing mastery in composition. Their projects demonstrated their keen eye for detail, creative vision, and ability to capture stunning visuals.

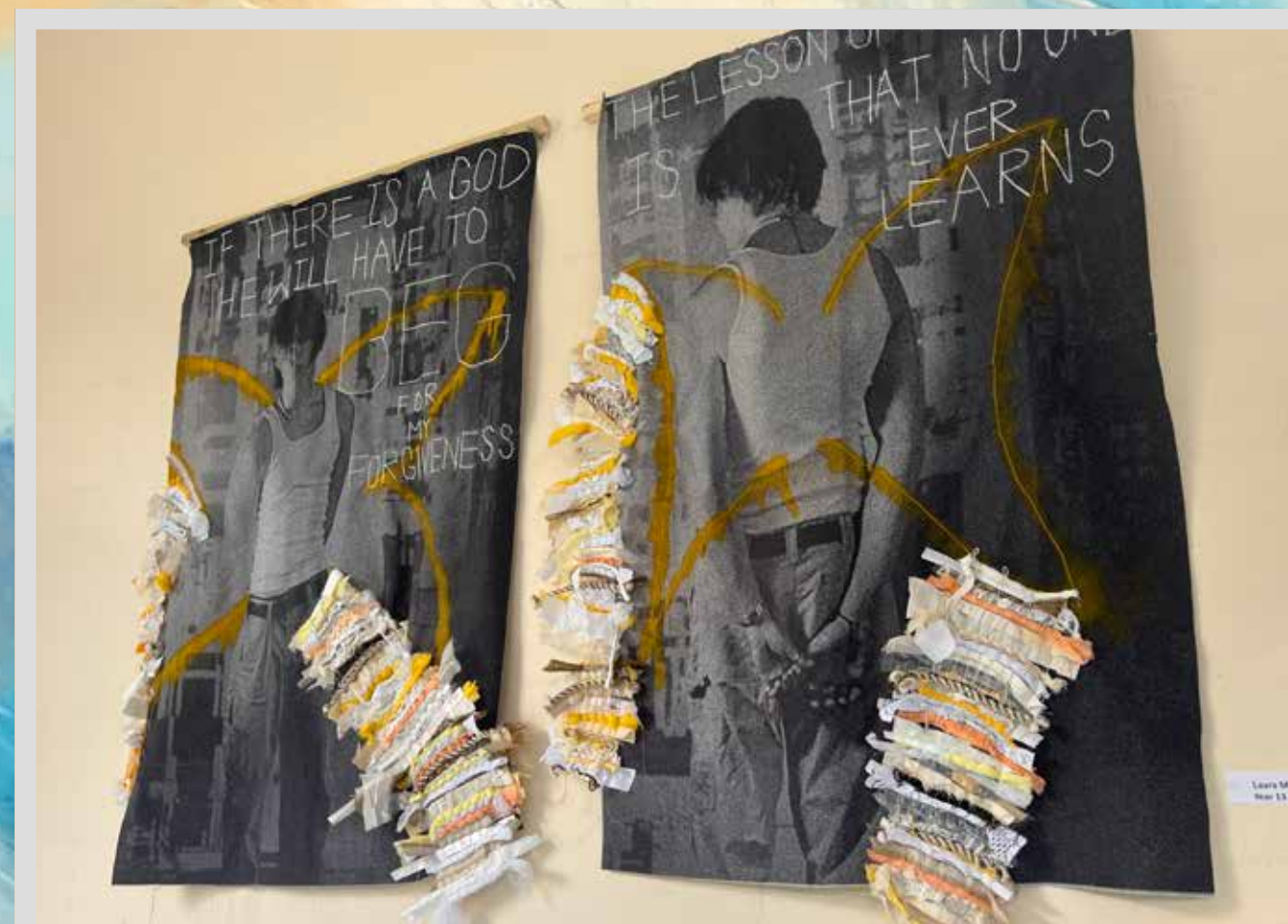


Year 12 Art pupils engaged in an experimental video art project, pushing the boundaries of contemporary art and producing sophisticated outcomes. Their exploration of this dynamic medium allowed them to express their creativity and innovative ideas.



As Year 12 pupils move into their last year they are actively working on personal projects, utilising a diverse range of skills, including photography, digital drawing, oil painting, acrylic painting, printmaking, darkroom experimentation, and decorative textiles. Their projects showcase their individuality and artistic growth as they delve deeper into their chosen media.

Year 13 pupils, who sat their A Level exams for the first time since 2019, created outstanding projects exploring highly personal and conceptual themes. The breadth of work produced was extraordinary, encompassing illustrated manuscripts, surreal photography, oceanic mixed media explorations, soft sculptures, ceramic sculpture, installations, digital art, fashion construction, constructed textiles, retrofuturist collages, and stop motion animation, among others. Their creativity and dedication were evident in every piece, displaying their ability to push boundaries and explore innovative ideas.





Art after Bethany

We are proud to announce that pupils have been accepted into renowned universities such as UAL (University of the Arts London) and will be pursuing degrees in animation, fashion business, and fine art, among other fields. Their acceptance into these institutions is a testament to their talent and the solid foundation they have built within our Art Department.

The Art Department is immensely proud of the dedication, creativity, and achievements of our pupils. Their passion for the arts, coupled with their hard work,

has resulted in exceptional projects and recognition. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to all the pupils involved, as well as our gratitude to all those who guided and inspired them along their artistic journeys. We eagerly anticipate the forthcoming year, where we hope to continue nurturing the talents of our pupils and witnessing further artistic triumphs.

Sarah Smart
Head of Art



Design & Technology

For the previous three years, due to Covid, there was no requirement to produce practical work for the GCSE qualification. Thank goodness we are now back to normal, and all pupils were expected to use their skills and talents to produce some excellent practical work for this exam session. Most pupils were a little rusty but with lots of encouragement and determination on their part, most pupils surprised themselves with what they could achieve. Getting back into the routine of practical workshop lessons was challenging but

very enjoyable for all. It was lovely to see the Workshop facilities again being used to full potential. The Department was again open most lunchtimes and breaks to enable pupils to push on with their practical work or seek extra help and support with the design portfolio side of things. Everyone's practical work was back on display at this year's Speech Day and even if I do say so myself, I thought it all looked stunning. Well done to all the pupils that worked so hard.

Marcus Norman
Head of Design and Technology



Alice Colman – Year 11



Angus Seymour – Year 11



Ben Nicholson – Year 11



Bertie Green – Year 12

Charlie Hinkley – Year 11



Fifi Charles – Year 11



Matthew Oakes – Year 11



Josh Malin – Year 11



Kate Schlimper – Year 11



Nell Martin – Year 11



Kenan Yussuf – Year 11



Oliver Chapman – Year 11



Rohan Paintal-Maycock – Year 11



Rory Skinner – Year 11



Sam Denny – Year 11



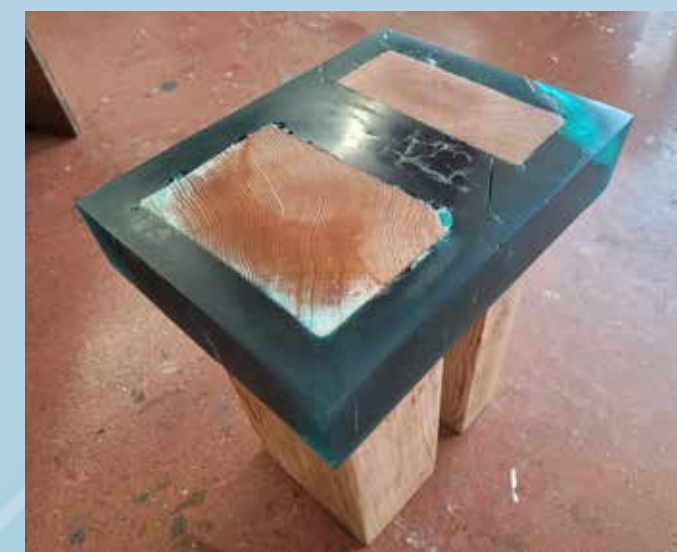
Theo Mitchell-Clark – Year 11



Zak Chebanne – Year 11



Theodore Delevan – Year 11



Thibault Grub – Year 11



Will Harley – Year 11



William Baker – Year 11



William Macey – Year 11



William McClure – Year 11



William Sherry – Year 11

Textiles

The world of textiles is a realm of boundless creativity, where fabric becomes a canvas for imagination and innovation. Introducing textiles as a subject to our pupils at Bethany can unlock a world of opportunity, unleashing creativity, problem-solving skills, and gaining an understanding of cultural diversity.

Pupils have created some wonderful projects this year in textiles. Some of our more enthusiastic artists entered the 'Junk Koture' competition where the task was to design and model garments made from recycled materials. Pupils were hugely successful with one group being chosen to go on to the world final being held in October 2023. This really showcased how creative some of our pupils are.

Textiles offers a unique avenue for pupils to express their creativity. From

designing clothing and accessories to creating intricate tapestries and home decor, the possibilities are endless. By encouraging our pupils to explore their artistic inclinations through textiles, we can help them develop a strong sense of creativity, which can be a valuable asset in any career path they choose to pursue.

A Level pupils completed complex projects that gained them a sense of accomplishment and self-confidence. The satisfaction of creating something tangible, whether it's a garment, a piece of art, or a home accessory, can have a positive impact on self-esteem and overall well-being.

Textiles can also open doors to entrepreneurial opportunities. A Level pupils who develop a passion for textiles may decide to start their own small businesses, creating and selling their designs. This entrepreneurial spirit can

lead to economic independence and innovative ventures in the fashion and textiles industry.

Textiles education isn't just about aesthetics; it also advances practical skills that can be applied in everyday life. Sewing, pattern making, and fabric manipulation are just a few examples of essential life skills that pupils can gain through textiles education here at Bethany. These skills allow pupils to take control of their clothing choices, mend their own garments, and even pursue entrepreneurial ventures in the fashion and textiles industry.

We continue to promote textiles throughout the different year groups at Bethany to ensure that all pupils have the opportunity to be hands on and experience what the subject has to offer.

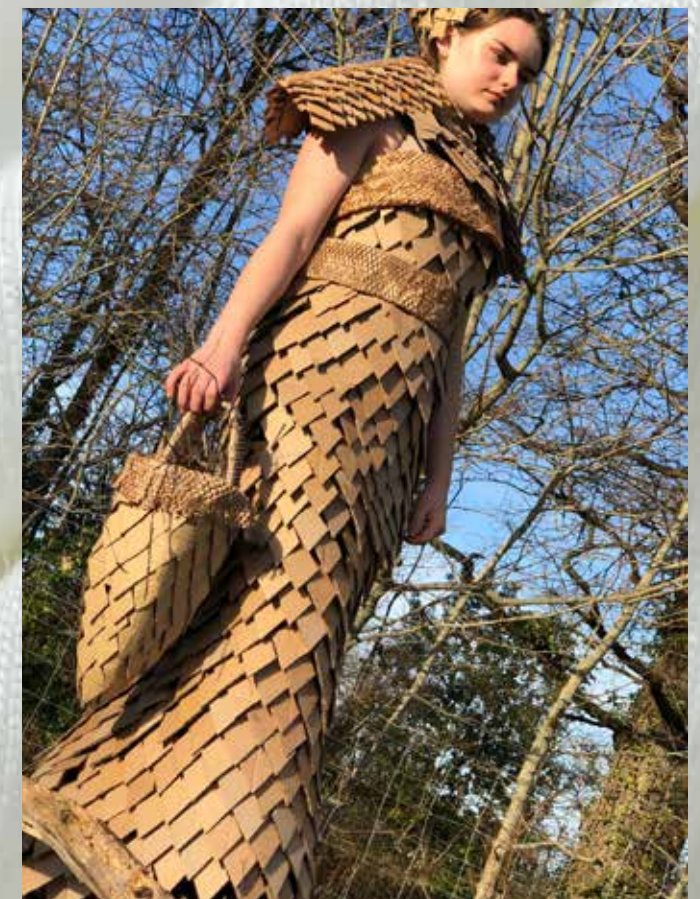
Nicola Clough
Textiles



Arabella Charles – Year 13



Darcie Roberts – Year 9



Ellie Turner – Year 9



Livi and Clementine Dawson – Year 7 & 9



Summer Stewart-Welch - Year 9

Food & Nutrition

As Bethany School's Food Studies teacher, I have continued to make it my mission to provide an exciting and enjoyable experience to our pupils by teaching them this incredible life skill through exciting and engaging lessons, as well as opportunities through the school's enrichment program and clubs.

New Key Stage 3 (Years 7 to 9) pupils were introduced to the fundamentals of working in the kitchen. Starting with knife safety, pupils were shown how to handle a knife correctly. Pupils also learnt about how to prepare for a practical lesson by practising good hand washing, wearing an apron, removing any jewellery, tying their hair back, and— the pupils' least favourite part— WASHING UP!

This then continued into notions of food safety, such as how to prevent food-related illnesses, the 4Cs, and key temperatures in food storage and handling. But it's not all about preparing food. We also discussed eating habits and healthy eating. To incorporate a more experimental aspect to our learning, pupils have also been involved in some exciting taste testing activities and some sensory analysis of various foods.

Now, for the part pupils enjoy the most: the practical lessons. KS3 pupils have been consolidating their learning of knife safety by creating some spectacular fruit art as well as learning how to use the hob, oven and grill safely by cooking a range of both sweet and savoury dishes which rarely made it home at the end of the day. As a food teacher, there is no better sense of gratification than seeing pupils eat and share with their friends what they have made.

Our Hospitality and Catering pupils were back in the kitchen cooking up some restaurant-quality dishes. In preparation for their NEA exams in Year 11, H&C pupils learnt a range of high-level skills including portioning a chicken, preparing and baking with a range of different types of pastry, sauces, and desserts. I am fortunate enough to have a well-stocked kitchen with various pieces of equipment for pupils to use. Year 10 and 11 continued to impress me with their efforts and their continuous progress which resulted in fantastic grades in the summer.

Finally, at Bethany we run a variety of enrichment programmes and clubs that pupils can get involved in, including

cooking. For these activities, my aim was to offer pupils an opportunity to create something they would not normally cook during a lesson. Viennese whirls, crumble cakes, Red Velvet muffins and fruit tarts are just a few of the delicious creations made, often fitting in with a special holiday or celebration. Cooking club was also a huge success meaning Mr Cooper decided to create two slots for cooking club in 2023/24 to ensure all pupils have the opportunity to be involved and further develop their passion for food and cooking.

Food Studies is truly a popular department in the school. We saw an incredible 37 pupils selecting Hospitality and Catering as one of their GCSE options. Conversations with Year 9 pupils tells me next year's cohort will be as big! As always, I am looking forward to seeing what these wonderful and talented pupils can 'bring to the table' over the next academic year – based on what I have seen so far, it is going to be delicious!

Steve Hampton,
Food and Nutrition



Young Enterprise



Managing Director's Report

I was fortunate enough to be the second of two Managing Directors of 'Arcturus', this year's Young Enterprise company at Bethany. The first was my friend David Kennedy. We all achieved and learnt so much together as a team of 17. Given our size, learning to utilise all of our strengths as individuals, and coming together to create a team that can work without friction, was no easy task. Despite this, we managed to generate almost £1,500 in revenue from an initial share issue of just £280, with our shareholders all receiving a huge dividend, and investment in shares, of which nearly all shareholders profited £85 each.

Having been through the startup process, our first opportunity to generate sales and engage with the public was the Goudhurst Christmas fair. There we sold handmade wooden chopping boards and Christmas tree decorations, along with handmade scented candles. Being our first event we were somewhat nervous, however, we managed to sell all of our wooden goods, and most of our candles. Our sales skills infinitely improved and this gave us a brilliant taste of just how challenging selling directly to the consumer can be, including learning how to offer deals and packages with multiple items to encourage sales.

After returning from Christmas, and still on a high from our successes at the Christmas fair, we found ourselves on the back foot and very much against the clock. Prior to the Christmas break we had agreed to create the hoodies for this year's School Production cast, which now was only 3 weeks away. In a state of high alert (and some anxiety) we constructed a plan of action, initially contacting 7 suppliers and collating the data on the quotes they gave us. We then picked out the ideal supplier that could give us the right balance of price, design and most importantly, lead time. Not content with this, we also wanted to offer photos for parents of the cast taken during dress rehearsals, and sell them on the night. All this led to a very stressful few weeks! However, on the day of the dress rehearsal we personally delivered the hoodies to every member of the cast that had ordered one. Even Mr Bolton, praised us for our efforts. We then managed to sell a large amount of photos over the two nights. From my perspective, this event taught us about the value of time; every week and every day you delay getting something done, especially when many are relying on you, pressure builds. However, we also

learned how to thrive under pressure, successfully achieving everything we set out to just 3 weeks prior.

Towards the end of the year we entered the YE Competition, producing a detailed report highlighting our achievements, a presentation about our highs and lows, and we had a virtual in person meeting with a Young Enterprise interviewer. Although we didn't manage to progress to the next stage of the competition, we did manage to receive the award for Best Teamwork; we were particularly proud of this given the work that it took to coordinate such a large group. Our last activity was to sell commemorative plates of the Coronation; we produced a high quality limited edition item linked to Bethany, and they all sold.

The freedom you're given in this competition to make mistakes and learn as you go along, made the success we had so much more rewarding. And overall, the time I have spent over the last year has taught me so much, and I'm thankful to Bethany and Mr Khan for offering this opportunity to me.

Sebastian Clarke - Managing Director



Link Teacher's Comment

I was so pleased that Arcturus were awarded the Best Teamwork award; it was no mean feat for the two MD's to move forwards so positively a group of 17 pupils, with opportunities generated for all to be involved in sales and product development. I have really enjoyed this year but the highlight for me was seeing them develop and sell their wooden boards and Christmas decorations

to the public in Goudhurst. There is something very satisfying in taking a product right from start to finish, from the idea to design stage, then production, quality control, finishing, packaging, marketing, displaying and selling. The comments from the public were so encouraging and I don't think one customer at that Christmas fair bought to support YE, they

bought because the products were genuinely high quality and great value. As ever my sincere thanks to Chis Maslin, our advisor, who gives up his time every week and helps to take the YE experience out of the classroom. Maslins have kindly agreed to sponsor YE at Bethany from September, which is a really exciting development.

Anthony Khan - Link Teacher



The Apprentice Challenge 2023

The Apprentice Challenge is an annual event we do in the Sixth Form in order to stretch and challenge our Year 12 students as they get prepared to go into Year 13. It is based on the tv show with a simplified format - students get given a task to do during the day, then 'Lord Sugar' (aka Mr Manktelow) dissects the task the next day and fires those who need firing!

This year The Apprentice Challenge attracted 13 candidates from Year 12 - all competing to be Lord Sugar's next apprentice and aiming to win a prize fund of £65. The tasks were designed to be both challenging and fun and to help the pupils in Year 12 to develop their team-building skills, resilience and independence.



The tasks this year were as follows:

Task 1

The first task was to design a set of six "exam anxiety/stress" cards for a member of Senior Management to buy, or not, as the case may be! This proved to be a real challenge for some of the teams. Some of the teams used their initiative and some did not! Any money raised was donated to MIND.

Task 2

The second task was a lesson on viral marketing. The four teams had to choose a charity and raise as much awareness as possible for it via creating a 'Tik Tok' video. The winner would be the group with the most views within 24 hours! After a challenging firing, where candidates were really put through their paces and made to justify why they should remain in the competition, the next challenge was launched.

Task 3

This task involved having to pitch an idea on what they think Bethany's next development should be. Ideas were creative – a bigger pond, a 'social science centre' and some extra picnic benches for outdoor seating. All three teams worked well together and pitched their ideas professionally to a panel made up of SMT members.

Task 4

After some 'rapid fire firing' from Lord Sugar on Day 4, the candidates were reduced to the final 4 – namely Alex Duncan, Lily Fraser, Frances Lye and Tilly Hatton. The final task involved being interviewed by the Head of HR, Ms Carter. They were asked questions on their involvement in the four challenges, their strengths and weaknesses and why they should win the competition. They then had to face the wrath of Lord Sugar for one final time the next day, and then the winner was announced. Congratulations goes to Frances Lye who beat the opposition and won the competition!!



The apprentice challenge was an excellent opportunity to discover my skills. I especially liked that we were pushed to achieve results in a very limited timeframe, this forced us to come together as a team and achieve real results. It really challenged me to work with all sorts of people having lots of fun in the process.

Pengelly Society

In its early days the Pengelly Society consisted of a group of 16 invited sixth formers and 4 adults, and during the meeting academic papers were presented by different highly regarded and respected public figures. During the meeting there would be opportunity for discussion about the papers and opportunity for pupils to question and reflect on what they had heard. Since that time the Society has grown, and it now offers all Bethany Sixth Formers the opportunity to broaden their horizons and hear from people beyond their field of immediate experience.

This year saw a varied programme of speakers join us on a Thursday evening. Each event began with Sixth Formers dining together, before joining the speakers in the Function Suite where each guest spoke about their own career and experience. At each meeting, Sixth Form pupils also had the opportunity to ask questions. The first meeting of the

year gave pupils a chance to hear about the work of the Skene Catling Trust and the funding that sixth formers can apply for to facilitate travel overseas. Former Bethany pupil Ruqaiyah Jarvinton spoke remotely about her experience of volunteering overseas in Thailand and the impact that this had on her future career choices and personal development. Although Ruqaiyah's flight got cancelled at the last minute she preserved and booked another last-minute flight to still have the experience of a lifetime – a good lesson in determination!

The second meeting was with Colin Stuart who is a multi-award-winning astronomy author, writer and speaker who has talked to over half a million people about the universe – including schools, the public and businesses. He has written 19 books which have been translated into 21 languages and sold over 400,000 copies worldwide. His talk was themed

“will we one day live on Mars” with our Sixth Formers mentioning a certain ‘Elon Musk’ quite a few times during their questions at the end!

In the Spring term Year 12 and 13 pupils were treated to a talk from Patrick Foster – a former professional cricketer, insurance broker and independent schoolteacher whose life was torn to shreds by his pathological gambling addiction. Having been to the brink, Patrick now shares his journey to inspire people to have the courage and confidence to reach out for early help. He delivered a strong message on how the modern-day gateway to gambling addiction is ‘online in-game purchases’ and ‘gambling apps’ – as well as shared the stark fact that 1 in 5 adverts on TV are about gambling, thus as a society we need to recognise that this is the fastest growing problem with our younger people with many changes needed in our society to tackle it.



Amaya Candappa had the role of Pengelly Society Secretary this academic year and did a fantastic job of introducing our speakers and keeping a record of events for the Bethany archives. She also helped identify and book visiting speakers. We wish Amaya every success in the future.



Rugby

U15

The U15 rugby squad had a busy and competitive season. Although the squad had a number of less experienced players, their willingness to learn in training and drive to be involved was outstanding.

The team suffered an early defeat against Lingfield College, but bounced back superbly against Buckswood School, scoring a number of tries and beginning to transfer training practices into match play. This was followed by an excellent win against Ashford School, and included what turned out to be the try of the season when Bethany launched an attack from under their own posts and went the length of the field through multiple phases to score in the corner. George Vincent, Will Edmeades Sterns, Ayden Yussuf and Harrison Smith

were all excellent on the day. The team finished the first half of the season against stronger opposition in the form of Kings School Rochester. Bethany were again excellent, raising their game and playing some excellent attacking rugby with the lead changing sides multiple times. Bethany scored in the final minute, and missed the conversion to draw the match, nevertheless, an outstanding performance from the team with George Vincent, Josh Hughes and James Duncombe all playing particularly well on the day.

The second half of the season started with a match against Cranbrook School, which was played in awful weather conditions. The players were excellent and did the very best in the cold, driving rain and produced some good individual work, particularly in the second half from George Vincent

and George Gardner to bring the scores level as the match finished in a deserved draw for both teams. Sevenoaks School and Radnor House, along with a return match against Ashford School provided further opposition in the second half of the season. The squad continued to develop very well and were competitive throughout. Although any further wins eluded them, a one score defeat against both Sevenoaks School and Ashford in the return match highlighted the overall teams development throughout the term and their excellent commitment to rugby.

Additional mentions for the 2022/23 season go to Jack Liversedge who was technically excellent with his tackles, Afonin Oleskii who was new to rugby and developed his skill set well, Paddy Kellett who also progress well and Jake Sales for his attacking play from outside half.

1st XV

The senior rugby season was a developmental and competitive season overall. A couple of new players and a skilled set of Year 11 boys making their way into senior school sport strengthened the standard, but overall squad number was still very small. This also made the 1st XV team a very young outfit and less experienced against more senior set-ups.

Kings School Rochester provided a very challenging first match that was a learning curve for the younger players who certainly benefited from the experience as the season progressed. The younger players shone in a well-earned victory against Cranbrook U16 and followed this up with a superbly hard-fought win against Ashford School. Wilson Martin and Will Harley in particular having excellent matches from the backrow positions.

The second half of the season highlights included a very close game against Lingfield College, with Tom Fyffe the pick of the players for Bethany in both attack

and defence, and a return fixture against Ashford School where open attacking rugby was the order of the day as both teams scored a hatful of tries in a very entertaining match. Will Garner Hutton was excellent, along with Will Harley and Ibukun Olagunju, driving the team forward, linking play and scoring tries. The final match of the season against Sutton Valence proved one game too many for this young team. However, as consistently illustrated all season, spirit and commitment was a notable feature of the performance.

Will Harley was excellent at number eight throughout the season. Tom Fyffe was a skilled addition who played with commitment in every match. Will Garner Hutton consistently performed to a high level and did much of the crucial unseen disruptive work around contact areas. Captain, Ibukun Olagunji was a strong running back who gave the team a superb focal point and attacking platform, and along with vice-captain Ben Caney, fully committed to training and the development of the team during the season.





Hockey

U13

The U13 hockey squads had another successful season going from strength to strength. With many talented and dominant players moving up to the U14's, it left some big shoes to fill. However, the players did not disappoint and all stepped up to the plate.

New addition Francesca Bavin stepped straight into the U13A hockey team and Eleni Haines also joined her, doing an outstanding job in goal. Eleni made a significant difference, keeping numerous goals out and clearing the ball way up the pitch. The whole team developed well with Ruby Peters making excellent progress. Cecily Chettiar, Amelia Bickford and Mia Castle all made outstanding contributions throughout the season with Sophie Finnamore working tirelessly in defence.

The U13B team had wins against Dover College and St Ronan's with notable performances from Captain Megan Marsh, Grace Holmes and Rocio De Rabago Perez. Matty Clake did a fantastic job in goal and grew with confidence throughout the season.

To finish the season the development squad formed an U13C team to play against Marlborough house. It was wonderful to finish their season with a game and a lovely match tea to reward their hard work throughout their first term.

U15

The U15 girls' hockey team had a remarkable season, remaining unbeaten throughout their six matches, with five wins and one draw. They displayed incredible skills and teamwork, securing impressive victories, including a 9-0 win against Claremont and a 7-1 triumph against Dover College. Safiya Chettiar deserves special recognition for her exceptional performance, scoring an incredible eight goals in just three matches. In a challenging match against Kings Rochester, the girls fought hard and emerged victorious with a brilliant 3-1 win. The final game of the season against a strong Ashford side saw Bethany trailing 2-0, but their determination and fighting spirit allowed them to salvage a draw, finishing the season unbeaten. Ellie Turner, who played out of her usual position at right back, showed great skill and was instrumental in the team's success. Layla Kemp's improvement as the season progressed was notable as she made significant contributions in goal.

Maisie Frankum was awarded the Player of the Season for her outstanding performances, and Safiya Chettiar received the Coaches' Player of the Season for her remarkable contributions.

1st XI

The 1st XI girls' hockey team had an eventful season, playing a total of five matches, with two victories and three defeats. They started off the season with a heartbreaking loss against Claremont, despite leading the game for 50 minutes. Beth Kuhepa and Elsa Taylor's goals showcased their skills and determination.

The team then bounced back with a convincing 5-0 victory, thanks to an outstanding performance by Elsa Taylor, who scored four goals. Unfortunately, they faced two heavy defeats in the following matches. However, they finished the season on a high note with a 2-0 win against Kings Rochester.

Elsa Taylor was awarded the Player of the Season for her exceptional contributions, while Charlotte Maniora earned the Coaches Player of the Season award for her consistent performances.

Both the 1st XI and U15 girls' hockey teams showcased their dedication and passion for the sport throughout the season. They displayed resilience, teamwork, and individual brilliance, resulting in commendable performances and achievements. These players have undoubtedly made a positive impact on the team and have represented the school admirably in the sport of hockey.



Netball

U13

The U13A team were an enthusiastic group showing a lot of determination and skill to beat some fierce opposition. Their best performance came against Dover College with a final score of 19-12. This was the turning point for the girls where they learnt to slow the pace and really think about their game play. During the season several girls made outstanding appearances, notably Sophie Finnamore (who also got Coach's Player in an U15 fixture) and Ruby Peters who gained so much confidence over the season.

The U13B team had an enjoyable netball season with all players growing into their game. After a big loss in their first match against St Ronan's the U13B's came back with enthusiasm and went on to win all of their matches for the rest of the term. This included taking some big wins in closely fought games against Ashford and King's School Rochester. Eleni Haines was dominant in defence and picked up the most player of the match awards, with Meghan Marsh also getting nominated multiple times for her hard work across the court. Well done to all, a great season and a joy to coach.

Despite only having 3 matches, the U13C team were a wonderful group to teach and witnessing their development was delightful. They were keen and enthusiastic to learn and play better both as individuals as well as in a team. Their highlight of the season was their win over Ashford School. Special mentions go to Matty Clark, Prudence Story and the shooting sensation Lily Williams.

U14

This talented group of girls had a great season and finished unbeaten. The U14's best performance came against Dover College with an impressive 18-5 win and a special mention to Ellie Turner for her significant improvement



over the season. Olivia James, Maisie Frankum and Izzy Harker all received Players of the match and Coach's Player twice. A very impressive season and we look forward to seeing further development next year.

U15

The U15 team had a mixed season in terms of results, starting well with two wins but dropping in focus mid-way through the season. However, the team demonstrated their abilities in their final game against Dover School where they fought until the very end to hold on to the lead and won the game by one goal. A special mention to Emma Kuhepa who had an outstanding season being relentless in defence and providing lots of turnover ball to keep pushing the team forwards. This resulted in Emma winning Player's Player in every single match - a massive achievement, well done!

1st VII

The 1st VII netball team had a difficult season, with some tricky matches, awful weather conditions and an inconsistent squad, but they played some good netball led by their captain Beth Kuhepa. Coaches Player of the match on several occasions were Frances Lye for her adaptability in the mid-court and Ella Smith for her strength and dynamic movements in the circle.

The 2nd VII netball team were a dream to coach, with significant progress from all players throughout the season. They were happy, lively and bubbly and a joy to be around. They listened to advice and took on suggestions as to how to improve; they were very flexible and many players were versatile in position. Noteworthy games were wins against Dover College and King's Rochester. Special mentions go to Kate Schlimper for working tirelessly as centre every match and to Holly McClure and Gwyn Rabbetts.



Football

U13

The U13A boys football team had an eventful and successful season, playing a total of 8 games. They displayed great determination and teamwork throughout their matches, resulting in 3 wins, 3 draws, and 2 losses.

The team's performance was highlighted by two impressive victories. In one game, they secured a dominant 5-0 win, showcasing their attacking prowess and solid defence. Another outstanding performance came in a match where they triumphed with an incredible 7-0 win, demonstrating their ability to capitalise on scoring opportunities.

Throughout the season, individual players made significant contributions to the team's success. Lucien Franklin emerged as the standout player, showcasing exceptional skill and consistency on the field. Lucien's determination, technical ability, and leadership qualities earned him the well-deserved title of Player of the Season.

In addition to the individual accolades, the coaching staff recognised the outstanding efforts of Henry Hingston. Henry's dedication, commitment, and positive attitude stood out, making him the clear choice for the Coaches Player of the Season award. The team can be proud of their achievements this year. Their strong work ethic, teamwork, and sportsmanship were evident in their performances, and they have undoubtedly grown as a team throughout the season. With continued hard work and determination, they have a bright future ahead in the world of football.

The U13B football team had a commendable season, showcasing their skills and determination throughout their matches. With a mix of results, including a strong finish to the season, the team can reflect positively on their overall performance.

One standout victory was the impressive 8-2 win against Saint Ronan's, demonstrating the team's attacking prowess and ability to capitalise on scoring opportunities.

The players showed great teamwork and resilience, which contributed to this remarkable result.

Freddy Cavill was named the Player of the Season, highlighting his exceptional performances and consistent impact on the team. Freddy's skill, dedication, and contributions on the pitch made him a standout player throughout a season in which he finished with a double figure goal tally.

Harry Cimelli earned the recognition of the Coaches Player of the Season due to his determination and commitment to the team. Harry's leadership qualities, work ethic, and positive influence on the team made him an integral part of the squad's success.

The U13B football team should be proud of their achievements this season. Their overall performance, teamwork, and individual contributions have been commendable. The strong finish to the season is a testament to their dedication and improvement over the course of the year.

U15

The U15 boys' football team faced numerous challenges throughout the season, with several games being cancelled due to adverse weather conditions. However, despite the setbacks, the team showed great determination and showcased their talent in the matches they were able to play. The season started off on a high note with a fantastic first win against Battle Abbey, securing a commanding 7-1 victory. This match featured an outstanding performance by Max Childs, who scored an impressive hat-trick within just 20 minutes. The team's ability to dominate the game and score goals demonstrated their attacking prowess and skill. Two notable highlights of the season were the victories against Bedes and Kings Canterbury. In a convincing 3-0 win against Bedes and a well-fought 3-1 win against Kings Canterbury, the boys displayed excellent football skills, teamwork, and tactical awareness.

Among the talented group of players, Nick Ewer was named the Player of the Season. Nick consistently showcased exceptional skills, technical ability, and contributed significantly to the team's success. Rasan Bamoki was named the Coaches Player of the Season. Rasan's commitment, leadership qualities, and positive influence on the team were instrumental in their achievements. Despite the challenges posed by the weather, the U15 boys' football team exhibited resilience and determination. They played excellent football throughout the season, demonstrating their passion for the game and their ability to adapt to different circumstances.

Congratulations to the U15 boys' football team on their achievements this year.



1st XI

The 1st XI boys' football team faced some challenges throughout the season, including weather-related cancellations that disrupted their schedule. Despite these obstacles, the team displayed great determination and showcased their talent in the matches they were able to play. The season kicked off with a frustrating loss of 3-2 against Sutton Valance, which was marred by a controversial goal. However, the team quickly rebounded and delivered an outstanding performance in their first home game, securing a resounding 7-0 victory against Beechwood. The team continued to demonstrate their skill and competitive spirit in subsequent matches. A thrilling encounter against Farringtons resulted in an exciting 2-2 draw, highlighting the team's ability to fight until the final whistle. Another memorable moment came in a sensational 2-1 win

against Bedes, showcasing the team's determination and resilience.

Throughout the season, Femi Folarin emerged as a standout player, consistently making significant contributions to the team's success. Femi's ability to score goals and provide assists proved vital for the team's attacking prowess. His exceptional performances earned him recognition as a key player in the team. James Candeloro was named Player of the Season due to his outstanding performances and consistent impact on the team. James displayed exemplary skills, leadership qualities, and a strong work ethic, making him a deserving recipient of this award. Femi Folarin, who was named the Coaches Player of the Season, Femi's dedication, versatility, and positive influence on the team made him an invaluable asset throughout the season.

Congratulations to the 1st XI boys' football team on a remarkable season.



Cricket



U13 Boys

The 2023 season was one of development and discovery for the U13A boys' team. Sadly, results on the pitch did not reflect the positive and determined attitude of the squad. Their matches against both St. Ronan's and Claremont could have gone either way but ended in close defeats. The losses against both Radnor House and Dulwich Prep School can be tempered with the fact that they were playing two strong teams. In their final match of the season, the boys put on a dominant winning display to comfortably beat Beechwood Sacred Heart School.

With the role of captaincy being shared around several of the more experienced players, it was Gus Tuson, with his encouraging leadership and solid batting displays who emerged as an option for taking on the role on a more permanent basis next season.

The stand out players in the squad were; Henry Hingston - who shone with both bat and ball particularly in the final game picking up four wickets in one over; Isaac Lord - for delivering an efficient performance as Wicket Keeper throughout the season; Lucien Franklin - for his outstanding fielding performances; both Lucas Schippers and Michael St Clair Bishop for their accurate bowling; Noah Mund - for his attacking instincts in opening the batting and Jago Veale who has all the attributes to be an outstanding all-round cricketer.

Special mention goes to Harry Jermyn, who not only has the potential to become a strong bowler but took it upon himself to look after the team kit bag wherever the team went. This shows a kind and generous character that will serve Harry well both on and off the sports field.

With winter nets training and continued development towards the 2024 season for the U13A boys, all looks very promising.

The Bethany U13B cricket team had a successful and rewarding season, marked by the growth and development of all the players involved. The boys demonstrated

great improvement in their skills and showed a strong commitment to the sport throughout the year.

One notable area of improvement was seen in Tom Gerrish, who significantly developed his skills as a wicketkeeper. Tom's dedication and hard work in this position had a positive impact on the team. Maxwell Morgan stood out as the Player of the Season. Maxwell consistently displayed exceptional skill, technique, and a strong cricketing acumen. His contributions to the team were instrumental in their successes, and his performances on the field were consistently outstanding.

This season served as an important developmental period for all the boys, allowing them to hone their cricketing abilities and deepen their understanding of the game. The U13 B cricket team can be proud of their achievements this year and the strides they have made individually and collectively. Their enthusiasm, sportsmanship, and determination to improve bode well for their future endeavors in cricket.

Congratulations to the Bethany U13B cricket team on a successful season.

U15 Boys

The Bethany U15A cricket team had a successful and fulfilling season, demonstrating their skills and teamwork throughout their matches. One standout moment of the season was the team's impressive win against an opponent, bowling them out for a mere 69 runs. The team's collective effort and disciplined bowling played a crucial role in achieving this result, highlighting their commitment to both attack and defense.

Will Edmeades-Sterns excelled as the team's wicketkeeper, showcasing exceptional skills and contributing to the team's success. His consistent performance behind the stumps played a crucial role in maintaining the team's high standards. A special mention goes to Michael Sargent, who made a significant impact by scoring his first

50 runs off just 44 balls against a strong Cranbrook team. Michael's remarkable batting performance showcased his talent and ability to rise to challenges, earning him recognition as a valuable asset to the team.

Josh Hughes was named the Player of the Season due to his consistent performances, leadership skills, and positive influence on the team. His contributions both on and off the field were invaluable to the team's success. Oscar Scott was named Coaches Player of the Season. Oscar's commitment, dedication, and overall performance demonstrated his exceptional abilities and contributions to the team's progress.

The Bethany U15A cricket team can be proud of their achievements this season.

The U15B boys cricket team played with superb commitment and effort this season. Playing an attacking brand of cricket, they certainly entertained.

Strong wins against Kings School Rochester and Buckswood School were highlights along with a close contest against Radnor House. Christopher Hannam was overall pick of the batsman, playing with freedom and boundaries the target off every ball. His opening partnership with Oliver Liversedge against Kings School Rochester, the pair scoring 45 runs off 4 overs was the stand-out knock with the bat from the team. Christopher further added to his season average with a 35 not out against Busckwood School.

Michael Sargent also impressed as an all-rounder, scoring runs in a steady manner, including 35 runs not out against Kings School Rochester, and taking three wickets from two overs in a man of the match performance.

Jackson Skillicorn returned with good bowling figures for the season, and several players, particularly Christopher Hannam took some excellent catches in matches. We look forward to the team continuing their Bethany cricketing journey when they move into the senior squad next season.

U13 Girls

Junior cricket is expanding with A, B and C sides and a minimum of 6 games arranged for the C's and 8 games for the A's and B's.

The U13A cricket team had a very successful season overall, as they moved to hard ball format for the majority of their matches. Highlights included a good win against Ashford School, a win against Dover College and Skippers Hill and a commanding victory over Kings School Rochester.

Francesca Bavin was the youngest member, in Year 7, but she brought cricketing experience and performed very all season, returning with some very impressive bowling figures in a number of matches. Ruby Peters was an excellent captain, managing the team in the field and leading from the front with a number of strong batting performances alongside effective bowling spells. Grace Holmes had a very good season, bowling with consistent line and length which opposition batters found a challenge to score from, and she also contributed well to innings totals with good batting skills. Eleni Haines, Mia Castle, Amelia Bickford, Cecily Chettiar and Honor Casselton Elliott all played their part with effective batting, bowling and fielding skills in matches to support the teams' performances and competitiveness in match play.

The team was committed and spirited from game one to the end of the season and all made significant development with their individual and team cricketing skills.

The U13B cricket team had an excellent start to the season with an unbeaten run in the first half of term with wins over Ashford School, Radnor House, Skippers Hill and Dover College. After half term we struggled to find our previous form, playing tougher opposition and losing a couple of players to the A team due to injuries. Most, if not all, players received batter of the match, bowler of the match or coaches player throughout the season. But, the following cannot go unnoticed, Sophie Finnamore for her outstanding batting, Leah Carnegie and Honor Cassleton Elliott for their consistent bowling, excellent batting, running and wickets. Finally, to Matty Clark and Lily Williams for outstanding progress and diligence.

The U13C team showed great progression and development throughout this season, with a full summer of fixtures to give them lots of match practice. Our first and last games were lost by only 4 runs, and there were notable wins against Radnor House and Kings Rochester. Players to watch out for in the future are Bea Flanders, who is proving to be a great all-rounder, and Gabriela Alfagame, whose bowling improved immensely.

Well done to all who played cricket for the school, we are certainly moving in the right direction.

U14 Girls

The aim of the U14's season was to play in more hard ball cricket matches. Their season got off a to the perfect start with a fine win away at Dover College. There was

quite the wait until their second game, which ended in a loss against a strong Radnor House. This match was played to 'normal laws' cricket, which was a first for the team. Their final match (which was two games in one) versus King's Rochester resulted in two losses but the second game by only 2 runs.

Maisie Frankum was the leading performer of the season and is an excellent all round cricketer. Special mentions go to Lewis St Clair Bishop, Safi Chettiar, India Shimmin and Summer Stewart-Welch. It is clear that the U14's enjoy playing together as a team. They always celebrate each other's successes and are constantly encouraging each other. Despite gaining only one win, it was another solid season of development which means they should look forward to next year with confidence.

U15 Girls

The U15's were a wonderful group to coach and teach. They enjoyed their season which has mainly focused on participating and developing their individual cricket skills, especially as some of them had not played a lot of cricket.

Highlights of the season was a very close game against Dover College losing by just 2 runs and a very enjoyable win against Buckswood by 7 runs.

Special mentions go to Lily Faulkner, Matilda MacKay and Emilia Dillon who got player, batter or bowler of the match in most outings and to Stella Flynn for her outstanding batting.

Swimming

Bethany completed the first year of running an elite swimming coaching programme for pupils who are competitive swimmers and for those who show potential in the pool. The programme has been a huge success, with pupils improving their swimming standards and success in galas against local schools has also been notable. Under the coaching regime of our ex-Olympian, Lisa Chapman, who competed for Great Britain at the Athens Olympics, pupils attend up to two hours coaching a week and have had made very impressive gains in their stroke technique, water fitness and race performance. Pupils have the option to swim before school and during lunchtimes to further improve their performance levels.

As a result, much team success has come in the pool this season, as the gala programme and swimming squad continue to go from strength to strength. A special mention goes to the junior girls' team, who produced outstanding swimming performances all year round to achieve the accolade of being unbeaten in all competitive galas in their age group

category. Graces Holmes and Hazeley Kalisch led from the front, powering to outstanding swim wins across many race meets, they were supported well by Honor Cassleton Elliott, Tula Cottingham, Ruby Peters and Jessica MacIver-Clark. The Junior boys team also saw several swimmers greatly improve with personal bests in gala after gala along with an increasing number of race wins.

Special mentions for commitment and improvement go to Jago Veale, Hamish Henderson and Gus Tuson.

The elite swimming programme will enter its second year from September 2023, and we look forward to growing numbers involved in the programme and further success for the Bethany swimming team in gala events.



Duke of Edinburgh's Award 2022/2023

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme at Bethany School has received unprecedented levels of interest since its reintroduction post-covid and we are delighted to have enjoyed another very successful year with all three awards, bronze, silver and gold.

The year began with the excellent news that the school had its license to provide the scheme renewed, and ended with 68 award completions, which, for a school the size of Bethany, is very commendable indeed.

Bronze award

Pupils undertaking the bronze award ended their school year by taking part in an expedition local to the school, with all participants passing successfully. During their first day, pupils were reintroduced to map reading and orientation skills, used Trangia's and experimented with putting up shelters

with the use of a tarpaulin and a pole. There were varying levels of success, but by the end of the day, all had enjoyed themselves and mastered so many new skills.

The second day started with a kit check and pupils were then taken to Matfield, where they had to navigate their way back to school. Despite some groups walking further than necessary(!), all made it safely back to the base camp for the night, behind the assembly hall. Pupils then tucked into a supper of pasta and pesto, with the odd extra packet of hot chocolate or marshmallows thrown in for good measure.

Sleep was interrupted by some heavy rain, which left all but the most intrepid opting to move into the assembly hall. Special mention must go to Eli, Zebedee, Ben, Oscar, Charlie, Leo, Maisie, India, Eve and Olivia who stayed in their shelters all night, even through the rain!

Silver award

For completion of the silver award, pupils embarked on an expedition to the South Downs, camping at Wowo campsite near the Ashdown Forest.

After a difficult start, with the entire cohort at times demonstrating a requirement for consolidation training in campcraft, pupils eventually set off, completing the required walk at the top of Ditchling Rise. After arriving back at camp, the group set up tents and cooked a lot of pasta before settling down for a clear, cold night's sleep.

The next day dawned bright and clear and pupils emerged from their tents slightly blearily, but the troops rallied and soon the campsite was clear and tidy. The group then embarked on another successful trek in the South Downs countryside.

A successful expedition and brilliant way to end the school year.

Gold award

A group of eight pupils set off to Cumbria's Lake District in March to take part in an expedition as part of their Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award. After arriving safely in Windermere, pupils managed to get their tents up and kit sorted, before attending a late evening expedition and safety briefing from Mr Cooper that included checking the route for the following day.

Despite the overnight rain, there were smiles and thumbs up all round as the group made breakfast and packed up ready to tackle the challenging day ahead. The group made their way to the first check point, at which time the rain and wind had become heavy and hard hitting. After finally arriving at the campsite for the night, tents were then pitched and dinners were cooked - pasta all round!

The weather on the morning of day two started clear, a good omen for another long and challenging day of walking. Next up for the group was navigating their way up Grisedale Valley to the tarn. After a morning briefing, the group were positive and determined to take on this task. This was a day of stunning scenery and Lakeland weather, the only predictable thing is it's unpredictability!

The morning of day three started with the stretching of tired limbs before

packing up tents. The group made their way to Watendlath, a small hamlet and tarn (a small lake), that sits high between the Borrowdale and Thirlmere valleys at 863 feet (263 m) above sea level. After a welcome rest and water, the final stretch of the day took the group to their campsite in the small village of Stonethwaite.

After packing up their gear and showering, the group then made their ascent and descent of Stake Pass, a high mountain pass where careful navigation is required. They finally arrived at the last checkpoint, a pub and restaurant in Langdale, where they officially finished their walk. In a much welcomed change from eating pasta for the past few days, the group couldn't help but be all smiles after their burgers and chips were ordered, which they would eat at an actual table!

Pupils and staff arrived safely back home after what was another successful Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award expedition.

A huge thank you to all staff, supportive parents and enthusiastic participants who continue to make the award the success that it is.

Cliff Cooper
Director of Outdoor Learning
and Enrichment





Enrichment Programme

This year saw some fine tuning and refinement to the enrichment programme at Bethany. Two afternoons a week, all pupils have the opportunity to take part in an unparalleled range of activities and clubs both on and off-campus.

Strong emphasis is put on the Bethany habits of learning as well as other transferable skills such as teamwork, leadership and communication, and of course, the opportunity to have fun at the same time!

Cliff Cooper
Director of Outdoor Learning and Enrichment



Carousel

The enrichment carousel programme is loosely based on the Duke of Edinburgh philosophy of taking part in physical, volunteering and skill-based activities. As a result, all pupils had many opportunities to take part in all three of these areas during the course of the school year.

Stand out volunteering and charitable achievements this year included delivering over £900.00 worth of much needed supplies to the local food bank at Marden Church. Pupils also raised money and contributed to the Communigrow community garden. Several local primary schools benefitted from teambuilding activities delivered by Bethany pupils while visits to the Big Cat Sanctuary at Headcorn and work done by our Eco School Club raised awareness of local conservation and environmental initiatives.

The climbing experience in Maidstone and watersports at Bewl Water remain firm favourites with the adventure seekers and pupils also learned what to do when adventures don't go according to plan during the first aid and lifesaving activities.

In addition to being fun and enriching, the programme also enabled many pupils to complete sections of their bronze, silver and gold Duke of Edinburgh's awards, as well as completing the National Indoor Climbing Award skill levels 1 and 2.

We look forward to introducing the National Outdoor Learning Award for younger pupils next year.



Clubs

Clubs at Bethany try to offer something for everyone while allowing completion of all DofE sections and making the most of our extraordinary onsite facilities and staff skill set. Clubs range from activities such as music and drama productions to maths and chess clubs. Sporting clubs include swimming, football, basketball, judo and much more, utilising the excellent sporting facilities at Bethany.

This year, the Chess Club, in particular, fostered a keen sense of competition, with one pupil, Michael Sargent, achieving runner up in a local chess meeting outside of school.

The Judo Club currently has a small but passionate following with members achieving yellow and green belts.

The Paris Saint Germain player development club continues to be a popular choice for the younger boys.





Staff Moves

Sherrick Hamilton



Sherrick joined Bethany in September 2017 as Head of IT. During his time at Bethany, Sherrick became involved in many different elements of School life. Sherrick also got fully involved into the provision of IT services which increased in scope and complexity throughout his six years here. This varied from installing visitor software in the reception

area to the expansion of WiFi through the school as well as handling the installation of new financial software in the bursary.

Sherrick was a very caring tutor and was someone his tutees could always come to for advice, help and support as indeed did many other pupils.

Bethany secured Microsoft Showcase status during his tenure and without his direction and drive, this would not have happened. Sherrick was also a "go to" person for all members of staff both teaching and non-teaching when they needed IT assistance or indeed IT reassurance. He acquired a range of management skills throughout his time here.

Sherrick arrived at Bethany as a single man and left as a married one.

Sherrick has secured promotion and was appointed Assistant Headteacher in Tunbridge Wells Boys Grammar School.

I hope that he will be every bit as successful in his new post as he was here at Bethany. He will be missed.

Francie Healy

Vincent Rapley

Vincent joined Bethany initially on a three month contract to help out whilst a new Estates Manager could be recruited. He did such a good job tackling the various aspects of the role as well as being a jovial and likeable member of staff those three months stretched into 12! By that stage Vincent's long awaited retirement beckoned and we reluctantly accepted his request to not extend his fixed term contract. We thank Vincent for all his hard work, excellent tea making and bringing a lot of laughter to the office. Good luck with your semi retirement!

Clare Morey

Simon Cuthbert



Simon first joined Bethany School in 2016 as a short-term absence cover for Religious Studies but made such a positive impression he took on the permanent position as Head of Department. He also took on the role of Assistant Chaplain before leaving to take up a position at St Gregory's

School. Following school closures due to Covid, Bethany was seeking to appoint a new Chaplain and also had the position of Head of Religious Studies and Simon was welcomed back to the Bethany family in September 2021 to take on both positions. Simon was instrumental in invigorating the Chaplaincy following the return to school for the pupils and he worked with both staff and pupils through the nervous period of mixing with others again. Unfortunately, Simon was highly sought after and following a difficult deliberation he decided to return to the state sector, leaving Bethany in December 2022 after working hard on delivering an excellent Carol Service, the first since Covid closures.

Alan Sturrock

Jacky Austen



Jacky worked at Bethany initially as a housekeeper in Pengelly and latterly moved into managing the cleaning team. Jacky proved herself to be an exceptionally hard worker, well respected by her team and always with a smile on her face. Nothing was too much trouble. Typically when her family needed Jacky's help running their new public

house, she was keen to support them and sadly for Bethany she eventually decided her family needed her more. We bid a fond farewell to Jacky and wished her all the best of luck with the new venture. Thank you for all you have done for Bethany.

Clare Morey

Fleur-Estelle Shaw



At the end of the summer term 2023 we bid a sad farewell to Fleur Shaw. Fleur spent 10 years as Head of Geography at Bethany as well as fulfilling the role of UCAS Co-ordinator.

During her time at the school Fleur proved to be an excellent leader as well as teacher. She developed her department, supporting staff

and building practice to ensure the best possible outcomes for pupils. Fleur's commitment to promoting enriching learning experiences, using IT to support learning, and engaging in her own professional development, as well as supporting that of others, was highly valued and will be missed.

Fleur leaves Bethany to take up a Head of Geography role in a large state school, a very short walk from her home. We are certain that the coaching skills that she has built so effectively here will be well utilised to effectively engage and develop her new, much larger, team and to support many more pupils to achieve highly.

Emily Hill

Caroline Webb



Caroline was not strictly a member of staff, as she runs her own marketing business, but she agreed to take on a one year contract at Bethany. She oversaw the marketing aspects of the school. Caroline's knowledge of social media and customer engagement led to significant success in growing the numbers of attendees at our open days. She initiated the

new website, launch planned for early September, and improved the Headmasters newsletters including the associated blogs to expand the school's reach. We are grateful to Caroline for starting this process of greater engagement with our local area and the school has certainly benefited from improved pupil recruitment as a result. Well done and thank you, Caroline.

Clare Morey

Katie Hayward



Katie joined us as a trainee Art teacher. She has had a notable impact on the pupils at Bethany from supporting Year 7 pupils to exhibit in an international gallery, through to helping our most able A level pupils achieve ambitious and contemporary work that any university would be proud to have their undergraduates producing.

We are fortunate that she leaves us with a legacy of brave and confident pupils who will continue to take risks and have a genuine love for the subject. She has inspired the art team and we have all learned so much from her. Her questioning skills are second to none and her subject knowledge has enriched our curriculum. Katie's pupils described her as kind, supportive and say that she has really boosted their confidence. Her tutor group have benefitted from her advocating for them and have appreciated her guidance and care.

We are losing an excellent teacher, but we have gained so much from the time she has spent with us, and I am sure she will continue to excel in her new role at Dunottar School and will inspire many future generations of young artists.

Sarah Smart

Ceri Mooney



Ceri was the first friendly face you saw in reception each morning and the last one to usher hard working staff out in the evening. Her sensible, kind and calm persona charmed parents, pupils, staff and visitors alike. Her considerable knowledge of all things Bethany was of great support to all. A desire for a change of pace, coupled

with plans to fully retire, led to our saying sad goodbyes in June 2023. We cannot thank Ceri enough for all her support of Bethany and she leaves the reception in very capable hands with Amy and Ruth. All the best for your retirement, Ceri, and many thanks for all you have done for Bethany.

Clare Morey

Chaplaincy

The past year has been a season of change for the chaplaincy here at Bethany. With Mr Cuthbert moving on from the school, leaving a gap in the religious studies department as well as in the chaplaincy, the decision was made to separate the roles out again and for the school to have a dedicated lay chaplain position. I stepped into the role in January this year, excited to get stuck in, but also a little nervous, having not worked in a school setting before. But there was nothing to worry about. I've found Bethany to be a warm and welcoming environment to work in, full of friendly staff and pupils. The biggest challenge is trying to remember everybody's names!

My first six months in the role have primarily been about finding my feet whilst seeing how the school works, and then working out where a chaplain fits in. My role involves the everyday running and delivery of the chapel programme

alongside pastoral care for both staff and pupils, offering a listening ear for those who might want one. It's a privilege that people are willing to open up to me about events they are facing in their lives and I try and offer comfort and guidance where possible.

During last year's morning chapels, we did a whistlestop tour of the life of Jesus. We've seen how he rubbed shoulders with the lowly and disenfranchised in society, whilst often rubbing the religious leaders of the day up the wrong way! We've also seen how he called out hypocrisy and challenged people to love others, even those they may not be inclined to love, all the while considering how these things might affect us as we go about our lives here on campus.

During the term ahead, we're going to be thinking about issues such as equality, compassion, freedom and progress amongst others, and discovering that whether we have a faith or not, many of

us are living by values that have distinctly Christian foundations.

I'm looking forward to a good term ahead, a term that will encompass the Remembrance Day and Christmas Carol services which I'm particularly looking forward to. But the completion of this term will also mark a whole year of my working here and so I will hopefully finish it with a better grasp of the rhythm of Bethany life.

I'll leave you with these words from the Old Testament, which I shared with teaching staff on our inset day. It's a prayer of blessing and it's my prayer for us as a school in this term ahead.

"The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace."

Paul Feesey
Lay Chaplain

Charity Work



Earthquake appeal has Felix Hardie become Bethany Headmaster for a day

Thursday 2nd and Friday 3rd March saw Headmaster, Francie Healy, and Felix Hardie, in Year 7, swap roles for the day in order to raise money for the Turkey-Syria Earthquake Appeal.

All pupils at Bethany School paid £10 and were entered into a raffle to become Bethany Headmaster for a day. The competition also saw Mr Healy, Headmaster, swap places and become a pupil himself.

The raffle was won by Year 7 pupil, Felix Hardie, who became Headmaster on Friday. His first act was to appoint Michael St Clair Bishop, also Year 7, as his Deputy Head.

On Thursday, Mr Healy, dressed in full Bethany uniform, arrived at school and shadowed Felix and his friends, joining them in lessons and break times.

On Friday, it was Felix's turn to shadow Mr Healy and become Headmaster. Along with his Deputy Head, Michael, or Mr Michael as he liked to be called, Felix turned his hand to running Bethany School. When asked what his first change at Bethany School as the new Headmaster would be, Felix said "I'm not too sure, everything at Bethany is perfect as it is". He added, "Everyone is friendly, both pupils and teachers. The teachers are always nice and everyone is so welcoming, whoever you are".

The new Headmaster had his photo on the door to his new office and he settled in straight away. Felix even had his portrait put up in the Headmaster's gallery - a staircase with portraits of all of the previous Bethany School Headmasters, dating all the way back to 1866!

Mr Healy commented, "I really enjoyed my day as a Year 7 pupil. Everyone was so kind and welcoming to me in the Year group. It was a pleasure to have Felix replace me and I am glad that it was for one day only! He learned a lot about the complexities of running a school. He and Michael charmed all the staff they met. Best of all we raised £3,970 for the earthquake victims in Turkey and Syria".

Over £4,000 was raised for the Turkey-Syria Earthquake Appeal

Supporting the Marden Foodbank at Christmas

As part of the Bethany School enrichment carousel, pupils buy food to support the foodbank and help with the organisation of the food, check stock, date new items and help ensure food is handed out according to the use by dates. To further show our support for the local foodbank, it was chosen to be supported at our annual Carol Service in December.

Marden Church Foodbank is headed up by the Vicar Rev'd Nicky Harvey and Kathy Young, the Youth and Children's minister, and was set up at the start of the 2020 lockdown but has continued to provide support to those whose life circumstances have changed.

A total of £1,394 was raised for Marden Foodbank





Charity Walks

Bethany's annual Charity Walk takes place every September. Pupils are split into their year groups and are then tasked with voting for a charity to donate to before embarking on their walk. More often than not these walks are over 7 miles long but they are always surrounded by beautiful scenery!

Year 7 & 8 Charity Walk

This year saw Year 7 and 8 pupils walk around Bedgebury Forest and the Pinetum, walking just shy of 14KM. The pupils handled this excellently with a brief stop for lunch and some time to enjoy the superb play equipment in the forest before returning to School.

Following the sad death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II it also seemed a fitting way to honour her memory and the charity work undertaken by the late monarch during her lifetime.

The chosen charity this year was one which is close to many people's hearts; Cancer Research UK.

Over £1900 was raised for Cancer Research UK

Year 9 Charity Walk

Year 9 pupils ventured to Rye for their annual Charity Walk. The route took them over fields, across marsh land and past ruins. The first break was at Camber Castle and they later enjoyed lunch on the beach. After the 10 mile walk, pupils were delighted to see an ice-cream van and it made a perfect end to a lovely day!

£605 was raised for Great Ormond Street Hospital

Year 10 & 11 Charity Walk

The Year 10 & 11 walk saw pupils walk around the beautiful location of Bewl Water and a long walk from school to Cranbrook and Goudhurst. The weather was kind and the sun shone the whole way around. These mammoth walks took pupils 14 miles around the gorgeous countryside that Kent has to offer.

This year pupils walked to raise money for the charity Mind UK, and this is a charity which is overlooked at times. Mental health is so important and so pupils as a year group thought this was an ideal charity to raise money for.

£945 was raised for Mind UK

Sixth Form Charity Walk

Mr Noman led his and Mrs Smart's/Mr Willis' tutor groups to Sissinghurst to the venue of 'The Milk House' where some pizzas awaited them. Unfortunately for them, one pupil had decided to walk in Dr Martins, and even with blister patches had to walk the last stretch of the morning in his socks! Some trainers (delivered by Mr Khan) and delicious pizza in the Milkhouse pub, meant that he, and all the other pupils had a wonderful lunch break.

Mr Duff led Mr Khan and Mrs Healy's groups to 'The White Horse' Cranbrook where a BBQ was cooking for them. Mr Manktelow led his and Mr Beckham's group to the 'Halfway house' Brenchley where some burgers were awaiting.

The charity chosen by Sixth Form pupils was War Child, which raises funds to help children who have been affected by warfare.

£1,150 was raised for War Child



Sponsored Swims

Hazeley Kalisch, Year 8, and her family returned to Kent in March 2020 from Namibia where her family owned a safari company called Wild Dog Safaris. Covid turned things upside down for the business and with no safaris running the family decided to return to the UK.

Wild Dog Safaris had some wonderful guides and the Kalisch family worked with their families extensively for many years. They committed to putting two of the guides' children through their schooling and put them into private schools. State schools are not great out there and students are lucky if they are able to read and write by the time they leave.

The two sponsored children are called Mercy Shikongo, aged 8, and Rusia Haufiku, aged 11. Hazeley knows the children well and so when they had to move back to the UK, they promised the children that they would do what they could to keep them in school.

In a bid to help, Hazeley undertook a sponsored swim, and swam a total of 10 kilometers over the course of the winter and all funds raised would cover some of the costs of the schooling, books, uniform and local taxi to and from school for her two friends.

Hazeley raised £351 for Mercy and Rusia

Mr Willis completed a 10km swim which he undertook over the winter term. It was all in aid of Toilet Twinning – a charity which provides sanitation and toilets for communities in developing countries which don't have the same facilities as we are fortunate to have. He set himself a target of raising £250 and brilliantly surpassed it.

Mr Willis raised £320 for Toilet Twinning

Wear something red for Red Nose Day

It was amazing to see so much enthusiasm and support for Red Nose Day by wearing something red. Even a cold, wet and windy March morning could not prevent the smiles!

£298.54 was raised for Red Nose Day

Diversity Week Colour Run

An exciting climax to Schools Diversity Week in June as pupils took part in the extremely fun (and messy) colour run. This year it took the format of an egg and spoon and again, it was spiced up with lashings of Holi colour powder! Pupils ran in their competitive houses and there was 5 races in total including a staff race!

More importantly, money was being raised for Porchlight, a Kent charity that supports homeless and vulnerable people in the area. The sad fact is that groups such as the LGBT+ community are more likely to find themselves homeless and will need the support of Porchlight.

£179 was raised for Porchlight

Charity Cake Sale

An amazing turn out for the LGBTQ+ and Allies cake sale which was held during lunchtime in December. A huge thanks goes to FOBS (Friends of Bethany School) and all parents for their cake donations.

A total of £274.75 was raised for Porchlight

Speech Day



Bethany School's annual Speech Day proved to be a grand celebration of accomplishments, an opportunity to welcome Old Bethanians for Reunion Day and also bid a fond farewell to Year 13 Leavers.

The vibrant morning event showcased the school's diverse talents through live music, captivating performances, and impressive pupil work displays. Artwork, projects, and achievements from various academic disciplines adorned the halls, providing a visual representation of pupils' hard work and dedication throughout the year. This display of creativity and academic excellence truly showcased the holistic educational experience offered at Bethany School.

The Speech Day programme included several enlightening speeches by key figures within the Bethany School community. Jonathan Fenn, Chair of Governors, took the stage first, offering words of encouragement and gratitude to the pupils, parents, and staff members. His address highlighted the school's commitment to fostering a nurturing and supportive environment for every pupil.



Twinkle Tappenden,
Year 11

The Headmaster's speech followed, reflecting on the achievements and progress made by the school community over the past year. Emphasising the importance of optimism, the Headmaster commended pupils' efforts and encouraged them to continue striving for excellence.

The highlight of the speeches came with the guest of honour, Matt Weston. The current World and European Skeleton Racing champion shared personal anecdotes and inspirational insights, encouraging pupils to remain optimistic, chase their dreams and embrace the challenges that lie ahead.

The culmination of the day was the highly anticipated prizegiving ceremony. With great excitement, pupils were recognised and awarded for their outstanding achievements throughout the year. The ceremony showcased the diverse range of talents and accomplishments within the pupil body, underscoring the school's commitment

to academic excellence, personal growth, and overall development.

Following the prizegiving ceremony, the focus shifted to the Year 13 Leavers, who were treated to a special lunch in the school's function suite. This gathering provided an opportunity for the school community to bid farewell to the Year 13 Leavers, celebrating their time at Bethany School and wishing them well as they begin to embark on the next chapter of their lives.

Speech Day was a resounding success, capturing the essence of the school's dedication to nurturing talent, fostering growth, and celebrating achievements. Through captivating performances, insightful speeches, and a joyful prizegiving ceremony, the event highlighted the rich and vibrant culture within the school. The day not only acknowledged the accomplishments of the pupils but also served as a poignant reminder of the strong bonds forged within the Bethany School community.



Francie Healy, Headmaster, Matt Weston
and Jonathan Fenn, Chair of Governors

Friends of Bethany School

One of the main aims of Bethany's PTA, FOBS (Friends of Bethany School), is to encourage and promote a friendly and close relationship between parents and staff at Bethany. In partnership with this, FOBS also aims to help enrich pupils' time at the School by raising funds. Fundraising for charities chosen by the pupils at the School and organising fun social activities for both pupils and parents are just two of the ways we try to achieve this. We also lend a hand on Open Days and other such events, where new or prospective parents often like to hear about Bethany from a current parent's point of view. Lastly, we often provide refreshments to compliment school events and encourage the 'social' side of things too.

The Bethany Performing Arts Department arrange various Music and Drama productions throughout the year, and FOBS provides refreshments at these functions. This last year has seen some incredible talent from the pupils, and we have been lucky enough to have seen those productions, raise money for the school and ensure audiences are 'refreshed' all in one fell swoop.

Charity disco

In November, FOBS held the annual Charity Disco Year 7, 8 and 9 pupils. Which was a huge success and was really well attended. Some amazing moves and dance contests lit up the dance floor with the dayglo face paints adding to the fun and atmosphere. A special thank

you to Karen Henderson, parent of Year 7 pupil, whose business Pro DBA kindly sponsored the event. Thanks to Karen, 100% of the £1410.00 pupils raised went to their chosen charities of Great Ormond Street Hospital and The Cystic Fibrosis Trust.

We held a Quiz Night in February, where we ran a bar and our generous caterers, Holroyd Howe, provided a delicious curry supper. We were thrilled to raise over £4000 in that one evening. Donations were made to the Kent Air Ambulance and the Teenage Cancer Trust, as chosen by the pupils, rather democratically in a vote! We had some extremely kind donations towards our 'bucket of booze' raffle, which was probably enough to have sunk a ship, and was very gratefully won.

Sotheby's conducted the pudding raffle after FOBS members had created all sorts of confectionery delights. Some of the proceeds made from the evening have already been spent on outdoor leisure equipment for pupils, including outdoor table football table, giant chess board and picnic tables. We are very keen to ensure that a leisure area is created to encourage pupils to enjoy the great outdoors and the beautiful rural setting of Bethany. Our hope is that the children will have a significant input to the content and design and we can't wait to see all of the ideas they come up with.

New events

Thankfully now that things are fully back to normal, we have a plethora of new events for 2023-24. We are looking forward to seeing lots of new and familiar faces. At Christmas we are running a wreath making session, with a mince pie and perhaps a glass of fizz. In the new year, we will be running our inaugural wine and cheese tasting evening. Our sommelier for the evening will help us taste and savour some local wines and compare them with new world wines, so we might even learn a thing or two. Spittoons are definitely optional.

Coffee mornings are something we are excited to have started up again. We appreciate it is hard especially when so many parents are working, but we hope that one each term will be well attended and give an opportunity for parents to meet.

All of our events are staffed by volunteers, most of whom are parents at the school. FOBS are a friendly bunch and would love to have even more mums and dads join us. Yes, dads are allowed too. We welcome not only volunteers but new ideas and even sponsorship. Sponsorship is something we have introduced this last academic year and parents of the school with



businesses have very kindly supported the cost of events such as the junior disco, meaning that all funds raised went to the charity of the children's choice. The upcoming disco of this year is kindly sponsored by Kimberley Levine of Great Hair and Beauty in Hoopers, Tunbridge Wells.

I personally would like to thank the committee for all the effort they have put in over the last academic year. It was my first year as a Bethany parent and somehow I got drawn in and ended up as Chair of FOBS, but I have to say it has been a thoroughly enjoyable time, with a brilliant bunch of people.

The School have supported us wholeheartedly and we can't wait to see lots of you around school and at the events. Please do reach out to us as we would love to hear from you.

Kate Foster,
FOBS Chair





Bethany School rated 'Excellent' in all areas in ISI inspection

Bethany was inspected by the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) in the first week of the 2023 summer term. This was a long overdue inspection and had it not been for Covid the School would have been inspected in January 2022.

The inspection was composed of two parts - a regulatory compliance inspection and an educational quality inspection. For the regulatory compliance inspection there are only binary judgements on all of the many Independent Schools Standards Regulations (ISSRs) namely pass or fail.

Bethany School is delighted to have passed all of these exacting standards and the inspectors verbally praised the School for the thoroughness of processes in all areas and highlighted recruitment of staff and safeguarding procedures as examples of best practice.

The second part of the inspection, the Educational Quality Inspection,

makes judgements on two other key outcomes of schools, namely the quality of the pupils' academic and other achievements and the quality of the pupils' personal development.

In each of these areas there are four possible judgements;

- Unsatisfactory
- Sound
- Good
- Excellent

Bethany was judged to be excellent in both of these key outcomes.

These judgements were the result of triangulated evidence obtained in the questionnaires sent to parents, pupils and staff, interviews with pupils, staff and governors, as well as what the inspectors observed in the classrooms.

Headmaster, Francie Healy said "Bethany is a community and great communities bring out the best in good people. The

Bethany community is full of lovely people and we are also very fortunate to have such an excellent board of governors.

As these are the highest judgements that can be obtained, Bethany is rightly delighted and proud of these terrific accolades. Of course, Bethany is a team composed of governors, staff, pupils and parents and without all of us working together in harmony this would not have been possible".

Inspections happen every three years, and therefore Bethany's next inspection is due in 2026. However, the format of the inspection process is changing, and a new inspection framework will be operational from September 2023.

Read the full ISI report on the Bethany School website.



"The quality of the pupils' academic and other achievements is excellent."

"Pupils have excellent attitudes to their learning."

"The quality of the pupils' personal development is excellent."



Construction begins on new Performing Arts Centre at Bethany

May 2023 saw the official commencement of construction of our new Performing Arts Centre, with Baxall Construction having been contracted to complete the works.

The highly anticipated development has been in the planning since 2016. Covid delayed matters, but the excitement within the Bethany community was palpable as the construction finally started.

Bethany School Headmaster, Francie Healy, said, "Bethany places pupils at the centre of everything we do so that they are able to become the best possible version of themselves. Pupils are preparing for careers which do not yet exist, so it is of paramount importance that we equip them for proactive adaptability. We want them to see opportunities before others, so that they can take full advantage of life's choices".

Director of Performing Arts, Alex Bolton, added, "We never cease to be amazed at the growth in confidence and self-esteem our pupils gain from performing.

We fervently believe everyone can develop and grow through their involvement in the Performing Arts".

Everyone at Bethany is eagerly watching the innovative building development, with expected completion in mid-2024.

Key features of our new Performing Arts Centre

- 214-seat theatre with full lighting rig and backstage area
- Dance studio
- Drama classroom
- Music centre with 6 practice rooms
- Mac suite - for composition and music tech
- Recording studio
- The design achieves economy by making use of existing facilities
- Commanding views across the campus and over the Weald



Old Bethanians' Society

Est. 1887

Dear Bethanians,

As we approach the end of another year, I find myself reflecting on the remarkable journey we have all been part of as members of the Old Bethanians' Society. Founded in 1887, our Society has been a bastion of camaraderie, connection, and collective memory for generations of alumni, and I am pleased to report that this tradition has continued to flourish in 2022-2023.

Our Annual Dinner on September 30, 2022, was an exceptional gathering that took place in the exquisite Graham Greene Room at Rules. With the senior prefect team in attendance, the evening was a living testament to the enduring relationship between past and present Bethanians. The atmosphere was congenial, the conversation stimulating, and the culinary experience — comprising excellent food and fine wines — was second to none. The evening offered a beautiful tableau of what makes our Society so special: the warmth and intellect of our community.

On a more sombre note, Eric Adler passed away in March 2023. Eric was a very active member of the society and a committed supporter of Bethany, never missing the annual reunion day. Upon his families request his ashes were scattered in the foundations of the new Performing Arts Centre. He is missed by all.

June 24, 2023, marked our Reunion Day and Annual General Meeting (AGM), held at the School. The occasion provided us with an invaluable opportunity to reminisce, reconnect, and recommit to the ethos of Bethany. We had a strong turnout, including alumni from different parts of the world, each contributing their unique perspectives to our ongoing narrative. The AGM allowed us to recap our successes and lay down plans for the coming year, including some exciting new initiatives that we will announce shortly.

Our relationship with the School is stronger than ever, and I must express my sincere gratitude to the Headmaster and Board of Governors for their unflagging support and involvement.

In the year ahead, we are planning to expand our activities, exploring new venues for social engagement. We're also focusing on digitising some aspects of our operations to make it easier for Bethanians around the world to stay connected. To those who have recently graduated and are wondering how to maintain your link with Bethany, the Old Bethanians' Society offers the perfect avenue. And to our longstanding members, we value your continued involvement and contributions. If you're interested in contributing to the committee or just want to learn more, please reach out to the Registrar.

With the festive season upon us, I extend my warmest wishes to you and your families.

Here's to another year of friendship, achievement, and the enduring spirit of Bethany.

Yours faithfully,
Frederick Carter
President 2020-2023

Prizes and Awards

★ The JJ Kendon Prize for Effort (Year 7) Martha Spruce

Special mentions: Matthew Clark, Hamish Henderson, Max Morgan and Jessica Stoneman

★ The JJ Kendon Prize for Effort (Year 8) Sophie Finnamore

Special mentions: Mia Castle, Oliver Finnamore, Beatrice Flanders and Charlie Matthews

★ The JJ Kendon Prize for Effort (Year 9) Lewis St Clair Bishop

Special mentions: Olivia James, Liam Lee, Zebedee Papworth and Ellie Turner

★ The JJ Kendon Prize for Effort (Year 10) James Duncombe

Special mentions: Aubrey Cassleton Elliott, Joshua Hughes, Samuel Kennedy and Lydia Veale

★ The JJ Kendon Prize for Effort (Year 11) Ophelia Charles

Special mentions: **Keeley Howells, Matthew Kiddell, Ella Smith and Lucy Shaw**

★ The Kilby Prize for Junior Art Summer Stewart-Welch

★ The Douglas Prize for Senior Art Beth Kuhepa

★ The Textiles Prize Arabella Charles

★ The Michael Williams Photography Cup and Prize Laura McGee

★ The Stobart Prize for Business Studies and Economics Ibukunoluwa Olagunju

★ The Hooper's Applied Business Studies and Finance Prize James Caney

★ The Maslins Young Enterprise Achiever of the Year Sebastian Clarke

★ The Notley Prize for Craft and Design Ophelia Charles

★ The Samuel Kendon Prize for Craft and Design Bertie Green

★ The Breach Prize for Innovation Alice Colman

★ The Food and Nutrition Prize Rachel Sherwood

★ The Turing Prize for Computer Science William Stoneham

★ The Roche Prize for Drama Jake Taylor

★ The Junior Drama Prize Charlie Eddy

Continued >>



★ **The Dance Prize**
Ella Smith

★ **The Chelmsford Hall Cup and Prize**
Keeley Howells

★ **The Helen Memorial Cup and Prize**
Ruben Ridgewell

★ **The McLaren English Prize**
Sophie Lumsden

★ **The Junior English Prize**
Lewis St Clair Bishop

★ **The Hunter Essay Prize**
William Parsons

★ **The Adler C.A.R.E Prize**
Lewis St Clair Bishop

★ **The Senior Media Prize**
Ethan Hill

★ **GCSE Media Prize**
Gwyn Rabbetts

★ **The EAL Prize**
Tsz Ho Lau

★ **The Michael Dalziel Geography Prize (GCSE)**
Lucy Shaw

★ **The Humphrey Maxwell Memorial Geography Prize for Excellence (A Level)**
Will Garner-Hutton

★ **The Royal Society of St George Junior History Prize**
Thibault Grub

★ **The Royal Society of St George Senior History Prize**
Ethan Hill

★ **The Alex Ward Memorial Prize for Politics**
Sean Cameron

★ **The Lord Stamp Memorial Prize for GCSE Mathematics**
Kim Lung

★ **The Lord Stamp Memorial Prize for A Level Mathematics**
Ibukunoluwa Olagunju

★ **The Mason Prize for Languages**
Will Taylor

★ **The James Hall Memorial Prize for RS (GCSE)**
Rebecca Martin

★ **The James Morrissey-Crouch Music Award**
Charlie Hinkley

James was a much-loved member of the School community here. He was gregarious, full of energy and humour and loved his rugby and his guitar. Whilst still in Year 11, he tragically died in a car accident. The award in James' memory is for 'Enthusiasm and Determination'.

★ **The Biology Prize for GCSE**
Gwyn Rabbetts

★ **The Biology Prize for A Level**
Arthur Cairns

★ **The Chemistry Prize for GCSE**
Alexander Matthews

★ **The Chemistry Prize for A Level**
Arthur Cairns

★ **The Physics Prize for GCSE**
Matthew Kiddell

★ **The Physics Prize for A Level**
Arthur Cairns

★ **The Stamper Prize**
Yui Ki Wong

★ **The Maynard Prize for the Best GCSEs**
Alex Boughton

★ **The Powell Cup for Junior Sportsman**
Noah Mund

★ **The Junior Sportswoman**
Mia Castle

★ **The Roy Farquarson Trophy for Senior Sportsman**
William Harby

★ **The Pippa Blackman Trophy for Excellence in Academic PE**
William Harby

★ **The Senior Sportswoman**
Beth Kuhepa

★ **The Richard Ashlin Prize**
Aubrey Cassleton Elliott

For a Middle School pupil who has shown kindness and thoughtfulness to others.

★ **The Robert Coupland Prize**
Cem Ucer

Robert lacked self-confidence when he first arrived at Bethany as a pupil. However, the supportive environment of the School enabled him to grow in confidence and be very successful in his School career and beyond. The Prize is awarded annually to a pupil who has made dramatic progress, socially and academically, during their time at the school.

★ **Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award**
Jolyon Bardoe-Pout, Alex Boughton, Samuel Dobson, Lily Fraser, Matthew Jones, David Kennedy, Lucas Marshall and Daniel Reilly

★ **The Fenech Cup**
Amaya Candappa

For a Sixth Form pupil who has shown kindness and consideration to younger pupils.

★ **The Alex Marks Trophy for Endeavour**
Alexander Clarke

Alex left Bethany School in 2006 and his parents have awarded this Trophy for a pupil who has shown an all round contribution to the life of the School over many years.

★ **The Timothy Sedgewick Cup**
Si Ip Chan & Hio Cheng Chan

Timothy was a very popular pupil at Bethany. He suffered from severe asthma and died after a particularly severe attack when he was only 12 years old. The Cup is awarded each year to a pupil who has shown tremendous courage in facing difficult circumstances.

★ **The Ross Turnbull Prize**
Charlotte Ensor

Ross left Bethany in 1990 after a very distinguished school career. He was outstanding academically, very hard working and enjoyed a very good circle of friends. He went off to Bristol University but was knocked off his bicycle whilst there and seriously injured. He never fully recovered his health and sadly he passed away. The Prize, first awarded in 2002, is for a pupil who has made an outstanding contribution to the School community throughout a long School career.

★ **The Jessel Shield for the Winning House**
Kiplings

★ **The William Ruzzak Memorial Prize the Deputy Head of School**
Ibukunoluwa Olagunju

★ **The Edward Hayward Memorial Prize the Heads of School**
Charlotte Ensor and Sophie Lumsden





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