



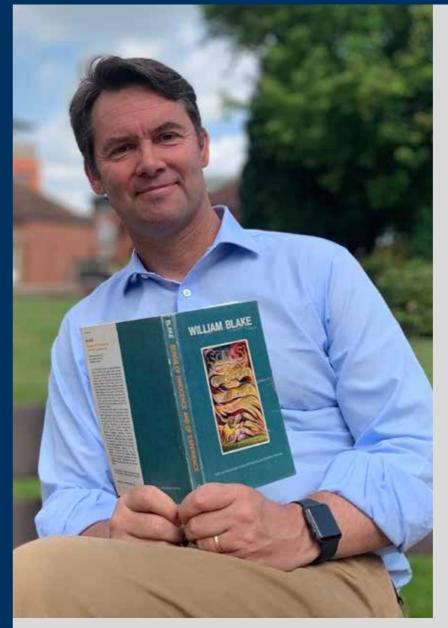


What a Term!









The Greyhound Interviews ... Mr Morgan, Head of the Senior School

How long have you worked in education and what do you enjoy most about your job?

The short answer is ... 30 years! I thought I'd try teaching for a year after graduating and gualifying – then fast forward a further 29! Working in education, every day is different, never scripted and full of surprises. The opportunity to play a role in helping young people on their current and onward journey is a really prized privilege.

If you didn't work in education, what career would you most want and why?

Most want to (though unrealistic!) ... a professional sportsman. Whilst neither are my strongest suit, I often think it must be great to be a professional golfer or tennis player (though I do not underestimate the challenges that those successful and less-so, have to endure). The opportunity to travel the world earning a good living from competing at the highest level in incredible venues across the globe must be amazing. At the point my notional professional sporting career comes to an end, I would then become a food and travel writer (allowing me to combine my interest in cooking and travelling in one fell swoop!), whilst ensuring that I actively support a local, national and international charity.

What do you like doing outside of school?

Spending time with friends and family is very important to me, not least my wife, Rachel and our two Old Silhillian sons living in London and Hong Kong. I also enjoy cycling, playing golf, walking and watching sport of any description. Foreign travel is a real passion; learning about other cultures and their culinary delights has always enthused me. Indulging in thought-provoking podcasts is also a relatively recently acquired but enjoyable pastime.

What's your favourite book of all time?

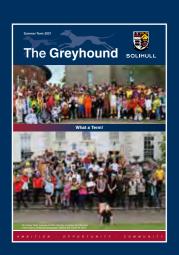
If allowed, I'll go with a collection of illustrated poems: William Blake's Songs of Innocence and Experience. Everyone is a winner and each had a profound impact on me in my younger years and continue to do so, to this day. A novel – I'll go with George Orwell's Animal Farm. There are so many lessons to be learned from each, and the content is as relevant today as it was when they were written and compiled.

Who would be at your fantasy dinner party?

A tough one. I'm going with a table for 12: Brian Clough, Margaret Thatcher, Michael Jordan, Michael Atherton, Judie Tzuke, Keith Floyd, Morgan Freeman, Captain Robert Scott (of the Antarctic), Barack and Michelle Obama, Steve McQueen and Ebony Rainford-Brent. I'd have to give the seating plan a bit of thought, though there should be plenty to talk about!

What would you take to a desert island?

A fishing rod, a 6 iron (and daily supply of balls!), the complete Simon Mundie podcast collection (which uses sport to explore life's bigger questions) and a magic wand!



Summer Term 2021 The Greyhound



Cotswold Way Challenge

Members of 'Team Solihull' participated in the Cotswold Way Challenge on Saturday 26 June, walking 53Km in one day. The group, which included Solihull pupils and staff, past and present, signed up to the initiative to raise money to save the sight of Sri Lanka's poorest people by funding Cataract Camps with the support of two incredible charities, Assist RR UK and IMHO USA. The 18 strong team started the hilly trek at 8.40am and completed the challenge some 16 hours later, just after midnight.

Mr Penney said: "This special group of people achieved something extraordinary! Whilst the event was physically challenging the camaraderie and positivity from 'Team Solihull' was incredible. We've raised over £20,000, which is truly amazing. Thanks to all for your generosity and support."

Stop press...

Between the Solihull School UK Virgin Money Giving page, our IMHO fundraising page and their very generous \$20,000 pledge matching, our Prep School Charity Week and Old Silhillian Harry Morgan's individual fundraising page, we raised over £60,000.



Thank you – on the back of your generosity, we will be able to provide sight saving surgeries for over 2,000 of Sri Lanka's poorest people.

Generous Josh!

J4 pupil Josh showed spectacular support for our unwanted spectacles appeal, that formed part of our Prep School Charity Week which ran from 7 -11 June.

In addition to collecting items at home, Josh shared the request on a neighbourhood Facebook page and displayed a poster in

his Grannie's retirement complex. He received a fantastic response from the local community. Josh also reached out to family members which has resulted in kindness from a stranger! A worker in the post office asked what was inside one of the packages on its way to Josh, when the sender explained, the member of staff wanted to get involved too. Thank you for your generosity, Barnet Road Post Office. Josh donated over 100 pairs of glasses and his success story heard him 'go live' on the BBC Radio WM Breakfast Show, talking about his charity activities.



48 miles in 48 hours

In April, Yann and Tom undertook a charity running challenge to raise funds for the Oscar Montgomery Environmental Foundation and Raleigh International. The Upper Sixth students ran 48 miles in 48 hours, completing four miles, every four hours for two days. An amazing achievement, you should be very proud, and congratulations both on smashing your crowdfunding target!



Charity Chops!

This term, three inspiration girls chose to undergo a hairstyle change for charity - having more than 20 inches cut from their locks!

Evie in Nursery, Ruby in J2 and Shell Form pupil Zara all underwent the transformation from long to bob to raise funds for the Little Princess Trust, an organisation that provides free, real-hair wigs to young people experiencing hair loss as a result of cancer treatment and other medical conditions. Evie said: "If children don't have hair they are still beautiful. I really hope my hair makes someone happy." How wonderful, and so true!



Deaf Awareness Week (4 – 9 May)

We were proud to bring our attention to the concept of hidden disabilities and to take the time to focus on the difficulties for people with hearing impairments - a problem for young people with so much time using headphones for music and gaming. The Equity Group highlighted in particular the additional challenges that facemasks pose for those who normally lip-read to assist their understanding. Lower Sixth student Hannah, who, is studying British Sign Language and learning to sign as part of her Sixth Form Enrichment Programme, shared her sign language skills with the Headmaster and Mr Morgan, inviting them to practice some greetings using hand gestures, facial expressions and body language. Great tips and awareness raised for our pupils and staff.

Equity Group

As the pupils continued in their learning throughout the school on subjects around equality, diversity and inclusion, the numbers joining our Equity Group have continued to swell. Now with a team of 52 pupils all dedicated to a fairer world, they maintain a powerful voice for change, education and awareness in the school. Watch out for some exciting initiatives coming in September!



Relationships and Sex Education Training

This term, we were thrilled to welcome back our fabulous partners from Umbrella, Solihull's Sexual Health Service, as we enjoyed a visit from Michelle and her team of nurses, who had been deployed to support the NHS during the pandemic. Research shows that young people take in important messages from people closer to their own age, so we decided to enlist our aspiring Sixth Form Medics to take the lead on a new initiative – and they rose to the challenge. Learning how to co-facilitate lessons on contraception with staff for the first time means that, when we are back in the swing of things, they will join teachers in delivering essential lessons in keeping safe and well.







Mental Health Awareness Week 2021

The theme of Mental Health Awareness Week this year was 'Nature' and, at Solihull, we focussed on the importance of nature and our wellbeing. Pupils embraced the activities with enthusiasm, sharing happy moments of being close to nature and showing that exploring the world around us can provide a natural lift and contribute to ensuring mental wellness. We can't wait to see what next year's theme will be, but we know that it will be another positive time to reflect on mental health

As part of our in school activities, staff were invited to take part in a lunchtime bulb planting session. The fabulous freesias are now in bloom!





Mindfulness and Resiliency – Parent Courses

20% of the Wellbeing and Personal Development curriculum includes learning about staying in the moment and using grounding skills to manage life's twists and turns. Excitingly, Mrs Rooney delivered the first in a now regular 8-week course in Mindfulness for Parents. In addition, as the academic year drew to a close, another enthusiastic group of parents completed training in Understanding Resiliency for Parents and Families, gaining some useful tips and strategies for a thriving and flourishing way of life.

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Pride Day (Thursday 24 June)

For the first time in its history, after an outstanding representation to the Headmaster, the Progress Pride Flag flew on the Warwick Road campus – an important moment of acknowledgement for some members of our community. The celebration of diversity continued with pupils and staff wearing bright coloured clothing and the Equity Group organising popup stalls and selling rainbow items fundraising for Centrepoint, a leading charity supporting homeless young people. Our outstanding catering team also marked Pride Day by creating this superb cake.











Inclusion and Equality

We are delighted to be working with Dr Funke Abimbola MBE as we look at how to deepen our culture of inclusion. Funke has been invited by the Headmaster to lead a comprehensive change programme that will support and enhance the school's commitment to equality. At the beginning of July, Funke met with members of our School Leadership Team and will be presenting to students, staff, parents and alumni at the beginning of the 2021/2022 academic year.

Empathy Day

To mark Empathy Day on 10 June Mrs Vaughan created a book recommendation wall in Kent Library to showcase some titles focussing on the ability to understand and share the feelings of another.

Girl Up Solihull

Well done to Upper Fifth pupil, Itunu, who came first in the Girl Up Solihull International Women's Day 'Choose to Challenge' poster competition. Itunu's colourful creation, which features inspiring quotes from well-known women, was selected as the winning design by Lower Sixth student Emma, who leads Girl Up Solihull.

On 15 June, Lower Sixth students held a fundraising 'bake sale' on our Warwick Road campus. Staff and pupils (in year group bubbles) were invited to visit the Level during allocated time slots to purchase sweet treats to support UN Foundation charity, Girl Up. Well done on a successful sale which raised £196 for Girl Up's work with UNESCO and UNHCR. Our contribution is enough to educate 11 refugee girls in developing countries for a year.

Welcome Video

Thanks to Third Form pupils James and Lana; Shell Form pupils Isaac and Millie and Fourth Form pupils Yichen and Afonso for their involvement in our Lower School welcome video. The boys and girls, assisted by Mrs Brown and Dr Jukes, provided a walkabout insight into our Warwick Road campus, allowing our incoming Third Form to enjoy a virtual visit to school. Super presenting skills from all.





Debating Club

One of the propositions in this term's Third Form Debating Club led by Raphael and Taneesha, was on the subject: *This House would only allow vaccinated children to attend school.* Well done to both pupils on their excellent speaking skills, and congratulations to the opposition, Clementine and Shreya, who impressed the audience with their address, and won the debating session by just one vote.



Celebratory Ice Creams!

Before the half term break, Lower School pupils enjoyed ice creams to celebrate a great start to the summer term and the end of exam week.

Chess Success

Congratulations to Rohan in Third Form and Rhea in J2 on their summer term chess success. On 12 April, at Cheney School, Oxford, the siblings competed in the first over the board chess tournament post lockdown, adhering to government guidelines as a supervised children's activity. Well done to both on their trophy achievements.





Tidy Third Form

To celebrate the Keep Britain Tidy 'Great British Spring Clean' initiative, our Third Form pupils engaged in tutor time activities and a poster competition. Congratulations to all entrants, especially our winners Clementine, Sophia and Taneesha.





Lower School Council

Head of Lower School, Mr Gledhill, has led socially distanced lunchtime Council meetings outside this term. In the sessions, representatives from the Third Form, Shell Form and Fourth Form shared ideas covering topics such as catering, maintenance, co-curricular activities and school spaces.



Girls' Rugby Club

Fourth Form pupils have been participating in our first Girls' Rugby club. Led by Mr Hifle and Mr Gledhill, with some Upper Sixth assistants, the group enjoyed fun introductory sessions on our Warwick Road campus.



Bonjour France!

In June, Shell Form French groups commenced speaking sessions with our assistante, Mme Lacote. The pupils practiced their vocabulary ahead of French breakfasts which they enjoyed in the Refectory the following week.







Lower School Diploma

On Tuesday 22 June, Fourth Form pupils set up stands in the George Hill Building and presented their Lower School Diploma displays to staff and peers. From 'The Art of Making Port' and a food waste machine to music and charity initiatives, the boys and girls had clearly worked very hard to create interesting and informative individual projects.



Gourmet Greek

Dr Foster rounded off two intense years of off timetable Greek by rewarding the pupils in her GCSE class with a cooking session. A fabulous afternoon of foodie fun, with prizes presented for the best dishes.









RS Escape Room

Our Upper Sixth RS groups have been participating in a series of devilishly difficult Escape Room revision challenges with each one completed successfully revealing part of a code. The students then worked together in pairs for a final task. Commendable code cracking from the winners India, Eva, Jake, Henry, Reiss, Harrison, Freya and Ellie.



Science and Engineering Club

Our Science and Engineering Club has continued for pupils in the Lower Fifth Form bubble. At the start of the term, the group worked on their Technical Lego Engineering, before taking a pause from these projects to commence the end of year bridge building challenge – which they destructively tested just before the break!



Law Group

Paul McConnell, Director of Careers and Employability at Birmingham Law School, spoke to our Lower Sixth Law Group about the changing routes into the legal profession. Our students embraced the session, where they also had the opportunity to ask questions, discuss experiences and chat informally with a current undergraduate at the University of Birmingham.



Dance Showcase

On 28 June, the Dance department held their annual showcase, this year remotely at the SMArt centre. The event included a range of solos choreographed by our Fourth Form, Lower Fifth and Upper Fifth pupils and group bubbled numbers were performed by pupils from Third Form through to Upper Fifth Form. Despite restrictions impacting live events, Dance has continued, and it was therefore important to ensure that our boys and girls had an opportunity to present some of their hard work from this academic year.



Design Technology Skills

Lower Sixth students have been adding the finishing touches to their Design Technology projects, demonstrating outstanding graphic design techniques and skilled use of the laser cutter. This Solihull scooter is looking superb!

Philosophy and Ethics Club

Every Tuesday lunchtime, the Philosophy and Ethics Club have met to discuss ethical issues and current events, and debate on these subjects in preparation for the John Stuart Mill Cup, hosted by St Andrews University. The first round of the John Stuart Mill Cup took place on Thursday 22 April, and concluded with the team finishing second, thus progressing through to the National Finals on Wednesday 16 June. The final day featured a myriad of debates on the banning of private schools, the repatriation of foreign fighters, public nudity, and campus no-platforming, just to name a few. Unfortunately, the day of the finals the Lower Sixth students were at home, so the event took place on *Teams*. Participants discussed issues such as whether COVID vaccines should be mandatory as well as the ethical debate around statues, such as that of Edward Colston. Despite the difficulties of debating online, everyone was enthusiastic and considered both sides of the argument. The students would like to thank Mrs Thacker for all her help and enthusiasm this term.



Food and Nutrition

Pasta, kebabs, cakes, burgers, sporting suppers and snacks, pupils have been working on a variety of skills and techniques in Food and Nutrition during the summer term.







Cook-along with Mumbai

Before half term, Fourth Form and Lower Fifth pupils were involved a live link up 'cook-along' with our partner school in Mumbai. Mrs Massarella followed a method to make Oreo bread pudding and Oreo balls, two tasty treats that don't require baking, so are perfect for the hot Indian weather. The boys and girls really enjoyed sampling the desserts and are now looking forward to working on more exciting projects via our Connecting Classrooms Grant from British Council to support work with schools in India and Nepal.





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Maths Cake Club

We've seen and sampled some absolute corkers in Senior School Maths Cake Club including Isaac's spectacular 'Calculus Cake', Freddie's 'Enigma Machine' creation and Will's 'Golden Ratio' brownie. Brilliant baking, boys.



Star Wars Day

Continuing the cake theme ... we were treated to a stunning display in the Refectory for Star Wars Day (May the Fourth).









Headmaster's Birthday Celebrations

Themes for the Third Form Headmaster's birthday celebrations this term have included superheros, sandcastles and summer holidays. Thanks to our catering team for their creativity and to Mr Gledhill, Mr Davies and Mrs Brown for their bingo calling skills!



Biology Challenge 2021

All our Lower Fifth pupils entered the international Royal Society of Biology Challenge this term. 26,828 students from 348 schools worldwide took part in this year's competition. 57% of our pupils gained awards: one gold, eight silver, 15 bronze, 16 highly commended and 22 commended awards. Our highest scoring student was Laavunya who achieved a gold and placed herself in the top 5% of all entrants, well done! Congratulations also go to Sophie, Josh, Noah, Will, Joely, Amber, Frankie and Tom who all gained a silver award (top 15%).



Biology Olympiad 2021

Our Lower Sixth students took part in the Royal Society of Biology Olympiad. 8,873 students from 449 schools worldwide entered in this year's competition. 23 out of our 42 (55%) pupils achieved awards success: two gold, six silver, six bronze, five highly commended and four commended. Our gold winners were Emma and Joshua, placing themselves in the top 5% of all entrants. Congratulations also go to Katy, Alaric, Thomas, Aaliyah, Grace and Rachel who all came in the top 15% of entrants and secured a silver.

Warwick Group Lower Sixth Biology Essay Writing Competition

The annual Warwick Group Biology essay competition took place during the summer term with students from the Warwick Group Schools (Bablake, KES, King Henry VIII, Leicester Grammar School, Loughborough Grammar, Nottingham High School, Warwick Foundation Schools & Wolverhampton Grammar) competing. The competition requires Lower Sixth students to independently research an area of Biology that is beyond the A Level specification and a topic that is of personal interest to them. The best two entries from each school are submitted for the final round and the overall winner is decided by the Heads of Biology of all participating schools. This year our two entries were by Emma who submitted an essay entitled 'Could epigenetics and nutrition be used in preventative medicine to reduce the risk of disease?' and Daniel with his piece 'Why do blue-footed boobies have blue feet ... and why don't I?'. We are delighted to announce that for the second year in succession a pupil from Solihull won the competition with Daniel taking first and securing £150 prize money. A copy of Daniel's winning essay can be found on the Colloquium Teams page. Well done, Daniel!



Art Workshops

The Art department has enjoyed two studio sessions with Nick Logan, one in early May and a second in June. In May, the local artist spent the day working with our Lower Sixth Artists, providing demonstrations, advice and guidance to help the students further develop their painting skills. In June, as part of their GCSE course, Nick visited to assist our Lower Fifth Artists, demonstrating painting techniques in a 'skulls' still life workshop.



Heavy Weather

Lower Sixth students Hiba and Ellie created an outstanding production of Heavy Weather, a play about climate change. The show was directed by Hiba and production/stage managed by Ellie, with Lower Fifth pupils taking part in the performances, watched by a socially distanced audience.





Eco Club

Just before the end of the summer term, Eco Club pupils visited the garden to pull up the potatoes that they sowed in the Easter term. The Third Form girls were presented with a bumper crop to take home, and Mrs Fair located some garlic bulbs from a previous planting session!



The girls demonstrated commitment, patience, positivity and enthusiasm, as they embraced their important roles in overseeing the project, which was part of their Gold Art Award.

German Poetry

In May, Shell Form and Fourth Form pupils were involved in a national German poetry recital competition run by Radley College. Mrs Stout, Mr Morgan and Mr Dowsett judged the entries, which were performed from memory and explained in German, and chose a Solihull champion to go through to the national final. This year's activities were all held virtually so the winning piece will be recorded and distributed to be viewed by the German poetry recital panel in Berlin.



Globe Theatre

As part of their Shakespeare project, Third Form pupils researched the Globe Theatre and were tasked with making a model of the most famous theatre in the world.

The boys are girls really rose to the challenge with creations constructed from clay, cardboard, skewers, wood and even cake. The standard of each entry made the Headmaster and Mr Morgan's judging job a tricky one!

Well done to all for very imaginative work, including some outstanding models presented online, and congratulations to IIIAL winner Ziqi. Her replica of the theatre really blew the judges away, the innovative coconut husk roof and the intricate interior were particularly impressive. IIIAL runners up were Josh and Surya, IIILe winner was Isaac and runners up were Toby, Niha and Cameron.

Summer Term 2021 The Greyhound



House Chess

The sun shone on the Quad for Third Form House Chess as pupils enjoyed timed competitive matches. Great team play from all involved, and congratulations to winners Fetherston.





House Football

This term, the students in our Lower Sixth Qualification in Community Sport Leadership (QCSL) Enrichment Group organised a very successful Third Form House Football Competition. Each House entered four teams of boys and girls, with 146 pupils taking part and 21 Lower Sixth students running the event.



House 5K

Our annual House 5K took place on Tuesday 29 June. Well done to first placed boy Ollie (Windsor) and joint first girls: Mollie (Windsor) and Bea (Pole).









Thank a Teacher Day

We're grateful of our teachers every day, but, on Wednesday 23 June, we said a special a thank you to our teachers, marking Thank a Teacher Day with a big thumbs up from our pupils.

Vaccination Volunteer

Upper Sixth student Aimee and her Mum have undertaken and completed training enabling them to provide COVID vaccinations. Since January, Aimee has been administering the Pfizer and Astra-Zeneca vaccines and, as part of a volunteer team, visiting people in her local BAME community to share knowledge and speak with the vulnerable and misinformed. On one day, Aimee and her Mum injected around 250 people who had previously refused the vaccine. Aimee said: "It's been amazing to be involved in the country's important vaccination programme."



Creative Chefs in the Cooper Café!

A new menu has been launched in our Sixth Form Cooper Café, including this sensational brunch dish: Avocado, chilli, lime, toasted muffin, poached eggs and hollandaise. Wow! Roll on September.



OROYAL AIR FORCE







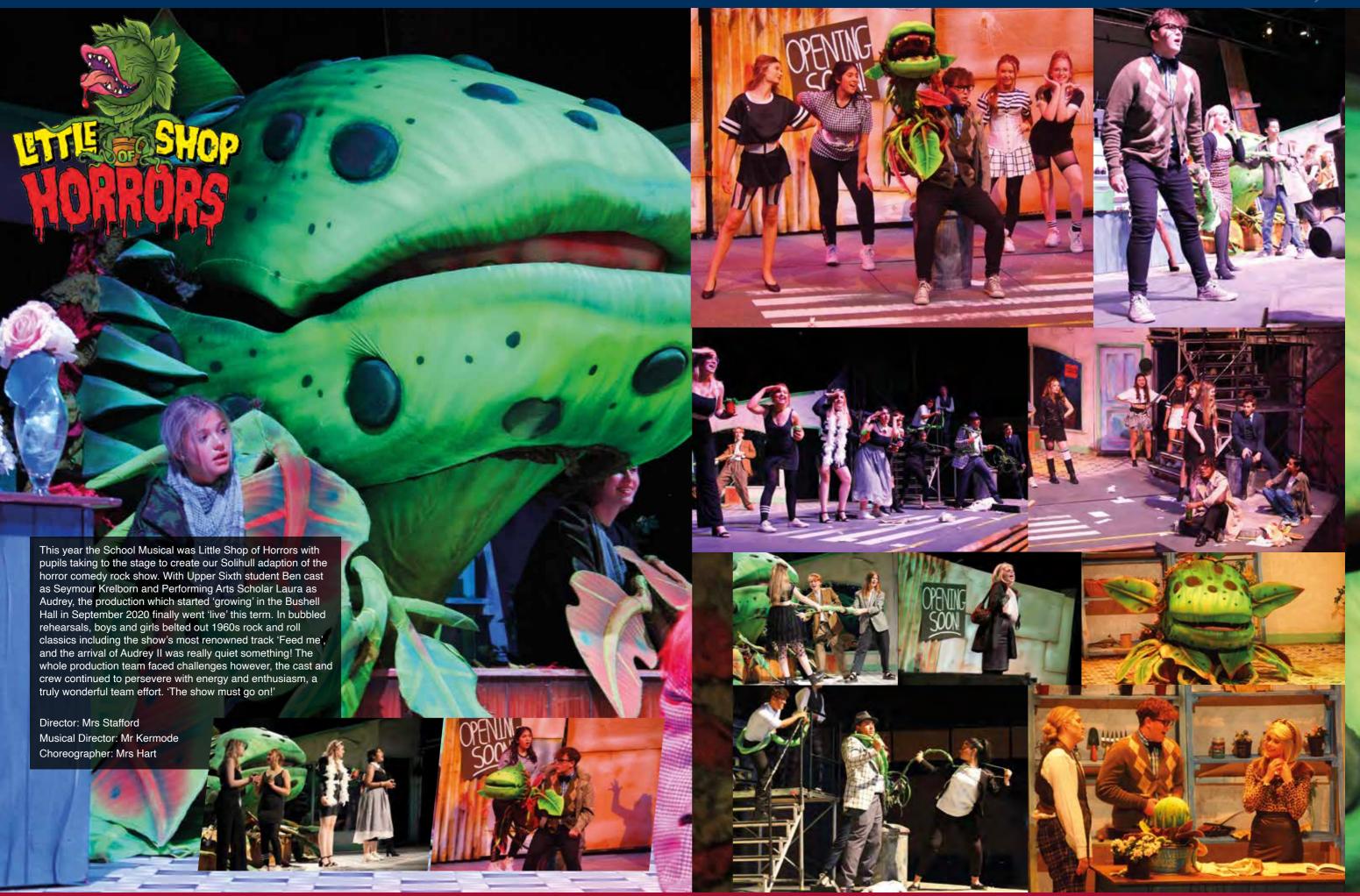


RAF Section

On Sunday 4th July, the RAF section went on a gliding trip to RAF Little Risslington in Gloucestershire. The five of us, led by Mr Chillcott, had a unique and thrilling experience there. Arriving initially greeted by low cloud, any doubts we had quickly faded as went straight to the tarmac to help run a slick ground operation, along with dozens of RAF airmen and over 20 cadets from other schools. Gliding was certainly a new experience for us all, and admittedly one which was very different from powered flying. As our cadets attached the aircraft to winches, pushed them along during take-off and recovered them from landing, their anticipation to fly only grew stronger. The aircraft, pulled along by a winch, accelerated at remarkable speed and engaged in a near vertical climb for close to 30 seconds. It really was the closest we had ever got to flying a front-line fighter jet. It was not long before we flew, being propelled to 60 miles an hour in under two seconds as the aircraft left the ground, before being pushed back into our seats as we climbed. Being handed control of the aircraft themselves, all our cadets earned their blue wings, having learnt the basic principles of flight. A huge well done to Shriya, Hermione, Laavunya and Luca for earning these. Overall it was an excellent experience and serves as just one of many examples of what the RAF section at Solihull can do.

Luca, Lower Sixth







Informal Concerts

As we have been in school throughout this term, it has been wonderful to be able to continue our weekly series of live Informal Concerts on both Prep and Senior campuses. Each Monday or Tuesday concert was given by and to pupils from an individual year group, and the recordings made available through the Informal Concert *Team* at the end of the week as the 'Friday at 4'. These events have provided a welcome moment of live performance, as well as excellent experience in the art of preparing and 'going live', including coping with nerves. A huge thank you to all pupils involved in brightening our weeks with their lovely music making.

Music Performance Exams

Once again, many pupils have been preparing for exams on their instrument or voice. Towards the end of term we were able to hold some exams in person with a visiting examiner, but for many it has involved recording their pieces for submission. The amount of individual practice and motivation required to prepare for these should never be underestimated and our congratulations go to all. This is balanced by our thanks to all the instrumental staff for their encouragement and guidance, as well as the essential role played by Mrs Baumber, our indefatigable Administrator who has managed the juggling act of exams entries, timetables and recordings – and all often in a rapidly changing set of circumstances and availability. As ever, a significant proportion of pupils achieved either merit or distinction level – bravo!









Head Chorister

Congratulations to Shell Form pupil Matthew who has been appointed Head Chorister at Birmingham Cathedral. A wonderful achievement



National Schools' Symphony Orchestra

This year we had nine pupils who auditioned for the National Schools' Symphony Orchestra. As with many national organisations, the standard required to gain a place (following auditions) is very high. We were thrilled, therefore, to hear of successes for 'our' nine, all of whom were offered a place on the orchestra's residential course this summer. However, as has been the case for many things this year, the reality of the course has been cut short by the pandemic and, sadly, cannot take place – a real shame for the pupils concerned. Nevertheless, many congratulations to the following for having achieved the high standard required: in the Prep School: Daisy; Bella; Isabella; Yoyo; Leon; Max; in the Senior School: Raphael; Ziqi and Jingtong.



Festival Success

Congratulations go to Lower Fifth pupil Katy for tremendous successes in the Richmond Music Festival, which accepted recorded entries only this year. In all four classes entered (two on clarinet and two on cello) Katy achieved Distinctions. Katy is soon to take her Diploma exam on the cello – she is always on the go musically!





Virtual Summer Concerts

Whilst it has been lovely to hold some live Informal Concerts for soloists this term it has now been over 18 months since we last had a live concert for our ensembles. This means that pupils who have joined Solihull this year they are still yet to experience the thrill of live ensemble performance in front of an audience. It will be so nice when we can do this again in the future!

However, throughout the year (when we have been in school!), ensemble rehearsals have not stopped but adapted to relevant bubbling and social distancing requirements. As was the case with the Senior School 'St Cecilia' and Prep School 'Christmas' concerts back in December, it has also meant that some groups are much smaller in nature than they would normally have been, and some larger or cross-year group ensembles have just not been possible.

That being said, all the groups in the Prep and Senior Summer Concerts were busy in the final few weeks or term recording their pieces and the resulting virtual concerts gave us a snap shot of their work, with a lovely array of ensembles and repertoire.

In the Prep we heard music from: four year group choirs, two Wind Bands, J3 Flute ensemble, Piano Trio, J4 Violin Ensemble, String Quartet and J3 String Orchestra. In addition, we had 16 soloists.

In the Senior Summer Concert we enjoyed items from: a Sixth Form brass group; two choirs; Saxophony; a Clarinet quartet; music for 2 clarinets & piano and music for 3 cellos and piano; two Piano duets; String Orchestra; Thirds' Orchestra and also two exciting pieces for multiple pianos – one for 4 pianos and one for 6. These would not normally be realistic in a live concert but, due to the recorded nature, we were able to move (with the help of the Porters) the pianos together into the foyer corridor of the Music School – quite a sight, and quite a sound. What a real treat all this music making had been and we do hope that you will be able to watch the concerts online.

hope that you will be able to watch the concerts online. Details of the web links were shared with families at the end of term.











Terriers

Our Third Form Terriers have been busy this summer term – getting wet during canoe practice in the swimming pool and when the heavens opened during many of their Thursday sessions! In addition, Terriers have been tackling tents, map work and knots, all important life skills ... and embraced a wonderful week at Woodlands.































Prep School Head Boy and Head Girl

Thanks to our Prep School Head Boy and Head Girl for the summer term, Josh and Prisha. Josh enjoys Geography lessons because he finds it fascinating learning about different cultures and natural disasters, and his favourite school lunch is beef burgers. Prisha is in J4RM and she has been a pupil at Solihull since J1. The co-curricular club Prisha likes most is Striking and Fielding, because she loves playing rounders and cricket, and this activity is a combination of both of these sports. Congratulations on completing such important Prep School roles, Josh and Prisha.



Mighty Oaks from Little Acorns Grow

J2 pupil Gurleen and Diya in I2 were invited to plant a sapling on the Saint Martin's campus to mark the opening of the Prep School. In the Christmas term, Gurleen and Diya won a 'Snap Scuffle and Twitch' photography competition and, as part of their prize, the girls joined Head Groundsman, Andy Johnson, to assist in a commemorative planting ceremony. The Headmaster David EJJ Lloyd and Head of the Prep School, Mr Penney, were also present for the occasion.



Junior School Council

Junior School Council representatives from J1 to J4 met Mrs Inglis at the start of term for their first 'face to face' meeting. The pupils gathered outside, socially distanced in their bubbles, to discuss a variety of topics from school lunches, tuck and recycling to sports equipment, class pets and summer uniform. Thanks to all the boys and girls for their ideas and contributions.



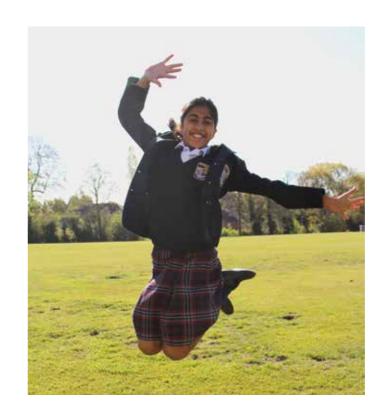
Junior School Monitors

This term, J4G pupils handed over their Monitor duties to Mrs Morgan's Form. In assembly, the boys and girls in J4RM shared details of their roles and responsibilities for the summer term, including overseeing corridors, clearing spaces and ensuring electrical equipment is charged and available.



Anderson Shelters

These wonderful WWII Anderson Shelters were constructed by creative J4 pupils at the end of the Easter term. Fulfilling a brief set in their History lessons, the boys and girls were very resourceful in the building of their shelters, utilising a variety of materials and showing incredible observation skills. A selection of the models are currently on display in Malvern Hall on our Saint Martin's campus. Great work, J4.



Prep School Prime Minister

In May we welcomed nominations for our Prep School Prime Minister, and our five J4 Election Candidates were chosen as: Amelia, J4D; Anaiya, J4S; Keira, J4RM; Ria, J4SM and Roman, J4G. Pledges included a 'Happy Hut', prioritising our planet and freedom, but it was the Prep School Olympics that swung the vote and won the Election for Anaiya, who was crowned our Prime Minister on 6 May. Congratulations, Anaiya.



Uniform Donations for Malawi

More than 4,500 pieces of Saint Martin's school uniform were donated to The Birmingham Diocese Malawi Partnership for despatch to families in Northern Malawi. J3 pupils Amelia, Lily, Delphine, Georgia and Ariella helped to sort and package the clothing, which comprised items collected by parents and Saint Martin's PA stock. Thanks to all for their involvement in this fantastic initiative. The huge selection of blazers, jumpers, cardigans, blouses and sports kit left the UK on 12 June and will be put to good sustainable use overseas. A full set of uniform has been added to the Saint Martin's Old Girls Association archives.









Charity Week Extravaganza

Our Prep School Charity Week ran from 7 – 11 June, five full days of fundraising activities including a Book Sale, Tuck Shop, Dog Agility, Cinema, Disco, Photobooth, Anaiya's Mini Olympics, Non-Uniform Day and Talent Show. We also collected 2p, 5p and 10p coins every day and requested donations of old and unwanted spectacles.

The Saint Martin's campus was buzzing with excitement as pupils from Nursery to J4 took part in the many fun events, resulting in over £9,300 being raised for to save the sight of over a thousand of Sri Lanka's poorest people by funding Cataract Camps with the support of two charities, Assist RR UK and IMHO USA.

Outside of school, Viaan in I1P set up stall at his home to undertake a plant sale. Well done Viaan, a wonderful initiative and a very kind gesture.

Finley in I2 and his sister Lily in Nursery also went the extra mile for Charity Week, with their driveway lemonade and sweetie stand.











































Charity Week Competitions

Well done to the winners of our Alice House Prep School Charity Week competitions.

Some wonderful colouring from KS1 pupils and super guessing in the sweet jar, name the teddy and teacher baby photo games. Fundraising fun.





J4 Bikeability

In May, J4 pupils undertook a week of Bikeability activities, learning important cycling skills.



Virtual Visit to Egypt

J1 and J2 pupils enjoyed learning about Ancient Egypt in virtual reality sessions. The exciting experiences, led by Prime VR, saw boys and girls using headsets to sightsee around the country in northeastern Africa. The 'visit' included building the pyramids, viewing inside a tomb, travelling down the Nile, and learning about Egyptian religion and rulers of Egypt.

Award-winning Poetry

Congratulations to J3 pupil Myra whose poem 'The Final Journal' was selected as one of the winning competition entries in the 5 - 10 age category of the Stratford Literary Festival. Myra's poem is published in the 2021 Young Poets Collection.





STEM Club

J1 pupils have been busy in Mrs Middleton and Mrs Bernamont's summer STEM Club. One week the boys and girls collected nature to create a giant picture of Scuffle, one of the Prep School mascots and, in the next session, the children made musical wind chimes. Wonderful work.





Science Sketchings

In Science, J3 pupils have been learning about pollination, fertilisation, seeds and fruit. In a lesson with Mrs Inglis, the boys and girls dissected fruits before discussing and sketching their findings.



J1 pupils took part in a team building den making session in Forest School.







Riding Success

Junior School pupils Issie and Kitty enjoyed rosette success in the recent South Staffs Horse Show. Their brother, Charlie, who is in I1 at the Prep School, is also a member of the Pony Club and is looking forward to taking part in the next competitive riding event.





Insect Art

In Art, J3 pupils have been creating paper mache insects. Bees, butterflies and ladybirds are just some of the creatures constructed in J3F.



HSBC Rugby Counts

Pupils in J1 have been participating in an innovative new initiative, HSBC Rugby Counts - a six week programme which combines classroom based financial literacy lessons with follow-up related rugby sessions in PE. Solihull was selected as a lead school for the pilot scheme, and we are looking forward to a special guest sporting visitor next term!









Emergency Learning in EYFS

Our EYFS pupils in Nursery and Reception pupils learnt about the emergency services in the first half of the summer term, covering topics including calling 999, crimes scenes, illness and injury. The boys and girls have also enjoyed visits from some of our Prep School parents, who shared details of their important jobs and the work they do as a doctor, police officer and firefighter. Thanks to Dr Uppal, DC Masters and Mr Causon for their time.

To end the half term, Culinary Lead, Mr Woodward and the catering team provided a tasty themed lunch and super creative cake.



Faces in Forest School!

Mrs Dickin led a fantastic natural art Forest School session for our Nursery pupils. The boys and girls made clay faces on the trees before adding features created from foraged materials including twigs, leaves, acorns and stones.



Little Red Riding Hood

In English lessons, Miss Hicks' I2 pupils have been learning about play scripts and the boys and girls got into character to perform Little Red Riding Hood.



Cinco de Mayo

On 5 May, pupils and staff at the Prep School celebrated Cinco de Mayo, also known as Battle of Puebla Day, with a Mexican themed lunch.



I1 Medieval Banquet

I1 pupils finished their Kings and Queens History topic with a magnificent medieval banquet. However, rather than a traditional luxury meal of wild boar and wine, boys and girls enjoyed sandwiches, crisps and jam tarts! The children have loved learning about past Kings and Queens as well as Queen Elizabeth II.



The Creators of The Crocolion Code

Mr Grove, Mr Johnson and Mr Stafford, who all work at the Prep School combined their individual skills and worked together on The Crocolion Code – a story about friendship which centres around a character called Chris' birthday. Chris is a Crocolion – half crocodile, half lion – and the ending is a happy, positive one, concluding that the best things in life really are free.

The idea originated from Junior School teacher, Mr Grove, he shared some of the character details with Mr Johnson who mentioned that he enjoyed drawing and that he'd be happy to help with some sketches. The pair then spoke with Mr Stafford who is a trained and fully-qualified actor, about bringing the story to life and he narrated a digital version to share with friends, family and the Solihull community.

The talented trio are now looking at publishing opportunities and would love to work together on a follow up title.



Learning about Life Cycles

Srishti in I2 has been helping to look after Mr Walker's class tadpoles, feeding them fresh lettuce and keeping the water clean. The pupils will release them when they turn into froglets.

Boss your Feelings!

Reception pupils learnt 'how to be the boss of their feelings' and boys and girls were asked to go on a 'good mood hunt' at home. The children then took their 'treasure' – things that make them feel happy – into school and shared details about what makes the item special.



Three Peaks Challenge

On Monday 12 July, 12 pupil Francesca walked up Snowdon to complete her own Three Peaks Challenge for charity. Over the last 12 months, Francesca, who is passionate about the protection of animals, has climbed Ben Nevis and Scafell Pike to raise money for a WECare Worldwide, an organisation that provides veterinary care for street dogs in Sri Lanka. What a marvellous mountain mission, Francesca!



PGL Boreatton Park

Our J3 pupils enjoyed a fun residential visit to PGL Boreatton Park, Shrewsbury from 18 to 20 June. A fun-filled weekend of adventure, the boys and girls took part in watersports, abseiling and outdoor sports.





































At the beginning of July, J3 pupils were involved in an educational enrichment day of outdoor learning and team building led by WiseUp. The boys are girls worked together on tasks which were designed to encourage children to collaborate as part of a cohesive unit alongside individual problem-solving.



















On Wednesday 9 June, J4 pupils headed over to the Warwick Road campus for a team building day. They worked together to undertake 'Mission Possible', completing a variety of challenges and also learnt some bush craft skills including whittling and shelter building. It was a glorious, sunny day and J4 boys and girls also enjoyed lunch in the Refectory – a taste of what is to come in September!

Junior School Musical

J4 pupils have persevered this year to rehearse and record an outstanding musical performance, 'What's The Crime Mr Wolf?', a comic spin on the famous fairy tale and one where Mr Wolf is put on trial! The boys and girls shone in the roles of Mr and Mrs Wolf, Little Red Riding Hood, The Three Little Pigs and more, bringing laughter and great entertainment to all. The audience were also able to take part in the production, selecting the outcome of the trial and choosing their own ending to watch in this special, first-ever, outdoor recorded version of a Junior School Musical. This performance will certainly go down in the school history books. Well done, J4 cast of 'What's The Crime Mr Wolf!















Prep School Library Round Up

It's been a busy term in the library at the Prep School with a focus on the Works of Shakespeare - discovering the story of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' through workshops, storytelling and role play. Pupils had the opportunity to create part of the Witches' brew from Macbeth, roll a dice to see if their allegiance fell with the Capulets or the Montagues and recreate famous phrases from Shakespeare's plays.

Boys and girls also looked at 'Flotsam' by David Wiesner. This picture only book tells the story of a boy who finds a camera on the beach and discovers amazing photos inside. The children explored an old camera and searched through the sand to find hidden treasures. They sent messages in a bottle, wrote postcards to their family and created a sea turtle decorated with recycled rubbish.

J2 children were understandably delighted to see the bean bags back in the 'Starbooks Cafe'.

In June we held our Scholastic Book Fair – an opportunity for all Alice House and Junior School pupils to visit the library and purchase new titles at a discounted price. Thank you to Mrs Pemberton for organising, and to you for your support. Happy reading!







J4 Public Speaking

In June we held our J4 Public Speaking competition and on 22 June our final took place in Malvern Hall. Well done to our finalists Macy, Milly, Bella, Scarlett and Joshua, who all presented fantastically on the subject of 'the benefits post-pandemic'. Congratulations to overall winner, Joshua.



Infant Science

Infant 1 pupils have been scouring the Saint Martin's campus and investigating the grounds around Malvern Hall to discover and study plants as part of their Science topic. In I2 boys and girls were given the learning objective: 'to understand that we eat different parts of a plant'. Sweetcorn, onions, potatoes and carrots were all under discussion in Mr Walker's lessons. As part of the project, I1 pupils planted sunflowers and I2 grew runner beans.

Reception boys and girls also took part in a session sowing seeds and potting plants their co-curricular Outdoor Club.





Nursery Smiles!

Smiles in the sunshine and at snack time from our Nursery boys and girls.









Creepy Crawlies!

EYFS pupils went bonkers for bugs in the second half of the summer term for their topic 'creepy crawlies'. The boys and girls in Nursery and Reception learnt all about insects, habitats and food chains, counting legs, tasting honey and painting pictures. The term ended with a critter themed lunch ... who was brave enough to taste the cricket truffles?

End of Term Trips

I1 and I2 pupils took a trip to Brueton Park and Nature Reserve at the end of term. The boys and girls had a fun day of outdoor play - exploring the local area, feeding the ducks, running through the meadow, wandering in the woods and building dens in the forest, all fuelled by a fabulous picnic lunch.















30 Year Celebration

Congratulations to Reception Teacher and EYFS Lead, Mrs Crowton, who is celebrating 30 years of teaching.





Pizza for I2

Pizza perfection with I2 in DT. The pupils rolled dough, spread sauce and selected toppings to create a tasty end of term snack!



'The Alice House Guide to Living Life Well'

This term, Mr Penney presented a series of positive themed assemblies to EYFS and Infant pupils to launch 'The Alice House Guide to Living Life Well', the Prep School Wellbeing and Personal Development programme, to Nursery, Reception, I1 and I2.

Wraparound Care

With the lifting of some restrictions, Wraparound Care is moving towards the original plan for the service in a non-restricted world. All children now eat together in the Refectory in an afternoon, albeit still in their Wraparound bubbles. The children from Alice House have welcomed the change and opportunity to learn from the elder peers from afar. With the beautiful weather, the children have enjoyed playing outside, improving their football and tennis skills and some have taken advantage of the sun to complete their prep and eat outside. Others have continued to enjoy the varied drawing and craft activities to produce some fabulous works of art. Wishing you all a fabulous summer and we'll look forward to seeing you in Wrapround Care again in September.



Beach Ready!

Mrs Morgan dropped in to I1 to take a sneak peek at Mrs Atkins' artists at work. The pupils were drawing shells, pencil sketching super outlines and copying detailed patterns. These boys and girls loved the beach finds, they really are summer ready!







J4 Residential to Hilltop

At the end of term, J4 travelled to Sheringham in Norfolk to spend a few days at Hilltop Outdoor Centre. The pupils took part in a range of activities including zip wire, tree-top trail, coastal erosion and assault courses, all of which gave the children the opportunity to work as a team, challenge themselves and most importantly have fun! A great way to end the J4 year.





Prep School Prizes

Well done to all pupils who received awards in our Prep School Prize Giving. Every boy and girl should be very proud of their achievements this academic year.



Tennis Success

Third Form pupil Matty has been enjoying super tennis success. Rated 12 out of over 3,000 youngsters in the LTA U12 category, Matty has recently reached quarter-finals, semi-finals and final rounds, in both singles and doubles, in Tennis Europe competitions and The Tennis Scotland Open. We wish Matty the very best of luck for his national matches this summer.



Cricket County Champions

Congratulations to Lower Fifth pupils Alex and Holly who were part of the Knowle & Dorridge CC 1st X1 cricket team which won the U15 County Championships 2020.

The team started 2021 with a win, and the girls are hopeful that they will be crowned champions this season too!



Cricket Century

Our 1st XI Cricket Captain Alfie achieved two centuries this season. Brilliant battling, Alfie.



UR7s Academy Regional Festival

Lower Fifth pupils Rob and Noah were recently selected to play in the first competitive festival for UR7s Academy Regional Festival. The event, which was held at Dings Crusaders RFC in Bristol, involved established teams from around the country, whereas the UR7s hadn't played together before! Great performance, boys.



Rounders Report

The start of the summer term saw the reintroduction of sporting fixtures; how happy we have all been to represent Solihull once again! We have hosted and travelled to a number of local schools including Princethorpe College, King Edwards High School, King Edwards Five Ways and Bablake School - picking up both wins and losses along the way. What has been most enjoyable has been the camaraderie of playing as a team and experiencing the highs and lows of sport with friends. It has been great to field up to five teams in each year group, with many girls making their sporting debut for the school.



Golf Championship

Well done to all who played in the School's Golf Championship at Ladbrook Park Golf Club in June. The School's Champion Golfer of the Year was Captain, Upper Sixth student Liam, who shot a 77. The runner up was Louis in Lower Fifth who scored 80. The Best Nett prize went to Shell Form pupil, Armaan (Nett 55) with Louis again runner up (Nett 73). Dr Hart said, "It was lovely for the golfers to be back out on the fairways."





Senior School Sport

It's been wonderful to see our pupils back on pitches and courts, and enjoying home and away sporting fixtures this term. Thanks to all involved in organising, umpiring, transporting and playing.



























Cricketer Q&A

Thank you to former England cricketer Ian Bell MBE for his recent visit to the Prep School. Ian joined an afternoon Games lesson and shared his sporting skills, knowledge, experience and memories in a Q&A session with our J2 pupils.



Football Fever

There was football fever in Reception as pupils heard about their classmate's recent success with Manchester City Academy. Aryaan in RC has been selected for the club's youth development programme, which aims to spot and work with young talented players of the future. Amazing, Aryaan.

EYFS Sports Day

After weeks of preparation, our Nursery and Reception pupils enjoyed Sports Day in the sunshine! All Nursery children competed in one sprint race, one novelty fun race and their House relay and the Reception boys and girls competed in one sprint race, two novelty fun races and a House relay. In total 36 races were contested and all participants were rewarded with their positional rosette stickers. Well done to all EYFS pupils, you should be really proud of your hard work and determination.

Infants Sports Day

Infants Sports Day took place on Friday 2 July, with I1 and I2 pupils dancing their way onto the all-weather pitches. All the boys and girls competed in one sprint race, two novelty fun races and their House relay, with a total of 52 races contested and everyone receiving their positional rosette or well done stickers on the finish line. Congratulations to all children on a wonderful morning of activities. The pupils showed perseverance to demonstrate their personal best in front of all of their peers and teachers.











NURSERY HOUSE RESULTS					
1st Place SHENSTONE					
2nd Place	POLE				
3rd Place	WINDSOR				
4th Place	FETHERSTON				
5th Place	JAGO				

	INFANT 1 HOUSE RESULTS					
	1st Place	POLE				
7.00	2nd Place	JAGO				
y	3rd Place	SHENSTONE				
	4th Place	FETHERSTON				
	5th Place	WINDSOR				

RECEPTION HOUSE RESULTS				
1st Place	POLE			
2nd Place	SHENSTONE			
3rd Place	JAGO			
4th Place	FETHERSTON			
5th Place	WINDSOR			

INFANT 2 HOUSE RESULTS				
1st Place FETHERSTON				
2nd Place	WINDSOR			
3rd Place	JAGO			
4th Place	POLE			
5th Place	SHENSTONE			

Junior School Sports Days

Sprints, long distance, House relays, and, most importantly, enthusiasm, encouragement and fun! It was an action packed week for our Junior School Sports Days on the Warwick Road campus.

	Victor	Victrix		
J1	Joe	Lizzie		
J2	Sam	Claudie		
J3	William	Isabella		
J4	Lewis	Connie		































	FETHERSTON	JAGO	POLE	SHENSTONE	WINDSOR
J1	64	68	86	75	62
J2	49	106	102	89	84
J3	119	76	116	114	125
J4	135	83	127	98	111
Total	367	333	431	376	382
	4th	5th	1st	3rd	2nd

Alice House Swimming Galas

Super swimming from our Alice House pupils in the Prep School Galas which took place before half term.













House Relay Results

	FETHERSTON	JAGO	POLE	SHENSTONE	WINDSOR
RECEPTION	7	9	3	4	7
INFANT 1	6	8	7	2	7
INFANT 2	9	7	4	7	3
Total	22	24	14	13	17
	2nd	1st	4th	5th	3rd

Junior School Swimming Galas

Junior School pupils took part in this year's Swimming Galas in their individual year groups, with some excellent fun relays and some highly competitive individual races. All boys and girls displayed superb teamwork skills and provided huge encouragement for others members of their House.

All pupils that took part in the 'A' races received individual points which were added together and those with the most points in each year group received the Victrix and Victor Ludorum Trophies.

J2 1st - Ellie; 2nd - Zara; 3rd - Layla

J3 1st – Margarida; 2nd - Bethan; 3rd – Myra 1st – Jacob; 2nd – Sid; 3rd – Harry

J4 1st – Macy; 2nd – Keira; 3rd – Holly

1st - William & James; 2nd - William; 3rd - Josh



Swimming House Champions

A huge well done to all our fantastic swimmers and our House Champions Jago.









Overall Results

	FETHERSTON	JAGO	POLE	SHENSTONE	WINDSOR
J1	66	77	67	46	44
J2	73	117	94	88	66
J3	118	126	126	125	131
J4	87	104	117	97	132
Total	344	424	404	356	373
	5th	1st	2nd	4th	3rd

Class of 2021

Good luck to our 2021 Upper Sixth Leavers. An amazing group of youngsters who have displayed true resilience in the most testing year. The students wore some fantastic dress outfits on their last day of school, Friday 28 May.























Upper Fifth Celebration Day

Upper Fifth pupils enjoyed a BBQ lunch in the sun during their Celebration Day and their last day in school on Tuesday 15 June.



















INCLUSIVITY A Summer Message from Father Andrew

ollowing on from the school's recent LGBTQI+ Pride Day I would like to say something about the celebration of diversity and inclusivity in the school chaplaincy community.

Here in Solihull School Chapel, we believe it is a Gospel imperative to welcome all in Christ's name and to exclude no one. As the former Archbishop of Cape Town, Archbishop Desmond Tutu once wrote,

"This family has no outsiders. Everyone is an insider. When Jesus said, "I, if I am lifted up, I will draw . . ." Did he say, "I will draw some"? "I will draw some, and tough luck for the others"? He said, "I, if I be lifted up, will draw all." All! All! All! — Black, white, yellow; rich, poor; clever, not so clever; beautiful, not so beautiful. All! All! It is radical. All! All are to be held in this incredible embrace. Gay, lesbian, so-called "straight;" all! All! All are to be held in the incredible embrace of the love that won't let us go."

No matter how you may perceive the church's understanding of the diversity of human sexuality, no matter how you might have felt excluded or hurt or even been damaged by the church in the past because of who you are, Solihull School Chaplaincy values you for being you, welcomes you just as you are and will standing alongside you as together we pray that God will enable us ALL to be the people God made us to be. Whoever you are, and however you choose or do not choose to identify yourself – you will be welcomed, loved and affirmed.

With my prayers and blessing

Father Andrew Hutchinson



Outstanding New Initiative

We're delighted to have been shortlisted in the Outstanding New Initiative category of the Independent School of the Year Awards 2021, recognising our 21st Century Curriculum.



Summer Term Teams of the Week

1. Girls' Rugby Team

2. Thirds Sign Language Club

3. Cast & Crew of Heavy Weather

4. Benchers 2020-21

5. U14A Boys' Cricket Team

6. Cast & Crew of The Little Shop of Horrors

7. RAF Cadets

8. Lower Sixth Form Inaugural Science Society

A fantastic team effort participating in Solihull's inaugural girls' rugby training session

A fantastic team effort developing their communication skills

Three fantastic nights of drama

Congratulations to The Bench on a fantastic team effort

Excellent performance v King Edward's School, Birmingham

For doing extraordinary things in extraordinary times!

For their commitment to CCF training both in school and virtually, achieving their blue wings in the basic principles of flight

For their commitment, front-footedness and teamwork presenting lectures throughout an extraordinary year!

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