



The Lionheart

EXCELLENCE • LEARNING • LEADERSHIP
ST JOHN'S & KING RICHARD
SCHOOLS FEDERATION

**Making a splash:
an action-
packed start to
the new school
year #excellence**





Welcome

FROM THE PRINCIPAL



I wrote in the last edition of the Lionheart how honoured I was to be taking up the position of Acting Principal after Dan Browning departed for pastures new at the end of the last academic year. One term in and nothing has happened that has changed my mind. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time in the role and feel that we have moved the school even further forward during the term.

The school year began for staff and some students, as always on the final two Thursdays of August with the release of results of Key Stage 5 and Key Stage 4 examinations. Once again, these results were a source of great pride for the King Richard School community at large.

Key Stage 5 results showed strong progress was made by our students. When consideration is given to the make-up of our Post-16 cohort; these represented a fantastic performance by our 6th Form students and the staff who so ably support them in teaching, and a variety of other ways.

From a national perspective, GCSEs have been subject to much change and discussion, which has been well documented in the national press over recent months. Our results, once again, were absolutely amazing. Due to the way the school league tables are structured, KRS cannot figure on them. However, comparison shows that KRS would have been in the top 2.1% of more than 6000 schools nationwide. Furthermore, King Richard School

would have come top of the table for all state maintained schools in the country, the category where we would fit most naturally when comparing to other UK schools. Trying to make reading these results as simple as possible, schools are given a Progress 8 figure that indicates how much progress each student has made whilst in secondary education. Our Progress 8 figure of 0.75 is massively above the 0.36 figure that OFSTED use as the target for the very highest attaining schools. This is testament to the fantastic students we have at KRS and further vindication of the OFSTED outstanding grade that the school was awarded in March.

Outstanding schools, however, do not stand still and the new academic





year brought fresh challenges and opportunities. During the summer many of our School Governance Committee (SGC) left the island so we were left with the need for major recruitment during the first few weeks of the academic year. Two meetings in, I think that we now have a fantastic blend of newer governors and the continuity of SGC members who have been part of the school community for a number of years.

A further challenge presented itself in the form of 'King Richie's', the school tuckshop. We made a new appointment beginning in September: Kerry has had a fantastic impact and the tuck shop has improved in both variety and quality of food.

The number of events that have taken place is also a pleasure to see. It shows that KRS is far more than

an 'examination factory' and we are constantly striving to add value to all aspects of the lives of the young people at the school. Within school there are numerous events that evidence this, among which are Christmas at the Annex, the Swimming Gala, Halloween events, charity events for projects such as Tenderfoot, sporting fixtures and public speaking competitions. The list goes on and many of the events I have just mentioned will be discussed in much greater detail throughout this newsletter, for which thanks go to the students themselves and Mr Purdie for his guidance with the student's journalistic creations.

As someone who is not new to KRS I feel our core business of teaching and learning is as strong as it has ever been. This has not only been evidenced by myself during visits to classrooms but also by the many visitors to the school. Over the past term, we have been fortunate enough to be visited by the Station Commander, SGC members in their capacity as links to departments, Carole Yates (Principal Head of DCYP), Cynthia Symon (School Improvement Partner), parents on Tea and Tour sessions and Bishops Grosseteste University from Lincoln. None have left in any doubt the the pupils and staff at KRS work very closely together to achieve excellent results and progress. A key factor behind this is the staff's

enthusiasm to constantly develop their practice through professional development that targets their own aspirations.

Outside school there are numerous opportunities for pupils to enrich what they learn in the classroom. The number of trips we offer, in relation to the students at the school, is vast in number and we do realise that to do everything would be a massive drain on parental purse strings. We always try to explore funding streams to make sure any trip that goes out of KRS offers excellent value for money. Finally, all that is left is for me to wish you all a very merry Christmas, whether here in Cyprus or beyond the island. I hope Santa brings you all you are wishing for and you get some opportunity to have quality time with family and loved ones.

Richard Sproson, Acting Principal
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First Class

RESULTS 2017 - Assistant Principal, Mr G Burvill



Once again, it shows that in our international context, with students dealing with constant change, our school community of parents, staff and governors have worked together to allow students to be the best they can be.

Other great news to share is that there were students in the 2017 examination year that achieved 2 grades higher on average across all 10 GCSE's taken compared to similar students at UK schools.

With some subjects at KRS managing to achieve grades for students 3, or even 4, above their government predictions, we can now celebrate a great set of results. Confirming our double Outstanding rating from OFSTED. Moreover, if we look at the percentage of students who achieved a Level 5 or above in English, Maths and 3 EBACC subjects (another government measure) KRS ranks 33rd out of the 6,550 schools in the country, and 1st of all 1210 state maintained schools!

Talking of OFSTED, they have published figures that show schools rated 'outstanding' have an average Progress 8 score of 0.47, we are almost double that. Any score above 0.50 is only attained by 5% of schools in the country, and KRS is well above that...

We are now looking forward to working hard with current Year 11 and Year 13 students and their families to achieve even better results for them to open up as many doors to an exciting future .

Official : King Richard School 2017 results - puts us in the top 3% of schools nationally and number 1 compared to all state maintained schools!

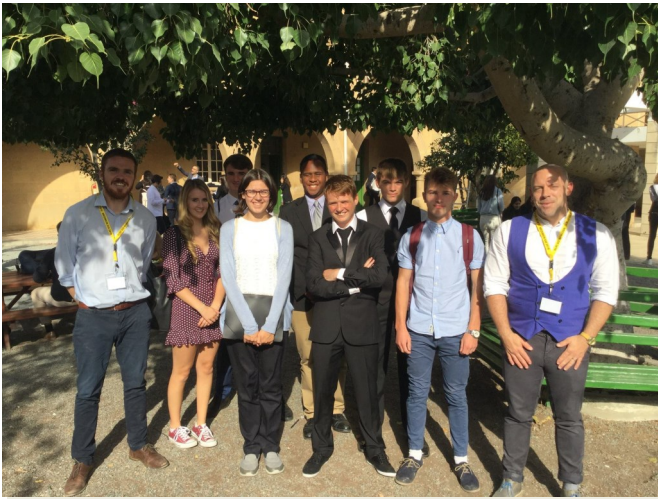
Progress 8 now judges the school based on how well students have progressed since their Key Stage 2 SATs score in Year 6.

King Richard School is, with this new measure, in the top 2.1% of all schools in the UK! Moreover, it is the best state maintained school in the UK system.

In fact, we have achieved a Progress 8 score of 0.75 positive value added. This means in simple terms that, on average across all students in all KS4 subjects, students at KRS in 2017 achieved better than they would have done if they had attended the majority of other UK schools by $\frac{3}{4}$ of a grade, across every exam they sat.



KRS Role Models



The Model United Nations is an international initiative to encourage students to be more globally aware: it is considered a challenging and highly-prized extra-curricular enterprise for students moving on to university, college or employment. This year, Mr Hill and Mr Purdie took our Year 12 students to Nicosia for the preliminary day so our students know what to expect when we attend the full conference in February. We joined the St Johns' team - together we ensured a positive and proud presence from the Federation.

Zimbabwe delegate and KRS student Rachel Walker, "When we arrived at The English School in Nicosia, it was

already crowded with many other Year 12 students. Making our way off of the bus and into the building, we were given name tags. These name tags told us our names, which country we were the delegates of and which GA (general assembly) we belonged to. We went into the courtyard and a guide then took us around; finally depositing us where we needed to be. Rhys and I were the delegates of Libya and Zimbabwe, respectively, for GA2, so we were together. Courtney, Jakob and Alex were the delegates of Zimbabwe and Libya for GA3, and Casey and Tiber were the delegates of Zimbabwe and Libya for GA1. When the Chairs started the meeting, they began with ice breakers. These proved to be helpful, as most people began to relax.

Then, the Chairs started to tell us what we needed to know, what we were doing, why we were doing it, and how to do what we are doing. They taught us how we are supposed to have a debate, using the correct terms such as 'The delegate of... ' to make the whole thing seem more professional and real. Each GA specialises in different sections for the country we represent and we were told what these were and how to present our side of the debate. After which, a few delegates, who had done this before, showed us how to debate with an example.: endangered elephants and ivory selling. Then we had a break for about 20 minutes before we headed back inside to continue the example debate. After another hour, the workshop day was complete. We took a picture in the courtyard and left, our brains full of knew knowledge."





MUSIC

KRS in concert



KRS Music department have had a high-energy, high-impact start to the year. A new JamPod system has been installed (details on next page) which has livened up the learning in the annex. KRS Choristers took part in the Christmas Carols at Costcutter; added an angelic touch to Christmas at the Annex; and joined our voices of Remembrance at the St Barnabas memorial ceremony. The ESBA band serenaded revellers at the festive events. Finally, the Royal Signals band gave a rousing rendition of cinematic and classical favourites at a special schools performance at the church.





JamPod

The JamPod is an award-winning multi-station learning environment for music lessons which allows students to fully integrate iPads and traditional instruments. Each student station (pod) has an electronic drum kit, keyboard, electric guitar, bass guitar and microphone. They are connected through a mixer which allows each user to adjust the volume of themselves and other performers in their headphones, record their performances and perform to the class.



IN PERFORMANCE





The Toast of KRS

Roving reporter: Courtney Duncan



At King Richard School, we aim to celebrate each achievement displayed by every pupil; on Thursday November 30th, our school brought together an event which celebrated student achievement in public speaking. This event involved pupils in Years 9 to 11, whereby each student was expected to deliver a speech for 4-6 minutes on a topic they felt strongly about; this took place in our school hall, where many audience members attended, along with four judges and hosted by our Head of English, Mr Purdie.

To begin, there was an introduction into what 'Toastmasters' involves: a global organisation promoting

leadership and excellence in business, education and public life. The winners of the KRS heat will proceed to a national competition in Nicosia in February 2018.

To start, Mr Purdie gave a warm-up speech outlining the hard work our students had put into this occasion, and celebrated the bravery of the pupils, as anecdotes state that public speaking is a bigger fear than death itself. His speech was concluded with the inspiring words of 'if it goes wrong, stop, breathe, relax and start again'.

Students spoke about many topics including: confidence, sport, humour, depression, the science of laughing, freedom, technology, change and the dumbest organism





in the world. All participating students delivered their speeches confidently, clearly, passionately and with much enthusiasm, making the audience appreciate their hard work which brought an energetic atmosphere.

Many students interacted with the audience members in order to achieve a great performance, from this, laughter and understanding came easily from the parents, students and teachers in attendance; many jokes were put forward, a memorable one being about Robbie Williams, delivered by our Head of Languages, Mr Pointon, which contributed to the existing happy vibe.

There was a break within the event, whereby, people had tea, coffee and snacks whilst discussing the wonderful performances. After this, there were more speeches given by the Year 11s followed by a short break, where the judges assessed all presentations given

and chose two winners who would proceed to the next level. Much praise was given to joint Year 9 winners Alicia Pickard and Phoebe Smith; along with runner up Maisie Kelly and winner Katie Ellis of the upper years.

In our school we strive to achieve the best we possibly can, and with this in mind, praise was given to all students involved as each participant did their very best, inspiring us all to work as hard as we possibly can, so congratulations to all pupils involved in this event. Much to the pride of our school, it is an honour to have such passionate, educated, and strong-willed students that demonstrate how hard work and dedication is an achievement in itself. We as a school are proud of the students and thank the teachers for creating opportunities like this in order for our aspirations to become a reality, encouraging us to face our fears and pursue our goals, all of which the pupils involved in the 'Toastmasters' event clearly proved possible.





It all went swimmingly...

#sportsroundup—KRS Gala

All students from the school participated in the annual swimming gala. Each and every student had been practicing hard in their PE lessons to try and set new personal bests.

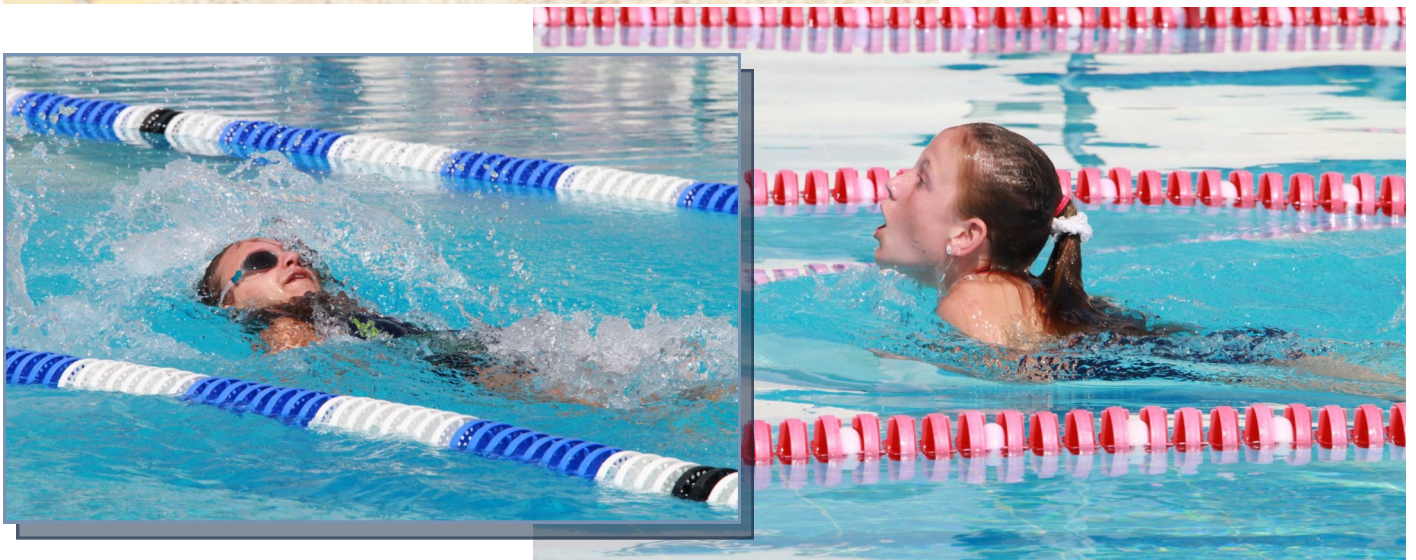
The individual winners from each year were:

Year Group	Name	House
Year 7 BOY	Josh Gannon & Oakley Haig	Poseidon
Year 7 GIRL	Caitlin Evans	Poseidon
Year 8 BOY	Anthony Rowe	Poseidon
Year 8 GIRL	Millie Baxter	Apollo
Year 9 BOY	Sam Cox	Apollo
Year 9 GIRL	Flo Remzi	Poseidon
Year 10 BOY	Luke Oliver Wood	Apollo
Year 10 GIRL	Tamara Coughlan	Apollo
Year 11 BOY	Ben Rayson	Apollo
Year 11 GIRL	Xenia Pazarou	Apollo





The main award of the day: the overall House competition was won for the second consecutive year by :





#sportsroundup

By Sam Cox

Runners Up! — *KRS vs SJS*



The Federated Cross Country between King Richard School and St John's School in November 2017 was a huge success - as it is every year. In the races, there are different age groups ranging from Year 2 to Year 9.

The last race was the High School race which Y7, Y8 and Y9s took part in and the trophy was awarded to the school who achieved the most amount of points. Although St John's beat us this time; we will bounce back next year! All our runners did an amazing job.





#sportsroundup

By Jacob and Sam Davidson

The Beautiful Game - *KRS style*

Monday 4th of December was a victorious day for KRS. The team won 4-3 against Heritage. It was a hard battle to fight but we got through at the end. This is the first time we beat Heritage. I'm sure the players are happy with the result. KRS: Anthony (GK), Ryan (LB), Jacob (CB), Sam D (CB), Scott (RB), Ross (LM), Kaian (LCM), Luke (RCM), Chase (RM), Blair (ST), Sam C (ST).

In the first 5 minutes Heritage scored with a low shot outside of the box. 1-0. KRS fought back and scored halfway through the 1st half. Sam C scored. He struck the ball into the right bottom corner of the goal: 1-1. In the second half KRS scored again. 2-1.

Within minutes Heritage scored. 2-2. Heritage scored again. 3-2. Luke scored a shocking equaliser. 3-3. Just before the game ended Sam C headed a winner. 4-3. This win will Boost KRS confidence for the match on the 19th against St John's School. I'm sure the lads are looking forward to the game. We tried our best and that paid off in the end. I hope this is a good sign for the future .





SMSC at KRS

Mrs C Downham

Special Report: SMSC

To the Heart of the matter



It is with great privilege that I share with you the tremendous impact that **MRS Dhekelia Health Team** has on our young people at **KRS**. This partnership has been identified by pupils, parents, teachers and **Senior Federation Leaders** as a key area of strength in providing a high quality duty of care to our young people.

Why is the Dhekelia MRS Health Team- KRS Partnership of importance to our young people?

BFC are committed to ensuring that the young people who accompany their parents to Cyprus are given the appropriate and necessary information to maintain their wellbeing and keep themselves safe. They need to be made aware and equipped to deal with risks and emergencies as they arise. MRS Dhekelia Health Team have directly addressed and delivered this key strand of pupil safety and wellbeing during the academic year 2017-18.

‘Pupils and particular groups of pupils have excellent educational experiences at school and these ensure that they are very well equipped for the next stage of their education, training or employment.’

Ofsted ; Key feature of ‘Outstanding’ practice in promoting positive behaviour and safety for young people.





Our Shared Outcomes:

- ❑ To familiarise the pupils with the local Healthcare professionals and medical teams, break down barriers, build links and clarify misconceptions.
- ❑ To raise awareness and broaden understanding of the critical role the health care team play in safeguarding our young people
- ❑ To ensure availability, approachability and accessibility in obtaining further information, advice and guidance regarding specialist areas of health, wellbeing, prevention and emergency responses including CPR and First Aid.
- ❑ To address a target audience of young people age 11-18 identified as potentially vulnerable to harmful risk-taking behaviours such as alcohol abuse and / or drug taking.
- ❑ Real world application: To enable young people to respond effectively and appropriately should an emergency situation occur e.g. who to contact, procedures in responding to a call.
- ❑ To act as ambassadors of multi-agency education in young people. Training in the basics of First Aid and CPR and taking these skills forward. This will undoubtedly impact positively on their present and future prospects.



How did we work towards achieving these shared outcomes?

Major Andrew Barlow designed and delivered a series of structured tailor-made learning activities to class groups ages 11-18 to launch Start a Heart Initiative with the aim to train every student at King Richard School, Dhekelia.

Professional demonstration of CPR : Procedures featuring specialist trainers featuring an entire team of medical professionals to work in small groups with the students. Exemplar resources (including training dummies) proved extremely informative as pupils would never have access to such training tools in any other setting.





SMSC at KRS

Mrs C Downham



Assessing Impact: How do we know if it made any difference?

Medical team involvement impact on student community, curriculum and future destinations.

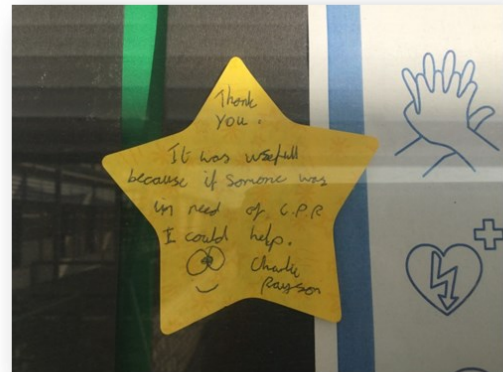
- 1. Only a minority (30%) of our young people in Dhekelia Garrison were trained in CPR or basic First Aid. We now have 100% of our school community trained.**
- 2. Less than 25 % could say with certainty that they would know how to respond effectively to an emergency therefore a multi-agency approach was necessary to support in-house behaviour. We now have 100 % of our attendants confident to respond in an emergency situation.**
- 3. The Medical Team were extremely responsive in addressing and supporting the school regarding answering student questions directly. Due to the interest stimulated by the visiting medical team, we have extended and developed our curriculum to include responding to burns and choking. Many students have expressed an interest in entering the health care profession and pursuing a medical career.**



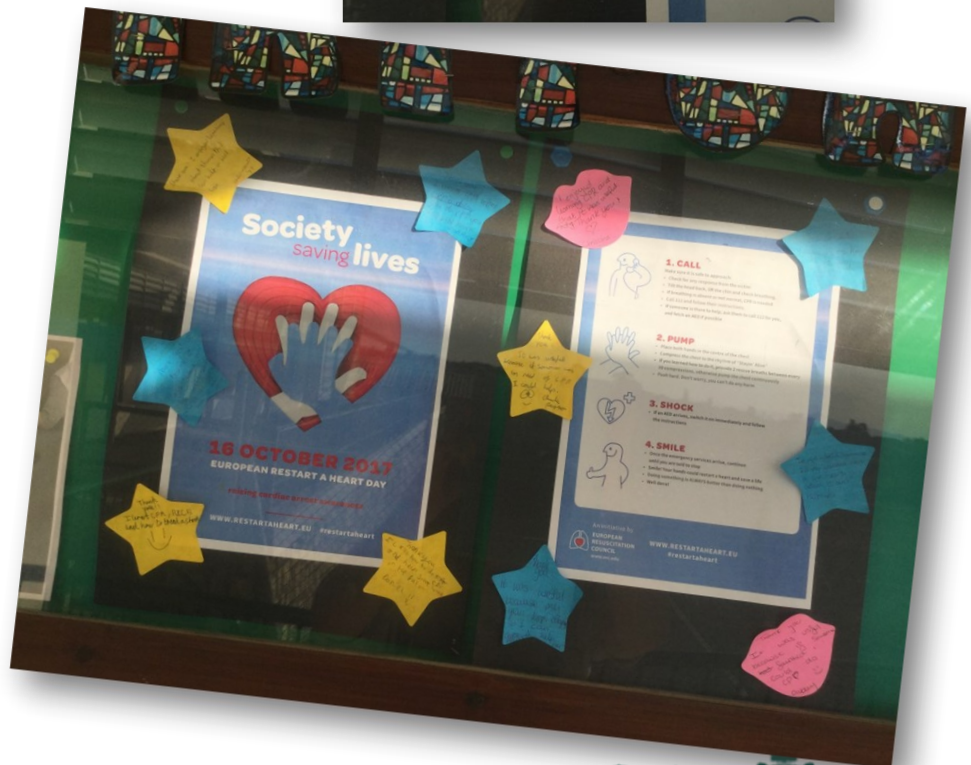


Pupil Feedback; Based on a triangulation of formal and informal, verbal and written evaluations from all pupils involved with the Start A Heart sessions this year, we were able to draw the following conclusions and measure the success of the partnership.

- **100% of pupils scored the sessions as 5/5 (Outstanding),**
- **100% ‘strongly agreed’ that the sessions have helped them to respond appropriately and confident to perform CPR.**
- **‘100% ‘strongly agreed’ that as a result of the sessions they would be willing to and would know how to contact a medical professional should an emergency arise whereby they needed assistance.**
- **00% of pupils ‘strongly agreed’ that they would value support from the Dhekelia Medical team at KRS during the next academic year.**



We are tremendously grateful for the enthusiasm, time and expertise afforded to us by the medical team this year. We sincerely hope that we can continue the success of this partnership in supporting the children of serving personnel in the ESBA.





SMSC at KRS

Mrs C Downham

Remembrance 2017

Each November, we prepare to show our respect in an act of remembrance by observing two minutes of silence for those who have given their lives in past and present conflicts.



Poppies are sold in school on behalf of the The Royal British Legion and SMSC curriculum links are deepened throughout all Key Stages e.g. this year in RE we have been studying the exceptional courage and sacrifice by WWI surgeon and double VC recipient Capt. Noel Chevasse.

This time of year, the key theme in our assemblies is that 'we shall not forget'. We begin by discussing the idea of what remembrance is and the origins of Remembrance Sunday and Armistice Day. As we have now passed the centenary of the start of the First World War we look at how it is important that we continue to remember those who made sacrifices that allow us to have our freedom today and how this is being done.



We are incredibly fortunate to access beautiful Gardens of Remembrance on our grounds which the students and staff may visit for private moments. The new bench that has been donated prompts us to remember the hardships and sacrifice the soldiers face every day.

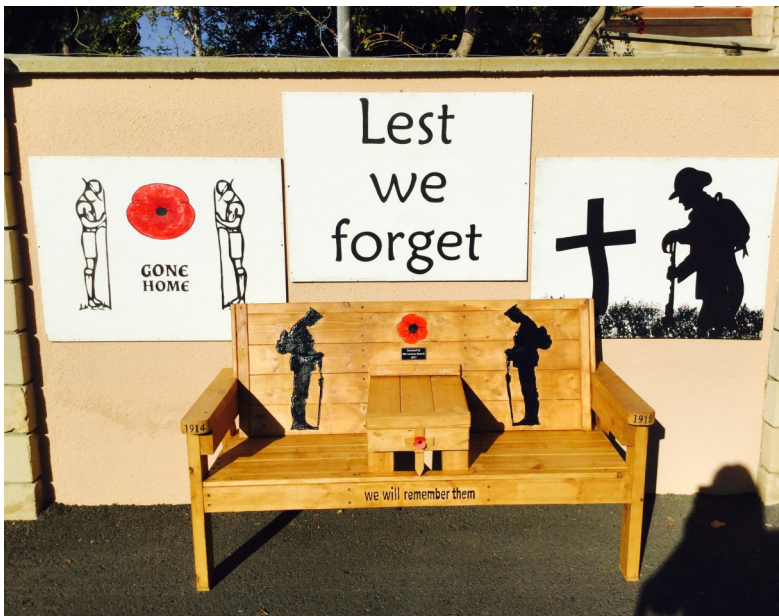
Finally, we end by studying a verse from the poem 'For the Fallen' by Robert Laurence Binyon and remember those who have fought in other conflicts such as the Second World War, Falklands, Iraq, Afghanistan and for those who continue to protect us today.





***"They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them."***

We are privileged to have a special Service of Remembrance at the church for our school community. Local dignitaries, musicians and members of the public joined us to commemorate and remember. Courtney Duncan, Year 12, was also given the honour of singing an incredibly moving and powerful rendition of 'No Need to Say Goodbye' which she did superbly. Students are able to spend time in the church to light a candle, to walk in the memorial garden or to write reflections on the Memory Tree to mark the memory of those from the regiment, and wider communities, who gave their lives in conflict. Local dignitaries, musicians and members of the public joined us to commemorate and remember in an atmosphere of respect and solemnity.





#Leadership

By Mr Thomas

Leading the way -

On Monday 9th October 2017, all the Year 7 students from St. John's and King Richard School competed throughout the day in team-based events emphasising the Core Value of Leadership. The students were grouped into 8 collaborative House teams; 4 Apollo and 4 Poseidon. Most of the activities were problem-solving tasks providing the students with an opportunity to get to know each other and cooperate as a team. Events included the 'acid rain' challenge, the 'pipe' task and the 'tug of war' contest amongst many others.

The scores for each event were based on qualities linked to leadership such as teamwork, communication, resourcefulness and interaction. The collated final scores were incredibly close with only a few points between the two Houses; however, the winning House by a small margin was Poseidon. All students seemed to enjoy the day, behaved brilliantly, demonstrated outstanding attitudes and were able to reflect on the importance of Leadership.





#Learning: MFL Update

By Mr Pointon

The winners of the **Linguist of the Month** award are pupils who have demonstrated our Core Values in MFL lessons. For example, it may be a pupil who has performed especially well in the end of unit tests, it could be someone who always tries their best and participates well in lessons, or maybe a student who has made exceptional progress. The winners receive a certificate, ePraise points and a goody bag of stationery and games. It is always difficult for Miss Hill and I to choose just one winner each, because we are very lucky to have so many deserving pupils! The winners so far this year are:

September

French - Erin Maddams

German - Scott Jackson

October

French - Alicia Packard

German - Ruby Taylor

November

French - Sam Cox

German - Ross Jackson

Well done to all our linguists!



MFL Film Club: *the first rule of film club is to TALK about it - En français or Auf Deutsch*



This year Miss Hill launched the MFL Film Club, which is open to pupils of all ages and takes place after school, as advertised. The aims of the club are to learn about French and German culture through film, practise listening skills (although subtitles are provided!) and hopefully pick up some new vocabulary. So far we have watched 'The Miracle of Bern' (German) and 'Petit Nicolas' (French). Here is what some of the pupils had to say:

"I liked this film because there was a lot of action and the characters were quite silly."

"The film was funny and it is fun to watch a film with friends at school."





Year 8 Star Reporter: Cameron Duncan

Year 8 Migrate to DPS



As a year group, we had been creating informative stories on migration fit for young ages. Our aim was to create a story that would explain and help DPS students to understand migration and all the other factors that come under it like asylum seekers and refugees. We spent a few lessons beforehand, learning and writing up our stories to the best, ready to become teachers ourselves and teach DPS about migration.

Individually, we would be assessed on: how well our stories were received; how well they were written; the quality of the graphics; if we included all of the main important words; if they were interesting; what the DPS students thought of them and how well they were taught.

“We think we’re speaking for all of Year 8 here, but we would like to say thank you to DPS, for letting us read to KS2, and teaching them more about the world we live in. It has been an amazing experience!”

Cordelia Parnham-Jones and Thomas Bagnall

We wrote our stories about all types of things that we thought children would be interested in; ranging from Pokémon to football. It was really exciting!

When we arrived at DPS we were welcomed and sent off with assessment sheets that the students would have to fill in. Each student from Year 8 was given a group of five students from DPS. It was a really good experience being able to teach and talk to the younger students on a topic we all knew a lot about.

It was funny to see the enthusiasm of the younger students who wanted to take turns and read our stories for themselves. It was also nice to see how eager they were to learn about migration and find out what they already knew!

After a couple of hours, we got our scores from the assessment sheets and compared them to our friends. Going to see and teach DPS about migration was really fun and was a great experience and I hope we get to do it again.





Charity Bake Off

By Mr Purdie

Let them eat cake -

If you can't stand the heat..... get out of Miss Andrew's kitchen! Things were hotting-up in the Annexe last week: Mr Pointon arranged a charity Christmas bake-off for staff to raise money for our Tenderfoot project in Kenya and our Great Ormond Street Hospital. Miss Andrews was Mary Berry to Miss Field's Paul Hollywood; with some less-than-impartial judging from Nell Sproson and Oscar Burvill.

It was a tense competition. Mr Sproson went for quantity over quality (sorry Mr S!) but produced an impressive array of cupcakes, cookies and tiffin (for non-Northerners, a kind of biscuit cake). Myself and Miss Hill went for class: raspberry, vanilla, white chocolate and lemon muffins (with the icing hiding a multitude of sins!). Mr Pointon produced a classic chocolate muffin bake: not a soggy bottom in sight! Sadly, Mr Burvill lowered the standard by cracking open a packet of Betty Crocker (available from Costcutters). However, the winners were the Christ-murphs (Mr and Mrs Murphy) who produced their reindeer-inspired masterpieces (pictures below).





CHRISTMAS AT THE ANNEXE 2017

