



KNOLE
ACADEMY

REVIEW 2023/24





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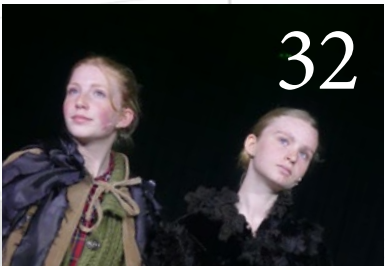
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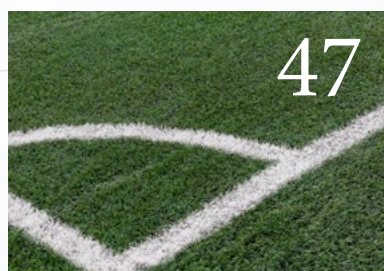
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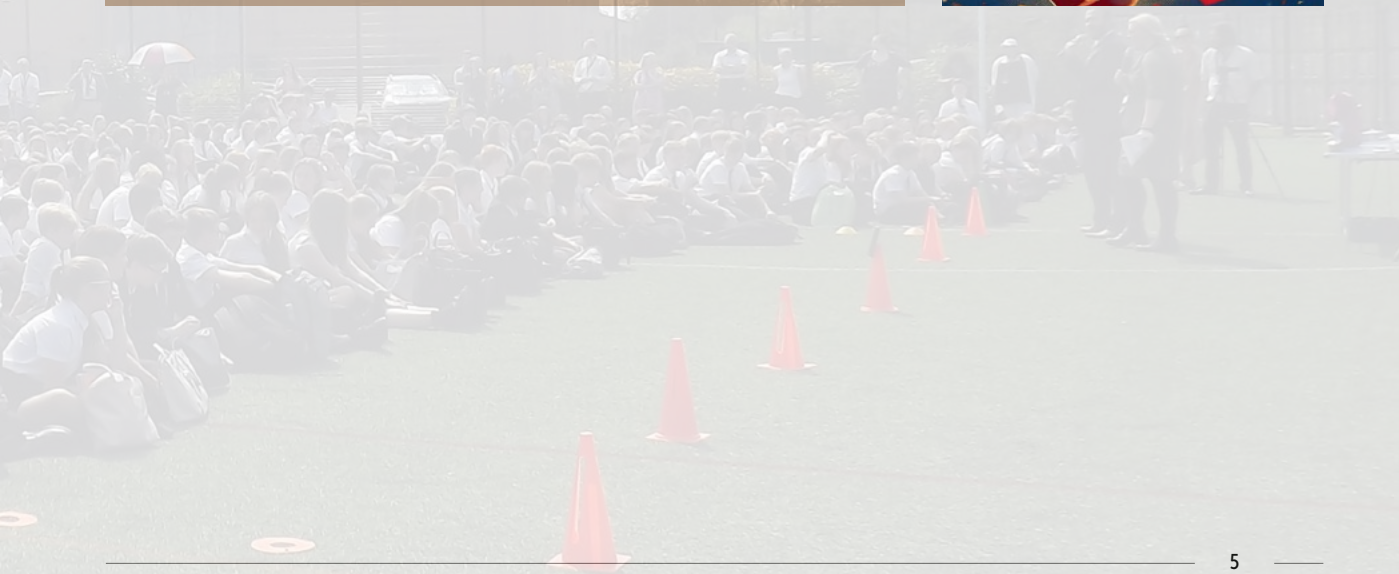


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OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCES



OVERVIEW





HEADTEACHER'S REVIEW

2023/24

David Collins

I want to start the review of the academic year 2023/24 with an acknowledgement to all those who participated in the Year 6 transition summer camp. Once again this involved a range of activities which I hope has made the transition for Year 6 students easier on their arrival at Knole Academy.

As I have mentioned in previous Knole reviews, it is always a sleepless night in the middle of August when the GCSE results are released just to schools at midnight. I confess, I am always disappointed in the results, because I always feel that there will be certain students who should have done better. However, the results were excellent once again, and in line with our optimistic expectations. Students were able to progress onto the courses or employment that they wish to do, with the vast majority of them returning to Knole Academy.

In September, we welcomed a new cohort of Year 7 students who have settled in extremely well and have added considerably to Knole Academy life.

Although this is always a review of the previous year, the International Baccalaureate publish their results in July, significantly ahead of A-levels and therefore, unlike GCSE we are able to celebrate the year's results in this review. We are delighted with the results for the academic year 2023/24; these results contained the first set of IBDP results in the history of Knole Academy. We are delighted with the outcomes achieved in this first cohort and wish the students well in their university studies.

The results across the Sixth Form for students taking vocational courses, the IBCP and IBDP, were excellent. We wish all our former students the very best for the future.

In the middle of September, we hosted the Year 6 open day where over 2000 people visited the school.

The admissions process runs throughout the year and is an important one as the school needs to be full to be able to offer the wide range of curricula and extracurricular activities that it believes develop students. I'm delighted that we are full again for next year.

We try to minimise the number of trips that we offer in September as we think it is important that students get used to their classes and teachers at the start of the academic year. As soon as we enter October, departments are already organising activities and trips for students. In October we saw Year 11 geography field work and CCF trips enhancing students' curriculums. In November, we welcome back a number of our former students and celebrate the achievements of current students in our annual prize giving event. It is always lovely to see students who have left Knole Academy being so successful in their future careers and educational pathways.

The extracurricular activities continued throughout November with a drama trip to watch Operation Mincemeat and a whole host of PE inter school competitions including the junior Knole cross country run. In typical fashion and in keeping with the rest of the year, the weather for this event was disgusting.

In December we hosted the Knole Careers Fair, which every student attended. I would like to thank Ms Stevens for organising this event and all of the employers and educational establishments that attended the event to promote future pathways for students.

The Winter Concert took place just before the Christmas holiday. I have to confess that I have been to some school events where you dread each performance as the quality may not be of the highest standard. I have been blown away with the performances of our students and their enthusiasm for the event.

I do not underestimate the bravery that students display to perform in front of a large crowd, including their peers. I am very proud of their achievements every time I attend a music, dance or drama production at Knole Academy.

In January Miss Hurley took a Child Development trip to Euro Disney. I am always amazed at how members of staff can convince me that there is an educational benefit to going to an amusement park or to a venue like Disney, but they manage it consistently. Personally, I cannot think of anything worse than going to Disney, but every student and member of staff who went told me what a great time they had.

We try to have one major show in each term. In the autumn/winter term it is a music show, in the spring term it is a dance show and in the summer term, it is the school production. The dance show was a spectacular success and a big thank you to Miss Page for organising it. The theme of the event was 'A night at the movies', and each dance was based around a particular film production.

In February, we also launched the consultation regarding Knole Academy joining the Aletheia academies trust. I genuinely believe that this merger will safeguard the long-term future of Knole Academy and we are already seeing the benefits of the collaboration. I believe that students will benefit from increased opportunities because of this decision. I would like to thank parents for the support they have shown throughout this process.

My favourite event of the entire academic year takes place during the February half term when I accompany the Knole Academy ski trip. Even a week of Mr Turner's company cannot dampen my spirits and it is just a joy to take away students from this school on activities such as this. Almost 100 students went on the ski trip, and they all did brilliantly!

In March, for the first time ever the school entered the Kent climbing league. In the first fixture we were a climber short but luckily Mr Ereat stood in and made-up the team.

Unfortunately, he wasn't very good and was dropped for the next fixture. As a result of our participation all students were offered free climbing experiences during the summer holidays, and I hope many people took up this offer.

A number of students attended the Year 12 and 13 National Apprenticeship Show. There can be a slight fixation on students in Sixth Form progressing to university and while this is obviously very important, we support students in achieving their aims and are very proud of all the destinations they achieve. However, university is not always the right option, and we are also very proud of the number of students who have achieved higher level apprenticeships and will be learning and earning in the future.

In April, the Duke of Edinburgh expeditions begin. Between large numbers of students undertaking Bronze, Silver and Gold expeditions it appears that we have trips out every weekend. I make no secret of the fact that sleeping in a tent is my idea of hell, I therefore would like to thank all of the staff who support these expeditions and enable so many students to make the most of these opportunities. This year we have seen the greatest number of students complete the Gold award.

In April, we undertake Head Student interviews and also select the Prefects for Year 10 into Year 11. We conduct these at Easter to allow the Year 13 and 11 students to concentrate on their exams. I have to say, it is a pleasure to conduct the Head Student interviews, but it is not always a pleasure to have to decide who is successful when all of the candidates are so strong. I would like to thank Abbe Clark and Alex Stephens, the outgoing Head students, for their work during their term of office and welcome Freya Williams and Rebecca Lazar as the new Head Students.

At the end of April and heading into May, we start the process of examinations with IB exams first, followed by the GCSE exams. I would just like to thank all of the students for the mature way that they conducted themselves during this period.

As I write this in July, all I can do is wish them the very best of luck.

Just because the exams are going on we do not slow the activities for other years, and in June, we took a residential trip for Year 12 away to Wales and Year 12 also took part in their work experience. We hosted the Headteacher Receptions for Year 11 and 13. Both years also had their prom events, which were incredibly well attended and for once, blessed with glorious weather!

In July, the Year 10s went on a week's work experience, some of the places they went to were fascinating and you can read about them later in this publication. The pastoral staff organised K-FEST as a reward for deserving Year 8, 9 and 10 students; this involved all kinds of inflatable activities, ice cream trucks and other events. I hope all the students invited enjoy themselves.

The year finished with two big events, firstly the school production of Wyrld Sisters. The cast were absolutely amazing and a big thank you to Mrs Hollidge for the immense amount of work that goes into organising an event such as this. Secondly, Sports Day, as ever it was initially cancelled due to poor weather but went ahead in glorious sunshine. Thank you to all the parents who made the effort to attend, you contribute to the atmosphere and make it a memorable day for all those involved.

I just end the review with a request. I think we offer students a huge amount both in lessons and in extracurricular opportunities; students need to be in school to benefit from these though. Our attendance is still not where I would like it to be, and I just asked all parents and students to remember that in not attending you are missing out on so much.

Best wishes

David Collins

HOUSE NEWS

Mrs Walker

As another academic year draws to a close, we take the opportunity to reflect on the interhouse competitions and the achievements across the four houses, Attenborough, Khan, Lee and Rudolph, over the year. Competition is always fierce with lots of friendly rivalry, Rudolph set the precedence for the year starting in pole position with house points and maintained this lead throughout the first and second term. Attenborough bridged the gap in the summer term, but the points were very close between all four houses and the overall lead was still with Rudolph.

The rivalry between houses brings out the best, with so many enthusiastic and talented students supporting their houses, demonstrating their artistic, sports and academic skills in the various competitions which have taken place throughout the year; here are a few of the highlights.

In November, we had the first interhouse competition with boy's football and girl's netball; Attenborough were overall winners in year 7, Rudolph year 8/9 and for year 10/11, Khan. Some notable performances were made, with players of the tournament including Maddie (7A2), Rocco (8R1), Taiya (10A1) and Yasmin (11L2). In October the class Harvest Box competition was reintroduced, with all classes participating and house points and prizes awarded for the most artistic and most produce. The build quality and artistic standard as well as quantity of produce was outstanding, judging was particularly difficult, the overall winner was Lee House with 8L2's tractor, setting a very high standard for future competitions. The donated produce went to our Knole Academy food pantry which benefits the local community. In December the first Knole Chess tournament was played in school, with a nail-biting intellectual battle of wits in the final between Oliver (11K1) and Adam (9A1), resulting in victory for Adam.



When we returned to school in the Spring term, fun was had with the annual pancake races which always attracts a lot of attention. From our key stage 3 competitors the winners by year were Isaac (7L1), Joshua (8A2), Shiloh (8A1), Callum (9K1) and Rebecca (9K1). The more serious Maths Challenges saw our scholars come head-to-head in the battle of the sums, competing in teams of four. Year 8 Attenborough narrowly beat their nearest rivals, Rudolph, by one point – Khan and Lee were very close. Attenborough were on a roll, also winning the year 9 Maths Challenge.

Congratulations to the winners and well done to all those representing their houses, it is very daunting being put mentally on the spot in front of your peers. This was followed by the Spring term interhouse was football and basketball, Lee house excelled winning first place in all year groups. This was the final interhouse for our year 11s, a poignant moment for many who have represented their houses year on year – we thank you. Players of tournament include, Dolcie (11K1), Sonny (11L3) and Miguel (11L2). In March the school artists had an opportunity to express their talents in the Portrait Artist of the Year, the finalists work was displayed in the gallery and Edie (10R2) took the winning place. Another "just for the fun of it" competition was held just before Easter, The Famous Egg, the entries were amazing no yolking! Rudolph's Elsie (7R2) won, with her Bob's Burgers – a whole family in an egg box.



Summer term hasn't brought good weather this year, but the weather didn't dampen the student's spirit or drive for success. Our students continued to compete and excel, as demonstrated by the inspiring young dancers in our first dance competition. Miss Page said the standard of all competitors was high and it was a pleasure to watch but difficult to judge, Lee House were the overall winners. The summer term also saw the final interhouse, before Sports day, which was rounders and softball in June. Each house presented strong teams and the competition was fierce, Khan triumphed as the overall winners. The standout players of the tournament were Max (7R2), Tommy (8L1), Rachel (8L2), Freddy (10R1) and Zak (10K2), Lois (10R1) and Ruby (10R1). In July the final art competition took place and the Photographer of the year winners were announced.

In first place Brooke and Evie (7R1), Oliver (9A1) achieving second place and third place Elsie (7R2). The standard of the photographs was professional, congratulations to the winners and well done to all who took part, Rudolph house took first prize overall.

I think you will agree, a busy and very successful year for all houses. The competition has been tight, the support from our students has been immense, thank you to everyone who has organised or taken part in house events. We need to say a special thank you to those students who have put themselves forward as Sports Representative and House Leaders for their forms, these are not easy jobs. Our Sports reps are responsible for recruiting and organising sports teams, often finding themselves having to choose between participants and handling what could be tricky situations, as well as giving up some of their breaks or lunch hours to attend meetings with their Heads of House.

Our form House Representatives attend termly meetings and chair meetings with the help of their tutors to collate ideas and thoughts of how the school can continually improve, a very responsible role, these ideas are taken to the Academy Council by their chosen representatives and then presented to the senior leadership of the school.

This has also been a year of many changes. Congratulations to Mr Ereaut, Head of Lee house for many years, he has now taken a promotion and is overseeing the whole house system and extracurricular activities within the school.

Mrs Hughes took over from Mr Ereaut at the beginning of the year and has done an excellent job of leading Lee House, celebrating with them many successes. She has said what an immense pleasure and privilege it has been to be given the opportunity to be Head of Lee House.

Mrs Hughes will be stepping down at the end of the summer, however she will continue to be a proud to support Lee House in the years to come and she wishes them the best next year. Sadly, Mr Toomey the Head of Khan House, left the school in the summer to take up a new position at one of our sister schools in the Aletheia Academy Trust, we wish him much success at his new school. Mr Toomey has said he will miss his House, wishing them much success in the future. Both Mrs Walker and Miss Stock, Head of Attenborough and Rudolph respectively, remain as heads of house and would like to thank all the students in their houses for their continued hard work and support. As we look toward a new academic year, there will be more exciting changes to the house leadership and Mrs Walker and Miss Stock look forward to your support and the continued friendly rivalry between houses.

SIXTH FORM

Russell Turner, Deputy headteacher i/c sixth form

Another super year for sixth form, which is currently incredibly quiet now that our Year 13 students have completed their exams and are awaiting the next step on their exciting journey; the majority of which will be at universities such as Imperial, Warwick, Sheffield, Kings, Loughborough, Queen Mary's, Durham, Greenwich, Kent, Nottingham, Southampton to name but a few, studying subjects such as chemical engineering, astrophysics, law, international business and finance, digital marketing, aerospace engineering, graphic design, mathematics and so on. I cannot praise the Year 13 cohort enough for their hard work, academic courage and perseverance.

The university offers they have received are evidence of what smashing young people they truly are. I wish them the very best of luck for the future.

A big thank you to Alex and Abbe, our Head students who led the entire student body of the school with distinction throughout their tenure of office.

Congratulations to Freya and Rebecca who inherited that responsibility at Easter. They have made a great start, introducing themselves to the younger members of our school population and motivating them to follow their example into sixth form.

The reports I have read from leaders of industry, with whom our Year 12 students have spent a week with whilst on work experience, were glowing about our students' contributions. They commented not only upon their work-specific qualities, but the soft skills our sixth form students are developing daily. I am convinced that the core programme of the IBDP and IBCP is playing a pivotal role in preparing our fine young adults for working life after school.

I am extremely proud of them, and their achievements so far in sixth form, and am convinced they will continue to study and act diligently for the short remainder of time with us at Knole.



ACADEMIC REVIEW



2023/24 ACADEMIC AWARDS

2023/24 YEAR 11 ACADEMIC AWARDS		2023/24 YEAR 12 ACADEMIC AWARDS	
Progress in Business	Matei Apetrei	Attainment in Textiles	Ella Anstey
Progress In Sociology	Evie Chalker	Progress in Finance Progress in Criminology	Taylor Brooker
Attainment in English	Ruby Dunham	Progress in Geography	Evie Brown
Attainment in English Attainment in Health & Social Care Attainment in Psychology Attainment in Geography	Jessica Ellis	Attainment in IB Digital Society	Imogen Carlin- Roberts
Attainment in Dance Progress in Textiles Attainment in History	Caitlin Gambrell	Attainment in Criminology	Amelie Cirillo
Progress in Psychology	Owen Higgs	Progress in Business Studies English	Abbe Clarke
Attainment in Hair & Beauty	Chloe Jackson	Attainment in Health & Social Care	Mia Dedomenici
Attainment in French	Rebecca Lazar	Progress in Law	Ryley Edwards
Attainment in Business Studies	Freddie Lines	Attainment in Law	Jason Foster
Progress in ICT	George Madden	Progress in Social and cultural anthropology	Paige Foster
Attainment in ICT	Daniel Miller	Progress in Fine Art	Paula Garceran
Progress in Drama	Xarius Nazir	Progress in Chemistry Attainment in Mathematics	Ben Hall
Progress in French Attainment in Food & Nutrition	Thomas Niven	Attainment in Chemistry Progress in Mathematics Attainment in Geography	Bodhi Holland
Attainment in Fine Art Attainment in Graphics	Salvatore Norris	Progress in Photography Attainment in History	Rose Ing
Progress in Mathematics	Joshua Pope	Progress in Health & Social Care	Melissa Luxford
Attainment in Drama	Lily Ray	Progress in Graphics	Beatrice Manole
Attainment in Sociology	Evie Reynolds	Attainment in Psychology Attainment in Social and cultural anthropology	Frankie McKinlay
Progress in Photography	Olivia Saunders	Progress in Textiles	Jess North
Progress in Health & Social Care	Sophie Scanlan	Attainment in Fine Art	Jasmine Owens
Attainment in Mathematics	Harry Tate	Progress in Psychology	Niamh Robb
Progress in Dance	Mimi Townsend	Attainment in Biology	Alex Stevens
Progress in Physical Education	Henry Vaughan	Attainment in Finance	Ellie Tucknott
Progress in Food & Nutrition	Emily Watts	Attainment in Business Management Progress In Biology	Liam Vousden
Attainment in Photography Attainment in Textiles	Freya Williams	English	Freddie White
Attainment in Geography	Charlotte Wishart	Progress in Photography	Gabe Williams

SPECIAL AWARDS

2023/24 YEAR 13 ACADEMIC AWARDS	
Progress in Law	Joshua Arbenser
Attainment in Finance Attainment in Biology	Charlie Broughton-Harris
Progress in Level 3 Sport & Physical Activity	Leah Collier
Progress in Criminology	Macey Cosby
Attainment in Law	Kier Evans
Progress in Biology	Matthew Goodacre
Attainment in Business Management	Tilly Green
Attainment in IB History	Conor Heffernan
English	Lilah Herbert
Progress in Business Management Attainment in Geography	Alex Laker
Progress in Geography	Morgan Lam
Attainment in Physics	Archie Scott-Inglis
Progress in Social and cultural anthropology	Emelia Sears
Progress in Physics	Daniel Vickers
Attainment in Social and cultural anthropology	Hannah Watson
Progress in Finance	Poppie Whittaker
Attainment in Health & Social Care Attainment in Level 3 Sport & Physical Activity Attainment in Criminology	Thea Willmore
Progress in Engineering	Liam Bescoby
Attainment in Engineering	Taylor Watson
Progress in Psychology	Holli Gushlow
Attainment in Psychology	Sophie Weller
Progress in Health & Social Care	Megan Tow

Media Award	Louis Kong
Key Stage 4 Dux Award	Jessica Ellis
Singing Quaich	Iain Cochrane-Billo
Music Award	Liam Vousden
Creativity Award	May Smith
Head Student	Joshua Arbenser
Head Student	Lilah Herbert

BUSINESS STUDIES

Nicola Blunden

The end of the academic year is always bittersweet for teachers. We have to say goodbye to students, some of whom we have known for seven years, but their enthusiasm for the unknown future is contagious and tempers any concerns.

Year 13's are embarking on diverging pathways; some have already secured employment, some are going through the long and detailed apprenticeship application process and the remainder are awaiting University acceptance. All students are nervously waiting for results as for many this will determine the success of their first steps into an independent adulthood. As we write this, results are starting to be fed back to us and so far everything looks very positive with 21% of LIBF students receiving an A grade and 63% a B grade and cumulatively 95% A-C. With IB Business management, 41% of students received the top grade, grade 7 for the IA. The IA (internal assessment) is

an independent focused investigation that students spend six months working on and it is very satisfying to see our students succeeding and reassuring to have confirmation that we structured the support accurately and guided them correctly in this first assessment of the new IA criteria. We await future exam results with the same nervous excitement as our year 13 students.

Year 11 students leave earlier than year 13's, vocally expressing even more optimism in their futures, but subsequently have a longer wait for results. Year 11 business students were enthusiastic and positive when reviewing the exam papers but it is always a shame to see all of their work and effort reduced to a single exam grade number. As their teachers we see the extra effort, the additional questions answered and the corrections they make to their work and hope they get rewarded for it and that future employers recognise their endeavour.

For the first time in a long time as well as saying goodbye to so many students we had to say goodbye to a colleague. Mr Toomey accepted a promotion at a school closer to home and we thank him for all of his efforts at Knole and wish him all the best for his future and the futures of his students.

June/July not only brings endings but new starts. We have commenced our planning for the new year 10's and 12's are looking forward to launching new courses. One course is Btec extended certificate in Enterprise and entrepreneurship for KS5 which is a vocational course with two examined units and two coursework units. We are also planning our enhancements with trips to the law courts for law students and industry visits for the business and enterprise students on the agenda.

CITIZENSHIP

Ann Maddox

Year 7: Students have spent this year looking at being introduced to Citizenship and why we study this in school. We have studied identity, fairness, community, multiculturalism, human rights and equality. After this in-depth introduction we have gone to study Democracy and Power all the way from Plato to how local decisions are made for constituencies. We have also looked at the very recent elections, what different parties in the UK have to offer and how the voting process works. They also created their own perfect countries with a set of rules to reflect and collaborate the learning they have completed over the course of year 7.

There were some amazing and imaginative pieces of work on this which showed an understanding of the needs, wants and responsibilities of humans. Perhaps we have some future leaders in our midst!

Upper Key Stage 3 have studied the process of protests and how they can be a force of change. They have done this through historical protests such as the Suffragettes, The Bristol Bus Boycotts and the Miners Strikes. We have compared this to modern day protests such as Reclaim the Night and BLM. They have also had the opportunity to explore the role that the media plays in society through different forms of media.

This has focused on freedom of expression versus fake news. This has culminated at the end of the year into looking at the power of social media and how it can affect our decision making in life. Year 8 have also studied rights and responsibilities from the Magna Carta to the modern day and looked at how this document was a forerunner for many pieces of legislation in the UK. We also discussed in depth the need for all to follow the Rule of Law. In addition,

Year 9 have explored how the legal system policing works in the UK and how and why we have laws.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT

Miss Hurley

What a year we have had. Firstly, I am so proud of all the students in year 11 and 13 who made it to the end producing the best results we have ever had. There have been some fantastic achievements from year 13 with Bella, Demi and Melissa all achieving A grades and heading off to university in September to study primary school teaching. The year 12s are a strong cohort having completed half the course already and pushing on with year 13 work. I am pleased to say the majority of the class have

completed work experience in a nursery or primary school, which will help with their career in Health and Social Care.

The year 11s finished the new specification this year knowing their coursework grades going into their exam in May. Special mention to Georgina who went into the exam on full marks for coursework, so we are hoping for some top grades from this year group. You were a pleasure to teach and hope to see you in sixth form studying Health and Social Care.

The year 10s have completed one unit of coursework which involved them observing a child aged 3-4 and designing a play activity for them. The quality of work produced from this year group has been amazing, may that continue into year 11. We completed a few interactive lessons which included making bracelets for the menstrual cycle (picture included) and made salt dough reproductive systems which was a lesson they will never forget.

DISNEYLAND PARIS

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE TRIP JANUARY 2024

40 students from years 10-13 and 4 teachers descended on Disneyland Paris to attend a Health & Social Care seminar and workshop provided by the Study Experience company. The seminar/workshop took place in the cinema at the Gaumont Disney Village.

The content contained information about how equality, diversity and rights are promoted through the Disney brand, the students learnt about person-centred values, first aid, nutrition and working with children – information students need to know for their exams. It was an interactive workshop and the students really enjoyed themselves.



This then meant the students then had the rest of the day to explore the studios and the park, going on the rides and enjoying the experience, and teachers queued up to meet Minnie Mouse for Mrs Laker!

We had dinner together in the Royal Pub restaurant, before watching the fireworks at the end of the night. Truly a magical experience, does anyone want to come in 2025?

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Lance Challenor

KEY STAGE 3

Year 7

This year, our Year 7 students delved into the history of computing, studying pioneers like Ada Lovelace and Alan Turing, and their significant contributions to the field. They learned about various cryptographic techniques, including the Vigenère cipher, and participated in an engaging online cryptography contest set in the "Desert Oasis.". They enthusiastically explored the world of coding with the BBC micro bit. They delved into coding embedded systems, discovering how to create interactive projects that combined both hardware and software elements. The students particularly enjoyed seeing their code come to life in tangible ways, sparking a keen interest in the practical applications of computer science.

Year 8

Year 8 students participated in an exciting cross-curricular project with the English department. They created text adventures in Python, with the introductory narrative developed as a creative writing exercise in their English classes. This innovative approach allowed students to blend their coding skills with storytelling, resulting in imaginative and technically impressive projects. The collaboration was well-received, with students appreciating the interdisciplinary learning experience.

Year 9

Our Year 9 students created their own computer graphics, animating them to produce mini applications. Some students integrated AI to generate images for their Python text adventure projects, showcasing a modern twist on their coding projects (right).



KEY STAGE 4

Year 10

Year 10 students engaged in hands-on learning by building their own computers as part of the Computer Systems unit. This practical experience provided them with valuable insights into the hardware components and functionality of computers, enhancing their technical knowledge and skills.

Year 11

Our Year 11 students excelled in their GCSE exams, with 40% achieving grades 7 or higher. This impressive accomplishment sets a high bar, and we are optimistic that this year's cohort will match or surpass these results. Throughout the year, students refined their skills in SQL and relational databases, with some creating their own databases using Python and SQLite. Their dedication and hard work have positioned them well for future success.



CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

The Computer Science department offered a variety of lunchtime clubs where students could work on coding projects and hone their skills. This year, our Minecraft club thrived with a fully operational Minecraft Education Edition server. Students enjoyed collaborating and building in the virtual world, fostering a sense of community and teamwork among our budding coders.

This year has been filled with innovation, collaboration, and significant achievements for the Computer Science department.

We are incredibly proud of our students and look forward to another year of inspiring and nurturing their passion for computer science.



CULINARY SKILLS

Ms Green

HOSPITALITY AND CATERING

September 2023 saw big changes in this department firstly as Ms Green formerly of food Studies took over from Mr Arnott who was retiring. Secondly the course saw its biggest ever intake of students enrolling since it commenced in 2014.

The 8 future chefs were quick to learn and gained confidence and competence with kitchen rules and knife skills enabling us to progress to advanced skilled dishes.

Christmas 2023 saw us open the Restaurant for two lunch services, assisted by Mr Gunyon former Westminster College lecturer who has joined our team. This event was for Knole Staff and proved to be successful and allowed the future chefs to experience a full-on service.



More recently the future chefs were lucky enough to be provided with live lobsters, which were transformed into Lobster Thermidor a real treat and for many of the chefs a new dining experience.

All the future chefs spend Friday in industry and it has been my pleasure to go and visit them to witness their abilities within a realistic work environment.

I hope September 2024 sees them returning to complete year two and I also hope to welcome new students commencing on the two-year course.





ENGLISH

Gareth Hughes

Both as an academy and as the English Department within it, we see each student's time with us as a seven year journey – from those initial first steps into secondary education in Year 7 to those taken by departing Year 13 students into the world beyond school. It is our objective to provide each and every pupil with the skills and knowledge required to navigate this journey and reach their desired destination successfully; whatever, that destination might be, what is learnt in 'English' plays an integral role.

The content of the curriculum goes beyond merely delivering that which is required to pass those tests and assessment which punctuate each academic year; it is designed to cumulatively build on that which has been taught in the past, so by the time students reach their GCSE years, they possess a deeper understanding of that which they are being examined on – and just as importantly, the skills needed to most effectively communicate that understanding. For example, in Year 7 pupils undertake an Introduction to Shakespeare, a unit which explores the context of the playwright, to a study of dramatic conventions and stagecraft in Year 8, an entire play in Year 9, scrutinising

the context of *'Macbeth'* and applying relevant concepts to the play in Year 10, to deep analysis and ensuring the text is exam ready in Year 11; a similar approach is adopted across the entire syllabus in the preparation of prose, poetry and non-fiction; gaining an appreciation of literature and how language is used to effect meaning is key throughout. Further example, this year our Year 7 pupils have enjoyed the novel, *'A Monster Calls'*, Year 8, the American classic *'Of Mice and Men'*, Year 9 a newly created unit on 'Victoriana', each contributing to their ultimate understanding of Dickens' *'A Christmas Carol'* in Year 10 and then examined in Year 11; this familiarisation with studying and analysing prose is essential also to the Language GCSE paper.

As a subject, English should be, and is, at the heart of a student's personal development, enhancing characteristics and attributes such as creativity, empathy, becoming more aware of one's emotions and more thoughtful to those of others, not just in school but more broadly in society – those principles encouraged by the IB organisation of which Knole is a part. Accordingly, not only does each year group continue to study those texts which explore the nature of the

human condition but equally develops those skills – from creative writing modules, to independent research projects (such as Year 8 designing and marketing their own zoos!), to every Year 10 students writing and presenting a talk on a topic of their own choosing, producing some presentations not only of the highest calibre but focusing on some informative but moreover deeply emotive and personal issues. For many this can be a challenging experience – but an extremely rewarding and confidence building one too. This journey culminates with our sixth form students who, in undertaking the IB in English Language and Literature, are required to adopt an outlook with a cultural breadth and a capability to reflect upon themselves as learners; they too have been required to do an oral assessment exploring a literary text and how it compares to a contemporary non-literary text in relation to a global issue – here, students have presented on topics as diverse as 'Was Hamlet bipolar?' to 'Comparing linguistic equivocation in Macbeth to modern political speeches'. These approaches would not be possible were it not for the skills and knowledge developed in the previous six years.

While the department is always looking to innovate and adapt to the needs of all students, in each year group, a constant has been the effort made by those students in improving their study of English and growing as young people.

It goes without saying, that we all look forward to the challenges offered by the next academic year, building on the successes of the last, of which there have been many.

One in particular, I think is worthy of note and mention: Year 7 Chloe Greenwood chose to mark Mental Health Week by independently penning a poem on the importance of voicing one's fears and concerns, akin to Stevie Smith's infamous work 'Not Waving but Drowning'; entered into the Chesham Literary Festival, she won 1st prize in the 11-18year old category, and recently attended an awards ceremony for her achievement.

While huge congratulations are deserved, Chloe has been first to say that it is the issue her writing highlights which is the most important thing; well done nonetheless for this remarkable feat ... and well done to all students, who maybe not receiving this level of recognition, have worked hard, improved during the course of the last academic year – and have had your own personal successes; we all look forward to you continuing your journey in 2024 – 2025

Here is Chloe Greenwood's poem: hard hitting, visceral, thought provoking...

MENTAL HEALTH DAY POEM

Before you take your life as you think you must do,
will you read this letter I wrote to you?

I know you spent the last few weeks writing your own in the
form of a goodbye,
maybe an explanation to your loved ones as to why.

But it's your time to listen,
what's one more minute, before your decision?
There are some things you need to know
before you decide it's time to go,

before you take your life.
Will you close your eyes and remember?
the little child playing with sticks
She wouldn't want you to forget her!

She didn't think you would make it this far,
the future unknown,
but she imagined what it would be like older and grown.

And I know what you were thinking,
remembering you as a child doesn't stop you from sinking.
In fact does it make you feel worse ?
not being the woman you as a child would have been proud
with to converse?

But that's the point is it not?
You have so much more to prove.
Do you not realise you would be killing her too?

And what about the old woman you could be,
wrinkled and grey with grandchildren on your knee.
You would be killing her before she even breathes.

Think about all your pain.
The tears, the scars and the shame.

Did you think that your body buried would eliminate the pain?
It will stay alive it will still be in the walls,
stained, on the carpet floor
Don't you want it to all be clean before you shut the door?

Maybe give the air some more laughter before leaving with
sadness.
Give your corpse some smile lines and memories before leaving
with all this badness.

Think about the people who love you.

I know, I know you're rolling your eyes,
for the people should not be the reason you did not want to die.
But think about how much you failed at loving them.
It's not the fact that you were loved, but loving others that may
save you from within.

Death has lost its beauty if we do not first live.
And life has lost its beauty if we do not first love.

I don't think you can ever force yourself to belong,
but you find pockets of peace along the way,

say...
listening on repeat to your favourite song.

And I don't think you can save anyone, but you can certainly
save yourself
once you realise that there are more versions of you that have
yet to be let out before you take your life.

Will you think for a moment?
You have shampoo left in the shower.
some face wash on the sink.
Won't that go to waste?
What about the left overs in the fridge you have yet to taste?

There's a nagging inside of you,
a longing for something, and it's causing this dread.
Something you don't think you will find until you were dead.

So why don't you live like you are going to be gone?
Treasuring every moment you have so you may feel more
strong.

For a life that is hard to live is better than no life at all.

Before you take your life will you remember to call everyone you
have ever shared a laugh with?

I promise if you do,
that you will forget why life was something you wanted to miss.

Before you end your life, can you step outside of yourself
look at the trees and the sun,
listen to the voice of someone else.

All this beauty you don't let yourself see,
stuck with blinders on,
Even while you listen to me
there's an old couple dancing, a child playing in the rain.
Don't you think there is more to life than letting it drain?

I know you want a purpose in your pain,
but have you ever stopped to consider your purpose is
your pain?
That the sadness is a gift,
not that you may have an excuse to drown in your tears,
but so that you may be an example of triumph for others as you
swim for the pier.

Before you end your life, can you make it one more day?

And always one more day.

FOOD PREPARATION & NUTRITION

Mary McGauley

We live in a time where fast-paced lifestyles often overshadow the importance of balanced meals, it's more crucial than ever to educate students on the fundamentals of nutrition and food preparation. The Food Preparation and Nutrition Curriculum aims to bridge the gap between knowledge and practice, empowering individuals to make informed dietary choices and develop essential cooking skills.

Year 7 – The early lessons focused on the hygiene and safety rules in the kitchen. In class we made fruit salad, homemade soups and halloumi kebabs, before moving onto scone based pizza and tomato and basil tart, highlighting the use of an oven and different utensils that are found in everyday home kitchens. Our year 7, stir fry lesson looked at different cultures through food and different cooking techniques. One of the most popular dishes this year was the spinach and chickpea curry, this highlighted the diversity we offer and how good food can be made cheaply and quickly.

Year 8 – As the country looks at the cost of food at home, Year 8 learnt to make a repertoire of dishes such as, frittatas, tuna pasta bake, spaghetti Bolognese and Thai green curry. This meal can be made on a budget and help to contribute to the nutritional requirements of a balanced diet.

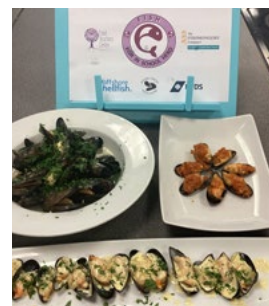
Year 9 – All students took part in the Tunnock Tea Cake challenge. This year the theme was - *The Four Elements*. Students focused on one of the elements or a combination of them. Judging criteria consisted of presenting a stunning dish using creativity and a variety of skills. The idea had to embrace diversity, sustainability and healthy eating with a wide range of finishing techniques such as garnishing and decoration. Student embraced the challenge and paid particular attention to food styling, with great attention to detail and presented the task to an excellent standard.

Year 10 – The students started their first year of their GCSE specification and learnt skills such as deboning chicken and filleting fish. Students also participated in a mussels masterclass and cooked and presented mussels three ways.

The dahl challenge highlighted the need of using a time plan and teamwork to produce a whole meal in under an hour.

Year 11 – Extra curriculum lessons were scheduled after school to Year 11 students to help enhance practical skills. This resulted in Two of our students entering the National Future Chef competition.

Alexander and Oliver performed extremely well with Oliver progressing through the heats to the regional final and being placed second to the eventual national winner. Oliver made a Chicken breast stuffed with mushroom duxelles, a chicken lolly pop and a cream reduction sauce. Oliver is moving onto KS5 and will pursue a catering course to fulfil his dream of being a chef.





GEOGRAPHY

Natalie Croucher

This academic year has seen an overhaul of the key stage 3 curriculum with students now focusing on the four strands that underpin the IB Geography diploma which are place, processes, power and possibilities. These are essential building blocks for all geographical skills.

Year 7 started the academic year focusing on place, firstly we developed students OS map and atlas skills and then went on to well examine the importance of place at a variety of scales. Students then used these skills in term 2 where we studied a range of fantastic places around the world from the mystery of Easter Island to the Arctic and then the coral reef. Allowing students to see the variety of different environments across the world allow them to develop the awe and wonder associated with geography.

Year 8 have studied tectonics this academic year focusing on the processes and power strands of geography. Students have developed an understanding of why we get earthquakes and why volcanoes erupt where they do in the world. They then have gone on to examine the impacts of these hazards and how these vary greatly depending upon the level of development in that country.

Year 9 have been studying global development which allows them to focus on the strands power and possibilities. This enabled students to consider what factors lead to a countries level of development, and who has the most global power. Students were then encouraged to consider the future, who would be the global superpower in the future and what factors would impact upon this. Considering these possibilities

encourage them to synthesise their knowledge that they have developed through the course.

FIELDWORK

Herne Bay

Some of year 10 have spent the day on the sunny North Kent coast investigating the effectiveness of the coastal defences. A variety of fieldwork techniques were used to assess whether the new £4.5 million groynes were protecting the beach from being eroded away. Herne Bay has historically suffered intense storms and large waves from the North Sea, making it an ideal location to conduct fieldwork (along with the fact Herne Bay gave students the opportunity to have a tasty lunch of fish and chips on the beach). Students used ranging

poles and clinometers to measure the gradient of the beach, signalling whether the beach was being protected. Students then moved onto measuring the speed of Longshore drift. This was achieved by counting the waves along 3 different locations along the beach over a 60 second period. Finally, students conducted a land use survey to assess the quality of the environment along different locations of the sea front. It was found the new groynes were effectively protecting the beach from being harmed by coastal processes.

Sevenoaks High Street

During the Autumn term the Year 11 Geographers took a trip to Sevenoaks High Street, this was part of an investigation into if and how urban change in Sevenoaks created social and economic opportunities? Blighs Meadow was a fantastic site to study as the shopping centre opened in 2002 and previously to that was a greenfield site, showcasing the urban change and development Sevenoaks has experienced. Pupils conducted land use surveys to collect data on how the land was being used from residential to retail. Environmental quality surveys were also carried out by pupils, who had to use their own judgement to score the area on a range of indicators including litter and safety features. This short but sweet trip gave students a fantastic opportunity to hone their human geography fieldwork skills as well as a chance to personally contribute to the local economy with a trip to one of the many cafes for a well-deserved warming hot chocolate.



IB Geography

This summer our IB Geographers visited three different fieldwork locations in June to collect data to write their internal assessments.

On day one we headed in the minibus to St Mildreds Bay, where students were investigating whether beach material roundness differed from one end of the beach to another. Students used a variety of fieldwork techniques to gather the data which they will then use to complete a chi squared test where they compare their results with expected results to see if they are statistically significant.

On day two we visited Hastings to complete more coastal fieldwork this time students were investigating whether there is a relationship between the distance up the beach and mean pebble size. Students used a range of fieldwork techniques to measure the beach profile and to complete an extensive sediment analysis. Students then will complete a spearman's rank to examine the statistical strength of the relationship between distance and pebble size.



On the final day we were in the London Docklands where student examine the impacts and successes (or failures) of urban renewal and its associated gentrification, key elements of the IB Geography curriculum. After an interesting visit to The Museum of the London Docklands, we explored Canary Wharf and all the associated developments then crossed over to Poplar. Here the traditional community was in stark contrast to much of the Docklands indicating that gentrification has not occurred because of the Docklands.

As ever our students were a credit the academy and learned a great deal about different fieldwork techniques.

We are very excited about our upcoming trip to Iceland with 30 year 11 students on the 18th October until the 22nd October. Our itinerary includes visiting the black sand beaches, staying in a hotel at the foot of Grabrok volcano as well as a visit to the summit of Langjokull, Europe's second largest glacier where we will go inside the glacier. We are all very excited.

HAIR & BEAUTY

Debbie Webb

For the first time at Knole Academy we have been working with Wella Education to support the progress of our students in 6th form. This includes access to online learning modules, online workshops and courses run at their studio on the stand in London.

Upon completion of the first year, they have attended a 3 day 'Colour focus' course.



We are welcoming Year 11 students coming into 6th form September 2024 to attend practical sessions to advance their skills and build confidence ready for the September start

Please find salon details here to make bookings

HAIR & BEAUTY SALON

Tel: 01732 448089

Email: hair@knoleacademy.org

We are open across the week
Tuesday – Thursday.

Monday and Friday we are open
to take bookings only.

HISTORY

Charlotte Kilby

2024 saw the re-introduction of the well-attended history film club. With a mixture of year 7, 8 and mostly year 9, students developed their historical knowledge through the use of films and documentaries. Starting off the Year with Christopher Nolan's Dunkirk, students explored the different experiences of ordinary civilians, the Air Force, and the Navy to support their unit on World War One in Year 9. As the winter months took hold and the number of students grew, films such as War Horse became a popular vote amongst students. As the year drew to a close, we looked to move away from the students focus on "war films" to encompass the role of the Tudors through Lucy Worsley's documentary that studied the lives of ordinary Tudors in Britain in the 15th Century.

Moving away from horrible histories, which will always be a department favourite, it is hoped that this club will continue to offer students another historical perspective of events that we are unable to study within the curriculum.

Within the classroom, the focus this year has been on encouraging and broadening students' historical knowledge to reflect the impact that this has had on the modern day.

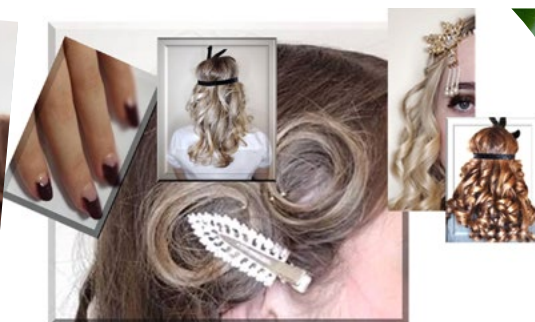
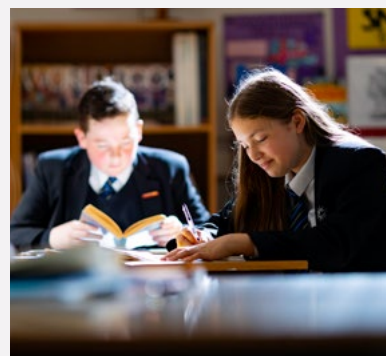
As we move further away from the years of Covid Quarantine, Year 7 have explored the impact this had on Medieval Britain through their study of the Black Death. Once again designing the much-anticipated Black Death Boxes, students created preventions and treatments to the epidemic to show the change and continuity over time.

Year 8 focus this year shifted to the role of minority groups in history exploring the treatment of women through witchcraft to the suffragettes and the experiences of African Americans from the Transatlantic Slave Trade through to the Civil Rights and Black Lives Matter protests of the modern day.

For year 9 the focus has been on the role of democracy in the development of the 20th Century looking at the First and Second World Wars.

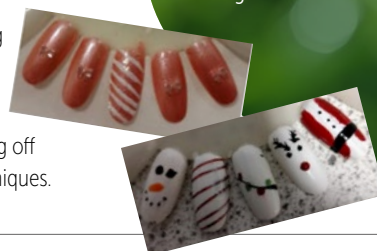
Having worked closely with the Religion, Philosophy and Ethics department for a number of years, we launched a joint project as part of the NATRE spirited arts project. Focussing on the role of Race and Racism in the Medieval and Modern time periods, Year 7 and 8 have spent lessons researching and formulating projects to portray the theme.

A national competition launched every year, Knole have entered 10 entries to reflect their knowledge of how the theme has changed throughout history. Using mediums such as wood, animation and even cake...students created some outstandingly creative pieces which will be judged with over 3,000 entries across the country.



Year 11 stepped back in time to the 'Roaring Twenties' to advertise a cinema event this summer with great success.

Meanwhile other year groups were showing off their creative inclinations with nail art techniques.



In year 9 we have been taking sustainability and working with natural ingredients to a new level, making face masks, lip balms, shampoo, hand and foot scrubs and comparing these to shop bought alternatives.



ICT

Caroline Shea

A DAY AT BLETCHLEY PARK: UNLOCKING HISTORY

Our recent school trip to Bletchley Park was nothing short of fascinating, situated in the heart of England between Oxford and Cambridge. We took 90 year 8 and 9 students. The mansion and its 58 acres of land were privately acquired for £6,000 in 1938, before the war began. The purchase was kept secret from the government to prevent any potential spies from alerting German forces.

As the war unfolded, approximately 150 people arrived at Bletchley Park to initiate code-breaking operations. As operations expanded, large wooden huts were constructed on the mansion's lawns. By the war's end, around 10,000 individuals worked at Bletchley Park, all bound by strict secrecy.

It's ideal location allowed recruitment of brilliant minds from Oxford and Cambridge Universities, as well as personnel from top London banks who transitioned into codebreakers.

As we stepped onto the historic grounds, we were transported back in time to World War II – the era of codebreakers, secret intelligence, and Enigma machines.

The day began with an introduction to the site led by knowledgeable staff. We explored the iconic huts where brilliant minds like Alan Turing and his team worked tirelessly to crack encrypted messages.

The Enigma machine, with its intricate rotors and wires, stood as a testament to their ingenuity.

This former military establishment played a crucial role in accelerating the end of the Second World War by an estimated 12-18 months.

Cybersecurity took centre stage during our visit. We learned about the importance of encryption and how modern technology owes much to the pioneering efforts at Bletchley Park.

Students also visited the radio centre which captivated them. They discussed the speeds of radio waves and the delay. They were also allowed to make communication with a satellite in space!

The sprawling estate offered more than just history. The gardens, lake, and charming mansion provided a pleasant backdrop for reflection. We marvelled at the resilience of those who worked here, often under intense secrecy, and felt a sense of connection to their legacy.



MATHS

Jonathan Cason

The mathematics department are pleased to announce another great year of exceptional participation in the maths house challenges by the year groups 7, 8, 9 and 10. The interactive house challenges have proven to be full of fun and exciting competition for both the panel members and the audience. This being heightened by the audience participation who were drawn into answering questions in support of their team.

This is an enjoyable team challenge that has a variety of questions and activities: fastest finger, team ordering of numbers, a loud and exhilarating relay with group teamwork, constructing the tallest tower, challenge question where the panel took a gamble which sometimes resulted in penalty marks, countdown, and more. It was fast and furious!

The preliminary rounds were conducted in tutor time and gave every student an opportunity to represent their house in the challenge.

Year 11 didn't miss out as they were offered and enthusiastically took up their places, in the three booster one hour sessions held after school every Monday. Each group targeted different abilities; it was lovely to see the students aspiring to achieve higher grades. They really did stretch themselves; nobody could ask more from them.

We were happy to welcome once again two maths specialist teachers from Sevenoaks school. They both love to visit with us and look forward to their tutoring sessions each week as do the students. This year they were engaged in challenging and stretching our high achieving year 11 pupils, with all sorts of marvellous maths. They have already booked up with us to work with our amazing students again next year.

YEAR 10

To elevate the experience some strategizing was introduced where teams could choose the question topic, level of difficulty, and potential penalties or reward for an opposing team. Congratulations to Khan who went for the double or halve option and landed up doubling their points.

1st	Kahn	50 points
2nd	Rudolph	17 points
3rd	Lee	15 points
4th	Attenborough	13 points

YEAR 9

The winning team's secret weapon was a marvellously quick-thinking student who gave Attenborough the edge.

1st	Attenborough	28 points
2nd	Lee	20 points
3rd	Rudolph	19 points
4th	Khan	16 points

YEAR 8

This was an exciting final because Attenborough came from behind to pip Rudolph at the post.

1st	Attenborough	24 points
2nd	Rudolph	23 points
3rd	Lee	20 points
4th	Kahn	13 points.

YEAR 7

This challenge had lots of support from students; a close competition throughout between the top two houses. The relay event at the end was won through quick thinking, lovely teamwork, and fast running by Lee.

1st	Lee	28 points
2nd	Attenborough	27 points
3rd	Rudolph	19 points
4th	Khan	12 points

MEDIA

Kieran Kyle

This year, we expanded further in the department and now all year groups are part of the film and media family. The year 7s and year 8s have done remarkable work, especially their magazine covers and articles. Given that very few younger generations read magazines anymore, this was a triumph. In its own small way, it has also helped the students with their literacy skills (i.e. formal vs. informal mode of address etc.). The year 9s have had the most exciting year as they are the feeder year group into the brand-new GCSE Film Studies course which will begin in September 2024.

The Year 9s have been moving from media to filmmaking disciplines over the course of the academic year. They are currently doing a 'dry run' of the GCSE Film coursework, which involves making either the opening scene or a key scene for a film idea of their own choice. The only stipulation is that it must be within a listed genre (science fiction, romance, horror, the teenage film or action movie). I have had many fun and engaging examples from students. For example, one group did a horror comedy that made fun of the cheesy conventions of the genre.

Even so, the performances were engaging. One student was a natural on camera, so it wasn't a massive shock to learn she did model work in her spare time. The camerawork used in the short film was excellent in that the camera person obviously understood the importance of lighting. The student did a very poignant scene complimented by the camerawork. The choice of camera positioning made sure the light shone on the actress's face in such a way as to look very stylish. This level of sophistication is very rare to see in the film and media classes of the lower school. It indicates that the level of sophistication coming from student work is increased the earlier media making skills are introduced. I am very excited to see all the year groups go from strength to strength in their media and filmmaking skills as they progress through the school.

The current year 10s are the last group to be doing the GCSE in Media. It is quite bittersweet to be going through the wonderful syllabus one last time. However, it was time to bring GCSE and IB into closer alignment. By doing GCSE Film rather than Media, it makes it easier for students to transition to post-16 than before. We had the usual preferences for print media course-work options, but some students were brave and took the audio-visual option of making

a music video. The risk paid off and the music videos submitted were very impressive indeed. The other work was still very impressive, and we continued to see a preference for magazine work as opposed to the film marketing work (i.e. film poster and DVD or Blu-ray sleeve).

The outgoing year 13s did some amazing work for the IB Film course. Given the recent beautiful weather, we went further afield this year and shot a horror movie mostly in the neighbouring nature reserve. The change of scenery and much bigger filming space made all the difference compared to school-set films from previous years. As a result, the final submission was a lot more interesting to look at than films of previous years.



MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Stephanie Beaumont

On the 26th September, the MFL Department celebrated the European day of Languages with all of our classes. Our students completed various activities focusing on the many benefits of learning different languages and it was a very successful day for both students and staff.

Ms Lamarsaude is a keen cinephile and started the MFL movie club in November, which proved to be very popular, especially with our year 10, 11 and 12 students. Students have had the opportunity to watch a wide range of famous French films at lunchtime, which they have found very enjoyable and obviously very useful to the development of their listening skills.

Back in March, we celebrated "La Journée de la Francophonie" when students discovered a range of French-speaking countries and their culture through varied activities including research and presentations.

More recently, students in years 7, 8 and 9 completed history research work, more specifically on Bastille Day and the French Revolution as well as D-Day at the beginning of June. In Languages lessons we always try to combine cross-curricular activities so students develop a better understanding of the French culture. As IB learners we strive to be open-minded and appreciate not only our own culture but other world cultures and their traditions and values.

Our year 12 IBCP students have been tasked with preparing a two-course meal for their families and friends this summer, which is part of their Italian-learning course. We look forward to seeing their portfolio of evidence, describing the recipes they used and the photos and/or videos they took to document their cooking skills!



PSYCHOLOGY

Olivia Martin

Year 10

We have been learning about how fascinating visual perception is. They explored various types of illusions, such as fictions, misinterpreted depth cues, and ambiguous figures, applying their knowledge creatively by producing their own visual illusions. Additionally, the students investigated dispositional and social factors influencing behaviours like helping behaviour, obedience, and conformity. They tackled questions such as "What makes people blindly follow instructions and carry out harmful acts?" and "Why do some people risk their lives to help complete strangers?"

Year 11

In Year 11, students focused on the brain's complexities and what happens when it does not function as expected. They studied physical trauma, strokes, and mental health issues like addiction and depression. This holistic approach included learning about treatment and support for individuals with biological and psychological problems. Year 11 students also benefited from the support of Year 12 study buddies, who helped them prepare for their GCSE exams. Special thanks to Jess, Alice, and Miles for their dedication in planning and delivering these sessions.

Year 12

Students have embarked on their Internal Assessments (IAs), starting with designing, and conducting experiments on intriguing cognitive phenomena. They selected topics from the syllabus including transactive memory stores, matching bias, the effort heuristic, short term memory decay, and the anchoring effect. We eagerly anticipate reading about their findings and the insights they gain from their research. Year 11 and year 12 students also take part in an annual neuron competition and this year the winner was Rebecca who created a pair of neuron earrings.

Year 13

This year's cohort have absolutely excelled in completing their IAs. They designed and conducted their own experiments, analysed the results, and wrote up comprehensive academic research reports. This significant achievement contributes 20% to their overall IB Psychology grade. We are extremely proud of their hard work and the high quality of their research which secured them very well-deserved marks for this component.



R.S.

Ann Maddox

I am delighted to introduce myself as the Head of Religion, Philosophy and Ethics at Knole Academy. In the past year I have introduced a new curriculum to the Students in KS3. This has given our students an opportunity to dive deeper into what Religion means to different people in society and how it affects their lives. Year 7 have looked at the major religions of the world. In this they have learnt about the Key beliefs of the Trinity in Christianity and how it is interpreted through art and different cultures. We have learnt about key celebrations in Judaism and what it means to different believers of the faith. We have looked at the key beliefs in Islam and how the "Night of Power" gives birth to the start of the religion. We have looked at how some of these ideas are also integrated into other religions. We have learnt about Hinduism and how Karma and the concept of re-incarnation can affect a person's life. We have discovered not only what the 5K's of Sikhism are but also how this makes a person of the faith think before they act. We have learnt about the transformation which takes place before the religion of Buddhism emerges and how we can think about dealing with suffering in our lives.

Additionally, they have learnt about the belief system of Humanism, showing how the ideas of morality are built into human lives.

Year eight have been immersed into looking at the environment and religion through Christianity. They have learnt about the connections between scripture and stewardship, furthermore, looking at how this can be seen in action in the world and the impact it has. They have developed understanding of diverse religious views about life after death this has been done through video clips (Bill and Ted) and creating games of snakes and ladders to understand the connection of Karma to life after death and how it affects actions for a Hindu in everyday life.

Some students in years 7 and 8 have been introduced to Spirited Arts in collaboration with History to develop thinking skills of students which was based on what divides us and what connects us. This has given students an opportunity to think deeply about their views on a divided world and how it fits into religion and history. This is to help students focus on what we can do to make the world a better place by looking at the past and creating a better future.

Year 9 have been introduced to and studied the ideas of good and evil. This has focused on how different religions interpret why there is evil in the world through the point of view of Christianity and Judaism.

This had been delivered in co-ordination with history through looking at the events which led up to the Holocaust, the religious reasons why some believe it happened, how it affected Jewish beliefs in G-d. They have also completed a unit on crime and punishment and how different religions deal with this including case studies of real crimes and punishment. Finally, they have ended the year with looking ethics through capital punishment, abortion and animal rights. They have engaged really well with these topics giving the students insight into how religion affects the lives and decisions of different cultures and countries.

SCIENCE

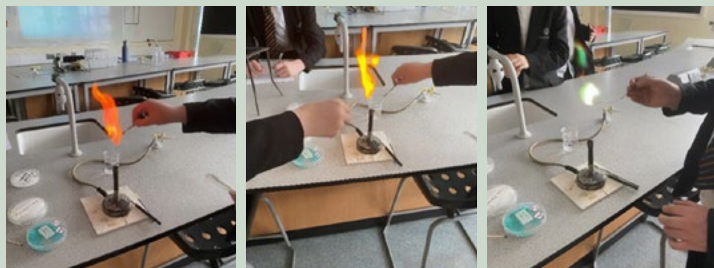
The Science Department – Mr Deighton

What a fantastic year we have had in the science department this year. After a high of the fantastic set of results in 2023, all the students and teachers have worked incredibly hard in science and we hope for the same, or better this year. Thank you to all the fantastic year 11 students who attended lunchtime revision, afterschool revision, booster sessions and worked hard at home. My thanks also go to the hard-working science teachers and technicians that planned and delivered these in their own time, for the students.

It has not just been busy with the year 11s, we have provided the greatest number of trips and clubs for all students to take part in, from Down House to experience the life of Charles Darwin, to Thorpe Park to learn the physics of rollercoasters. We are planning even more for next year. Below are some descriptions of some of the opportunities offered to students within the department. If your child would like to take part in any of the activities below, please get them to speak to their science teacher who will be happy to guide them.

I leave you with a quote from one of the most inspirational scientists, Marie Curie, I hope it to be as inspirational for this next generation of scientists, best of luck in the future year 11, no matter what your path.

'Life is not easy for any of us. But what of that? We must have perseverance and above all confidence in ourselves. We must believe that we are gifted for something, and that this thing must be attained' – Marie Curie



Science club – Miss Franklin

This year in science club, year 7 and 8 students have been having loads of fun carrying out lots of experiments for all three sciences.

For biology, students have been carrying out food tests on different food groups, to determine which substances they contain. For chemistry, they have been carrying out flame tests and neutralisation reactions. Students have also carried out physics practical experiments, such as investigating centre of mass using balancing birds and building electrical circuits.

If anyone is interested in joining science club next year please speak to your science teacher on how to get involved.

Gardening club – Mrs Walker

Gardening club returned on a high in September to a full harvest of potatoes, carrots, leeks and a few courgettes which had turned into giant marrows over the summer. As the autumn progressed the cabbages grew into monster proportions but tasted great. The weather during spring and summer has not been kind, with most gardening club lunch times very wet making planting difficult. We have had a small crop of early potatoes and a few leeks, but the weeds have outgrown everything else. We will not be defeated by the weather and have planted a bed full of sunflowers to brighten the plot which will look beautiful once they flower.

British Science Week 2024 – Mrs Kalis

Once again, years 7 and 8 students took part in this event which took place over 4 lessons and with the winner from each class being entered for the competition which was judged by Mr Collins and the Heads of Year.

Year 7

This year the year 7s were tasked to design and build a bridge and to see how much weight it could carry. Students were well engaged and had fun time working with their peers as a team.

The winners were from 7HL – Chase 7K1, Chayce 7K2 and Tom 7R2.

Year 8

The students were asked to design and build a marble roller coaster in teams of three. Students were enthusiastic and enjoyed working as a team in building their own roller coasters.

The winner from each class was entered into the science competition and the winners were Oscar Anstiss 8K1, Theo Huxley 8A1 and William Sexton 8K1.

Innovation club – Mrs Odeyemi

The students opted to work with the Head of Estates (Mr Jeffery) on reducing energy usage/costs at Knole instead of a project from the IRIS (Institute for Research in Schools) organisation. They met every Monday at lunchtime and sometimes after school via Teams. Below is an extract from their poster:

"We have tried to reduce energy use by looking at graphs using data we have collected around our school. We used data logging thermometers to record the temperature the boilers were heating classrooms to in our schools. We have cut our energy usage using two main criteria, the first is the time we turn the boilers on and off; if a boiler is on when no one is in the school (such as holidays) the energy being used is wasted, so we found if we turn the boilers off sooner, we can save a lot of wasted energy."

The second is that we have found that some classrooms were at a hotter temperature than they needed to be, and by reducing the set target temperatures, we reduced the amount of energy the school was using."

On 25th June, they attended the IRIS schools conference where they gave a one-minute presentation about their project in front of around 500 people and answered questions from students and teachers at their poster stand. They thoroughly enjoyed working on the project and are looking forward to the next steps.



West Blean – Mrs Slade

In October, the year 11 triple students visited West Blean woods, near Canterbury, to participate in a rewilding tour and to do some field investigation work themselves. The students carried out a series of investigations employing a ranging of sampling techniques that are used by ecologists. We practiced transect sampling to see how biodiversity changes in different parts of the woodland and did tree surveys to estimate tree numbers and density.

We used clinometers to calculate tree height and identification packs to identify the trees we surveyed. We then went on a walk to try and find the re-introduced bison, although they are very good at hiding so we did not manage to see them this time. Many thanks to the Kent Wildlife Trust for their excellent guidance and teaching during our visit.

Thorpe Park

100 year 10 students attended a thrilling science trip to Thorpe Park in April. We had a warm and dry day (apart from those water rides) and the students thoroughly enjoyed feeling the effects of forces like friction and experiencing energy changes of Ep into Ek. The students managed to employ a variety of skills including research, maths and application of knowledge from the whole science curriculum during their visit whilst of course riding all the exciting rollercoasters and various attractions. Swarm was definitely one of the favourites of the day, although some much preferred the flying fish.

Science Throwdown – Mr Deighton

Students from years 7-10 were selected to form two teams that took part in a science competition with other schools. This was the first time that this competition has happened with each school preparing a round of questions based on science knowledge and understanding. These ranged from 'Science in the news' to 'Sounds of the science lab'. Both teams did Knole Academy very proud. Although they did not place first, I feel confident that for the next competition we will be bringing back the trophy.

Romshed Farm

In June, the year 10 triple students visited Romshed Farm to learn about Sustainable farming practices, part of the triple Biology specification. Romshed Farm, a sustainable organic farm just outside of Sevenoaks. Students learned about the many ways in which farming can be carried out sustainably and in a way that benefits both the land and farmer. Fidelity, who owns the farm, passionately talked about how the farm had changed over the years to make best use of the land and work with nature, for example, by no longer attempting to grow crops. The soil is not good enough for crop growth and the use of fertilisers was having detrimental effects on biodiversity, so they stopped this practice and allowed the fields to become biodiverse meadows. One meadow which we walked through was a wildflower meadow and is almost as biodiverse as the Amazon Rainforest.

The students observed the many different varieties of wildflower and noticed the change in biodiversity due to biotic and abiotic factors within the meadow. Here they used 'transect sampling' techniques to collect data on biodiversity and how this changes as they moved away from a large group of trees. They also got to see the beautiful cows that are reared at Romshed.

We also learned about how the cows are looked after and why having cows and sheep on the farm is better than crops and used our knowledge of photosynthesis and starch storage to explain why they move the cows to new pastures daily in order to promote grass growth. We then got out hands dirty sifting through cow dung trying to find dung beetles, with some absolutely wonderful specimens found and observed. Students were able to appreciate just how important the decay cycle is in recycling nutrients back into the ground and the role these tiny detritivores play.

We compared soil samples in different parts of a field and learnt about the ways energy is used on the farm- from wood burning to heat the farmhouse, using wood from the managed woodlands surrounding the farm, to the solar panels in one field which help to increase the renewable energy available on the national grid.

Down House

In January, the triple science students went to Down House in the beautiful village of Downe, in Kent. The home of Charles Darwin (one of my favourite scientists) is owned now by English Heritage, who gave our students a truly special day. Down house is closed to the public during the week in winter and so we had the whole place to ourselves. Volunteers were working in the house to preserve items and maintain the house and wonderful items and specimens that reside there. We split into three groups and each group was led by a very knowledgeable guide. We had a tour of the house and saw the wonderful rooms where Charles Darwin, Emma, his wife, and their many children lived. The study is definitely one of the highlights of the house, where you can see the desk Darwin worked at and wrote '*On the Origin of Species*'. We were toured round the exhibition of Darwin's voyage across the world where he did many studies into the flora and fauna and came up with his ideas of Natural Selection.

We learnt about the politics of his theory and how there was a race to be the first to publish this idea, without upsetting any of his friends and colleagues. We also learnt about the backlash from the church and other members of the scientific community, and why it was so difficult to introduce his theories to the world. The gardens and greenhouse are another highlight of the trip. We saw an amazing collection of plants, both native and tropical, and learnt how Darwin used his children to help him conduct his experiments, including counting and following bees! It was very informative and interesting trip, and the students came up with many excellent questions during their visit.



Science Live trips – Mr Crane

Year 7, 8, & 9

This year students from years 7,8 and 9 attended the KS3 live science trip hosted in London. The Scientists appearing on the day were: Robert Winston, Maggie Aderin-Pocock, Hannah Critchlow, Tobi Alegbe and Tomi Akingbade.

The students enjoyed a fast-moving and thought-provoking event, where the scientists' delivered lectures with great enthusiasm connecting school science to the real world. All the fundamental STEM subjects were discussed by each scientist giving rise to what they do, and what a career in science could entail. Not only substantive knowledge was shared with the students, but the importance of disciplinary knowledge by also identifying ways to work scientifically.

Year 10 & 11

This year students from year 10 and 11 attended GCSE science live trip hosted in London. The Scientists appearing on the day were: Prof Robert Winston, Prof Andrea Sella, Dr Maggie Aderin-Pocock, Dr Hannah Critchlow, and Prof Jim Al-Khalili.

The primary objective of the trip was to generate greater enthusiasm for science amongst GCSE pupils in our school. To also help improve Science GCSE results with top tips on examination success from an experienced science examiner. All the fundamental STEM subjects were discussed by each scientist giving rise to what they do, and what a career in science could entail. Not only substantive knowledge was shared with the students, but the importance of disciplinary knowledge by also identifying ways to work scientifically. Lastly, the trip gave the increased opportunity for GCSE pupils who might be considering science subjects at KS5 to consider further study.





SOCIAL SCIENCES

Natalie Croucher and Charlie Foreman

SOCIOLOGY

Year 10 have had a fantastic start to their studies in Sociology they have been embedding their understanding of the social processes and theories that underpin sociology. They have developed a secure knowledge of the different sociological perspectives and have been evaluating the merits of each of these theories. They have particularly enjoyed studying the family unit, where they examine the structures in families that have changed overtime and how that has affected the functions that a family fulfils in society. They are particularly looking forward to studying crime and deviance in year 11.

Year 11 sociologists have worked hard this year consolidating their understanding of sociology. They have really enjoyed studying the crime and deviance unit where they can examine the different sociological motivations for crime. Many of our sociologists are planning to study Criminology in year 12 to examine the criminal justice system further.

SOCIAL AND CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Year 12 have had a fantastic first year studying Anthropology exploring the topics of the body and conflict. They have used a range of ethnographic material to support their studies and have particularly enjoyed *Pretty Modern* by Alexander Edmonds. This text focuses on plastic surgery in Brazil and how important a certain aesthetic is to people within Brazilian culture.

This year our year 13 cohort have been producing some excellent internal assessments, which involved students creating and analysing their own research question that linked to one of the four areas of inquiry that we study at Knole. One student completed an insightful investigation into sexism within the gaming industry, this related to the area of inquiry conflict. For the area of inquiry, belonging our anthropologists have studied a heavily patriarchal tribe in Papua New Guinea, and how different attitudes to women are in the tribes compared to life in our society.

CRIMINOLOGY

Year 12

As ever, criminology has been a popular choice as a subject for 6th formers. For the first half of the year the students were introduced to how we study crimes, criminals and criminology. This included different types of crime, reasons why certain crimes, such as honour crime, might go underreported to police and how certain awful crimes can lead to campaigns for change in laws and policies, for example how the murder of Sarah Payne led to the introduction of the Child Sex Offender Disclosure Scheme. Most students prepared well for their controlled assessment and received results they should be proud of. In the second half of the year the classes learned many different theories about why someone might become criminal from psychological, sociological and biological viewpoints, as well as different policies for the prevention of crime that have stemmed from these theories. Some prevention policies, such as aversion therapy and eugenics, have been deemed ineffective or immoral, and year 12 could well justify why this was.

Year 13

Year 13 continued to enjoy criminology and many students worked to an outstanding level for their controlled assessment. During the first half of the year they learned about what happens through the Criminal Justice System, from when a crime is first discovered, all the way through to when a person is convicted of a crime. Throughout this unit the pupils analysed the validity of many different case studies such as OJ Simpson. In the last 5 months year 13 have been taught about what happens to a perpetrator after conviction. Students have learned to be consistently critical of the criminal justice system in the UK, which has many failures, and many were shocked to find out that the UK has the highest per-capita incarceration rate in Western Europe and that our reoffending rates over a lifetime are more than 80%, proving how ineffective our rehabilitation system is. This has inspired many students to continue to study or work in the criminal justice sector when they leave school.

CREATIVE KNOLE



ART

Tanya Sarton

It has been a busy year in the Art and Design Technology department. We are lucky to have an exceptionally creative student body, and this year they have excelled themselves.

In the Autumn term we visited the Warner Bros. Studio Tour with our Year 10 Art, Graphics, Photography and Textiles students. As well as getting to see Hogwarts in the snow, they were able to experience real work application of the skills they are learning in lessons. This trip is always a highlight in the year for many of our students, and with even more props and sets on display this time, it was a real treat, particularly for those considering careers in design.

Throughout this academic year we have run several competitions, giving our students the chance to show off their talents outside of lessons. Our winners for the Wildlife, and Portrait Artist of the Year competitions exemplified the diversity of media being utilised in Art now, and the composition and scale of some entries were imaginative and ambitious.

In the summer term we ran a Knole Photographer of the Year competition. The entries have been excellent, showing the skill and hard work of everyone who took part, and giving us a glimpse of the things that inspire them outside of school.

We have run several clubs this year. Creativity Club for year 7 has been a relaxing space where students can create work based on anything that inspires them with like-minded students. DT club for our GCSE students has been a lively hub of activity, where they are keen to use every second of practical time in the workshop.

Photography club has been incredibly popular with Year 7 students, where they work with Post 16 students to learn digital camera skills.

In Design Technology our students have been hard at work learning the practical and theoretical skills needed to construct their own designs. We have presented several students with badges for exceptional work, and many examples of their projects are now on display in the DT corridor, including a selection of impressively designed shelving, bird boxes and carnival floats.

Throughout the year we have had a range of exhibitions displaying the work our students are doing in lessons. We have had a selection of Year 9, GCSE and Post 16 work from across Fine Art, Graphics, Photography and Textiles throughout the year. Alongside this there has been an array of food drawings from Year 10, Year 8 oil pastel and 3D model cakes, and year 7 still life.



Our final exhibition of the year is a showcase of the work our Year 11 and Post 16 have produced throughout their courses. It's always a pleasure to see the culmination of their hard work throughout their GCSE and Post 16 studies as they embark on the next phases of their lives.

Our Post 16 students are highly ambitious and keen to continue in creative careers that make the most of their Art and Design Technology skills. We have students going on to study an impressive selection of degree courses next year, including Digital Marketing, Graphic Design and Aerospace Engineering.



DANCE

Holly Page

This year the dance department has been busy putting on the annual dance production and attending local shows and competitions.

The Production 'A Night at the Movies' showcased the best of student and teacher led choreography. The show tied together some classic movies and musicals from Disney to horror, there was a lot of variety to keep you in your seat. Well done to the many students involved you were fantastic. We truly have some very talented and enthusiastic dancers at Knole. I am very proud of all the students and always look forward to the yearly productions. The dance captains were brilliant at supporting the preparation and running of the event.

The Knole Dance Competition Team have also competed in a Dance Championships at The Stag Theatre in Sevenoaks.

For the dance department this event is also a real highlight of the year and I hope to keep competing as a school.

The students were amazing and thrived off the competition. It is wonderful to see the students' receiving medals and recognition from professional judges. It goes to show the standard of dance at Knole is something special to be celebrated. Students placed 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in most dances, with the main group dance winning 1st. Brilliant work dancers!

Extracurricular dance clubs have been busy this year. Particularly the Cascade companies (entry by audition) and the open street dance club. There were auditions through the year to join the Cascade companies and next year I look forward to welcoming even more students into the clubs and companies.

I think the students will agree that as a dancer it is these clubs and performance opportunities which stick with us and hold a special place in our memories.

It helps us to remember the hard work put into honing our dance skills, but it also helps to build confidence, make friends and be ready for the dance performances to follow.

Final Thoughts

There is no doubt that dance makes an enormous contribution to our physical, social, and creative health and well-being. At Knole Academy, we wholeheartedly value the Arts, seeing its importance in culture and in the workplace. For me, it is wonderful to see the exploration and progress our students make from their first lessons in year 7 right to their chosen Dance in year 9 and then some continuing for GCSE. They develop a range of transferable skills and an appreciation of Dance. I look forward to welcoming new students next year as they start their journey at Knole Academy and hope to see them embrace the chances to be open-minded and creative.



DRAMA

Tor Hollidge

For the drama department, the 23/24 academic year kicked off with a trip to see the Olivier winning production of "Operation Mincemeat" at the Fortune Theatre, West End. Based on the true story of a World War II British intelligence operation that helped the Allies invade Sicily. Based on a true story, the show follows a small group of British officers in 1943 who try to trick Hitler into moving his troops away from Sicily by planting false documents on a corpse and floating it ashore in Spain. Our GCSE and LAMDA students were thoroughly entertained by an inspired performance of this brand new musical version of the wartime story.



From watching professional actors perform, the Yr 10 GCSE drama students staged a tremendous production of "D.N.A." by Dennis Kelly. Our students handled the tough themes with confidence, giving some very mature performance.

The term finished with LAMDA students completing their Grade 5 and 6 (bronze medal) performance exams, with a wealth of distinctions being achieved.

The spring term saw some of our Year 9 students explore the world of costume and puppet design, creating recycled fashion, finger and hand puppets and marionettes.



Under the umbrella of drama, there are so many avenues to explore; it is not all about what is happening "on stage". In year 9, our students have a chance to stretch out into alternative non-practical pathways, to navigate their way through the year and learn to self - support, finding solutions to problems themselves and developing self - motivation and time - management.

We also completed our Year 9 drama challenge, albeit in-class this time. With "Twisted Fairytales" as our stimulus, we saw nine drama pieces developed. The winning pieces this year were;

- 1st - Stacey, Emily, Zoe**
2nd - Imogen, Daisy, Amelia, Tahliah
3rd - Jess, Summer, Amy, Kyla, Reya

Practical drama also beckoned in the guise of our annual school production; this year, Terry Pratchitt and Simon Briggs "Wyrld Sisters", a weird hybrid of Macbeth/ Hamlet. Rehearsals began in January and a host of students from Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 took on the challenge. School productions offer much more than simply putting on a show. The memories stay with you long after you've left school.

The Summer saw our GCSE drama students complete their devised drama performance exams; some of the strongest dramatics pieces I have had the pleasure to watch develop. Alongside this, LAMDA students prepared for their grade 4 and 7 (silver medal) exams, with yet another full sweep of distinction achieved.

To bring the year to a close, our wonderful cast of "Wyrld Sisters" shared their months of hard work with audiences in matinees and evening performances.

I would like to celebrate each and every cast member. To walk onto a stage, open your mouth and deliver lines from memory takes confidence and guts.

It can be nerve-wracking. It is much safer to sit in the audience, sticking to your comfort zone. I applaud those who push themselves beyond that safe zone. With a sense of pride, I watch these students stand in the wings and, as the opening music plays, they move as a collective, taking to the stage.

Of course, the school production offers more than just an opportunity to throw a costume on and become another person. It offers the chance to develop design skills such as costume, prop and scenery as well as lighting and sound. One of our great successes is Josh, our Year 11 lighting and sound designer!

The last five years of music concerts, dance shows drama performances and countless other events have been handled exceptionally by this remarkable young man. He is, quite frankly, one of Knole Academy's greatest assets but our loss is The Brits school's gain and we wish him luck as he begins the next chapter of his training in production arts.

MUSIC

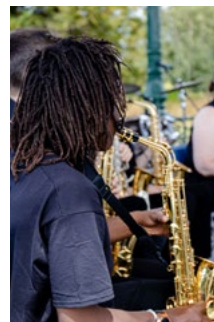
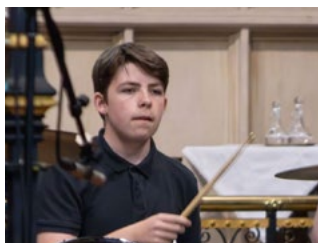
Abbey Lawrie

The Music department continues to be a busy hub of instrumental lessons and rehearsals, with preparations always underway for the next performance opportunity.

The Christmas Concert in December was a highlight of the winter term. The evening included performances from all our school ensembles, as well as vocal and instrumental solos from students in Year 7 through to students in sixth form. The evening was superbly hosted by our Head Students and was an excellent way to showcase the vast musical talent we have here at Knole.

At the end of the winter term, our musicians went to perform a section of Christmas music to the residents of Alpine Care Home in Sevenoaks, where we were warmly welcomed, and the residents enjoyed a performance of both Christmas carols and festive secular songs. These performance opportunities provide the opportunity to build and develop our links with the wider community.

The spring term saw a focus on performance and composition coursework for Music GCSE, Music Performance BTEC Level 3 and the Music Production Certificate offered to students in KS4.



The recital room was busy with solo and ensemble recordings and filming, while the studio and music technology suite were utilised to make final tweaks to composition coursework and projects.

The first half of the summer term saw Year 11 and 13 busy with exam preparation, however there were several music events to round off the academic year. At the end of June members of the Orchestra, Chamber Choir and school bands headed off to Liverpool for a performance tour with Mrs Lawrie and a team of the peripatetic staff. Between the busy concert schedule, students enjoyed a trip to the Beatles Museum at the Royal Albert Docks, and the British Music Experience, which is historic display of British culture, popular music, and musical artists.

June proved to be a busy month, with a group of Year 10 GCSE Music students taking part in the annual Sevenoaks Festival by performing a set of popular song covers as part of the Youth Music Stage.

The academic year will conclude with an informal summer concert in the Oaks Theatre in July. This is another opportunity for students to develop their confidence performing to an audience, and will feature solo items, band performances and numbers from our main school ensembles.

The students provide the stagehand team, as well as assisting with the technical set up for sound and lighting.

Many of our students learn musical instruments, with the majority learning with our team of peripatetic instrumental teachers. Some of our students choose to take music examinations on their instrument, and this year we have celebrated many higher-level music exam achievements. Stacey in Year 9 achieved Distinction in Grade 5 Piano, Alfie in Year 10 achieved Distinction in Grade 6 drums and William in Year 10 achieved Distinction in Grade 6 piano.

Our musical extracurricular clubs have been as busy as ever this year, taking part in regular performance opportunities. It is encouraging to see new members getting involved each year in an eclectic range of clubs from Ukulele Group and Composition club to Orchestra and two choirs, and preparations will soon be underway for concerts and performance opportunities next academic year.

KNOLE EXTRA



COMBINED CADET FORCE

Frank Toomey and Jonathan Cason

The combined cadet force has had a great year culminating in a fantastic summer camp with 26 cadets spending a week at Dibgate camp near Folkestone.

Throughout the year cadets were trained in self-discipline, problem solving and leadership skills. We made good use of our paintball guns by setting up paired fire and manoeuvre tasks and trained the cadets on basic weapons and survival skills.

We ran an overnight exercise at Mereworth training ground where cadets took the lead in securing a harbour area and setting up bashers (tents) for the night and cooking meals from army issue ration packs. The following morning, they had to embark on a mine clearing exercise, rescue a downed airman under enemy fire and avoid capture by the senior cadets.

Summer camp was held at the beginning of July and we spent the week under canvas. The cadets showed their skills in archery, paddle boarding, raft building, mountain biking, rock climbing, axe throwing, creating fire and night navigation. We spent a day on Hythe ranges doing some live firing at 100 metres and several cadets achieved marksmanship level! We also undertook training in section attacks, ambush, TIBUA, and paint balling. On the final competition day we also won a gold medal in archery.





Students collected their gold awards at the palace

DUKE OF EDINBURGH

Stuart Ereaut

Duke of Edinburgh has an incredibly successful year at Knole Academy but also bittersweet. We said goodbye to Miss Nimmo, a stalwart of DofE at Knole Academy for over a decade. On behalf of the hundreds of students Miss Nimmo has helped over the years complete their DofE thank you for all you have done.

Our first expedition of the season was our Gold DofE Practice expedition where we invited Weald of Kent along to increase our numbers. On the first day the students took a steep route up and around Llyn Idwal to get a taste for scrambling and safe movement on difficult terrain. On the second day the students took an unmarked

scramble route up to the top of Mt Snowdon to avoid the crowds before coming down The Watkins Trail. On the third day the students set off by themselves from the Bottom of Capel Curig to a wild campsite at the foot of Moel Eilio. Despite torrential rain and high winds, the students found their way admirably. After the wild camp the students again set off in torrential rain and high winds to Betws-Y-Coed. All teams made it there in fantastic time despite the weather.

Unfortunately, the winds picked up that afternoon, completely flattening and breaking several tents and the decision was made to move to a more sheltered campsite in a different valley.

Overall, the trip was a fantastic success with both schools showing fantastic tenacity and great map reading skills.



The second expedition was the Silver Practice Expedition in the South Downs, just north of Brighton. Forty year 10 students conducted themselves fantastically, practicing their map reading skills and camp skills in steep and often featureless terrain. Thank you to Mr Knell for filling in last minute for a staff absence.

K-FEST

Tim White

240 students across years 8-10 joined together on Monday 8th July to celebrate an outstanding year.

Students were invited to K-Fest for their exemplary behaviour and attendance records. Students enjoyed ice cream, garden games, tug of war battles and an inflatable total wipeout, great fun.

Despite many challengers, the teachers remained unbeaten on the tug of war and Mr White was the last man standing on Wipeout!

A huge thank you to Ms Nixon and Mr Ereat for organising and the caretakers for all their support with setting up.

Will you be invited next year?



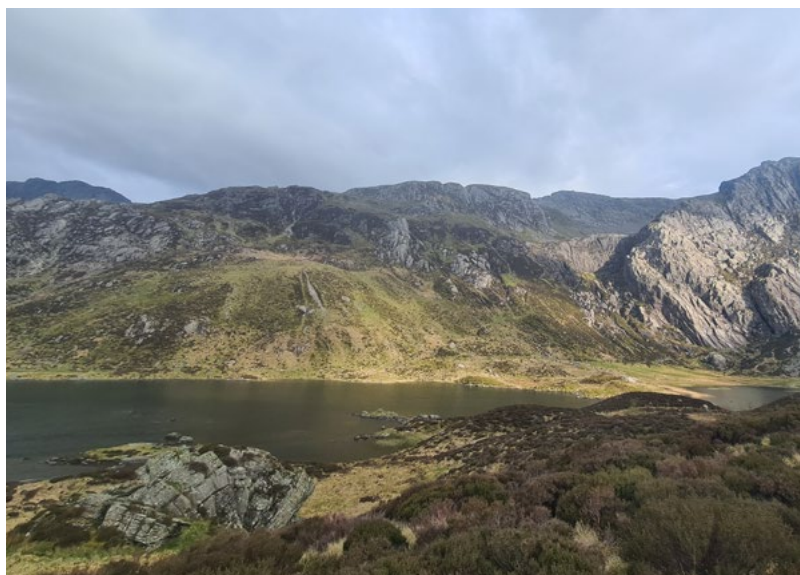
The Bronze Practice Expedition of year 9's took place at Adamswell Campsite near Tunbridge Wells. The students headed out on the Saturday with a staff member to practice their compass and map work and then set off Sunday completely on their own. All the students performed admirably by themselves on the Sunday despite it being the first time many of the students had been on their own.

The Bronze Assessed Expedition took place near Biggin Hill. The weather was torrential rain which made it extremely difficult.

The road into the campsite was completely underwater meaning the students needed to be shuttled in on minibuses to cross the floods. Despite the rain and cold all the students had a brilliant time and did themselves proud. All the staff were very impressed with their tenacity.

The Gold Assessed Expedition took place in Dartmoor. For 4 days the students do not cross a road or usually see any other people. It is a remote and challenging four days but extremely rewarding. It gives the students a chance to properly get off grid. All the students did fantastically well despite the weather, and it was a brilliant experience for all.

The Silver Assessed Expedition went out the last 3 days of school in July down to The South Downs, just outside Eastbourne. The students started at Beachy Head, an incredibly scenic start to their trip. They crossed to Alfriston taking in the Long Man from close while traversing the hills. They crossed Seven Sisters Country Park along the way finishing inland. It was a fantastic expedition for all and a great experience of the UK Coastline.





ROCK CLIMBING

Stuart Ereaud

This year an exciting opportunity to take part in the Kent Schools Climbing Experience League. The competition took place in two phases, a round of heats and then the finals. Knole is lucky to have our very own climbing wall and so the students are fortunate to have training in techniques and practices from Mr Turner and Mr White. We took a mixed team of year 7-10's from Knole Academy consisting of Evie Croucher,

Rafferty Kell, Tristan Eckersley, James Beadle, Isaac Smit, William Cook and Athos Ciceu. The competition involved classic bouldering climbs of varying difficulties as well as teams based challenges like blindfold climbing and traversing challenges. All the students put in a fantastic effort and came second in a nail biting finish.

SKI TRIP

Russell Turner

Few schools offer the wonderful ski opportunities that our students have been afforded over the last thirty years. During that period, we have enjoyed fantastic skiing in Italy, USA, Canada and France. Austria was selected again for our 2024 ski extravaganza due to the overwhelming success of previous visits. Exceptional skiing for all abilities was provided on superbly groomed slopes accessed by an immaculate lift system.

The sheer expanse of the Salzburger Sportwelt ski area meant our students were offered the opportunity to overcome new challenges every moment of our six days "en piste".

Once our beginners mastered the basics, the lift system carried them across the vast ski area to experience some of the best mountain slopes in the world!

It is always a pleasure to watch students, of all ages and abilities, group together to support one another and enjoy a week that will be amongst the best and most memorable of their lives. All students represented Knole Academy with distinction, but special praise must go to Alex who thoroughly deserved to win the prestigious and much coveted Mr/Miss Snow award and Noah who won the slalom event.



KNOLE OPPORTUNITIES



CAREERS

Jonna Stevens

Flushed with the success of our recent work experience weeks for both Year 10 and Year 12 we look back at another year filled with many different careers related activities. In December we hosted another successful careers fair, with more than twenty exhibitors including FM Conway, Made in Kent Radio, and a local tree surgeon company Down to Earth, to name but a few. The event was attended by students from Year 8 to Year 13 and students had the opportunity to engage with prospective employers and training providers.

In March Mr Turner, our Head of Sixth Form, took Year 12 and Year 13 students to the UK National Apprenticeship Show at Sandown Park Racecourse. Students had the opportunity to attend talks and meet with representatives from different apprenticeship providers such as the armed forces, representatives from the finance sector and the civil aviation authority.

Students in Year 10 and 11 have had dedicated careers lessons through the IBLP subject carousel where they have explored different careers and the skills required. We continue to use the Unifrog platform and from September there will be a generic parent log in so that parents can also make use of this excellent resource. Keep an eye on the careers section at the website for updated pages from September.

A reminder that all Knole Academy students have a Unifrog account, and I highly recommend that you have a look at this fantastic resource.

We continue to use Instagram to post about upcoming events such as talks about apprenticeships, opportunities for work experience and volunteering (all important to build that CV or personal statement) as well as general information about what we have been up to. Why not follow us on #knolecareers.



We are increasingly emailing opportunities for work experience directly to students and parents, this year we have had students taking part in medical school application master classes, accountancy & finance events, several opportunities relating to the study and practise of law, general information about apprenticeships and Oxbridge information events delivered in partnership with Sevenoaks School. We always want to hear back from you if you decide to take up any of the opportunities that we offer so we can continue to tailor our careers support to suit our students.



In May we took a group of Year 12 students on an aspiration raising trip to Oxford where we toured the colleges and immersed ourselves in the slightly other worldly feeling of "the city of dreaming spires". All the students that took part agreed that it was an amazing experience and although they may not apply to Oxford it has made them consider University as an option.

The summer term culminated for us in our work experience weeks, 17-21 June for Year 12 and 1-5 July for Year 10. In total over 26-30 June. Over 220 Year 10, and 80 Year 12 students successfully took part in various work experiences ranging in experiences as diverse as working in education both nurseries and schools, working in garages, law firms, City of London local authority, the London Stock Exchange, art galleries and even radio stations. Thank you so much to all the students who were a credit to themselves and the school and thank you to all the parents who have helped and supported the work experience programme.

If you think your young person would benefit from careers advice or if you have any questions about options or careers paths, please do not hesitate to contact me. I have drop-in sessions every Monday and Friday lunch time for students, and I am happy to meet with parents after school.

My email is jstevens@knoleacademy.org

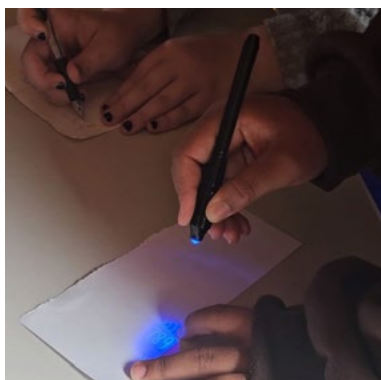
KENT ACADEMIES NETWORK (KAN)

Jenny Corbett

Knole has been part of the Kent Academies network since 2013 and we are so proud to have recruited some excellent applicants for this year. KAN is set up to remove barriers to higher education by developing pupils' confidence, knowledge, and agency so that they can set ambitious goals.

They work with students from our school and five others from year 9 all the way through to university and beyond. We recruit annually for these places which comprise of two programmes; Core and Aspire. Both programmes are four-year programmes of mentoring, meet-up days, and core residential weeks. Students on this programme are paired with university mentors to help guide them through the journey of GCSE, sixth form and application processes.

We are thrilled to see more of our student alumni become mentors to our students throughout the programme.



This year's students have enjoyed a full KAN programme, including meetup days and two residentials. The most recent summer residential at Sevenoaks School saw our new year 9 cohort immersed in a full programme of activities including, escape rooms, visits to the globe, higher education talks, forensic investigation, neuroscience and beginners' Russian sessions.

The residential has been a huge success and presented so many brilliant opportunities for students to broaden knowledge bases and have new experiences with new people.

KAN students are now engaged in their summer projects which include essays written on the topic of their choice marked by university lecturers.

The image shows a clue from the escape room won by our own Lily Owens, students had to open the box which involved several layers of unique logical and lateral thinking puzzles that had many of our mentors stumped.



WORK EXPERIENCE

A reflection of Astrid Robinson - Year 10 Work Experience

Astrid joined our team at Fern Hill Montessori preschool, for a week of work experiences. What is usually an intimidating and daunting prospect of stepping into a workplace where everything is unfamiliar and unexpected, Astrid embraced her time, from the moment she stepped through the door. She was introduced to the routine, procedures and policies at Fern Hill, and working closely with the manager and a mentor, she quickly understood the expectation of an Early Years Professional, in a preschool setting.

Astrid has experience working with older children in a Rainbows group.

However, the children who were aged from 2 years old gravitated towards her friendly and enthusiastic personality.

She engaged well with the children, which comes with it challenges, as each child has varying needs based on their age, interests and developmental needs.

As the week progressed it was a delight to observe Astrid develop in confidence with the children, my team and even the parents. She assisted with leading a large group activity using the percussion instruments, and Astrid brought joy to the children (and staff) with sharing her love of playing the flute. We ended the week with a bang - as it was our sports day.

Astrid conducted herself in a professional manner in front of parents, and managed to enjoy herself, alongside the rest of the team in the process.

Thank you Astrid for all your hard work.

If like Astrid, you are contemplating a career in early years, please do not hesitate to contact a college, early years provider or the school careers advisor for the most suitable options, whether it is completing a diploma in Early Years, or an Apprenticeship in a nursery or school.

Annie Jeal, Manager at Fern Hill Montessori Preschool, Farnborough Village, Kent

Sam Hazell – Work Experience with the Royal National Lifeboat Institute

My work experience was with the maintenance and repair team for the Royal National Lifeboat Institute (RNLI), at their Headquarters in Poole.

I learned about all the different class of lifeboats. I got lots of real, practical experience including:

- Trailer maintenance
- Oil changes on an Atlantic 85
- Cleaning the Atlantic 85 and a D class lifeboat
- Assisted in moving two hovercraft and other boats around the yard



I had a ride on a Mersey Lifeboat when it needed to be moved. All Lifeboats are named after rivers. The Shannon Class Lifeboats can stop in the length of their hull.

Poole is the centre of RNLI operations; it is where all the crews are trained. There is a pool that can simulate storm conditions. The control room co-ordinates all the rescues for the whole UK coastline and liaise with the coast guard. It was great to get some real hands-on engineering experience because I want to be an engineer. It has helped me decide that I am more interested in electronic engineering than mechanical engineering, but I enjoyed both.

My uncle suggested that I apply to the RNLI, because he works there and is responsible for trials and commissioning of lifeboats. I sent my CV in and was lucky enough to be offered a place.

It was an early start every morning because my uncle's shift starts at 7.30 am and he lives an hour away, so I had to get up at 5.25 am every morning. It was worth it though. Everyone was friendly and welcoming and I enjoyed learning and being kept busy.



KNOLE SPORT



BASKETBALL

Tim White

KS3 BASKETBALL

A great year for basketball at Knole with success across all year groups, many thanks to the strengthening of our relationship with Sevenoaks Suns introducing extra training sessions every Tuesday lunch time and after school.

23/24 was the first year Knole entered the Jr NBA competition, representing the Charlotte Hornets. The Jr NBA competition includes basketball colleges and independent schools scattered across Kent. It was challenge but our teams held their own and picked up some valuable points and experience.

SEASON HIGHLIGHTS

Year 7

MVP – Freddie F
Most improved – Ozzy
Shout out to Taylor for shooting the lights out!

The team were boosted by the introduction of Thomas C mid-season guiding the team to their first of many wins.

The popularity of basketball in year 7 grows each week. If they continue to turn up and they listen to their coaches, they will be a fantastic team in years to come.



Year 8

MVP – Luca RH
Rookie of the year – Sam G
Shout outs to Sam M, Jacob E, Maxwell

Arguably to most exciting team to watch this season with some talented youngsters who gained experience playing in the year 9 league.

Year 9

MVP – Maddox

Strong start to the season beating Farringtons school. The year 9 team set a high bar for the younger teams to follow.

I have loved seeing the year 9s playing basketball at break times on the MUGA. We are doing our best to get some outdoor basketball facilities, but the boys improvise well using the netball posts. Who needs a backboard anyway!

Huge thanks to Mr Lewis for organising and taking fixtures this year.

His enthusiasm for basketball is contagious and the students all love working with him.



FOOTBALL

Russell Turner

BOYS FOOTBALL

The Year 7,8 and 9 boys football teams all had great seasons, resulting in a strong representation from Knole Academy at the District Cup Finals event played out at Rusthall FC in May.

The Year 7 team were undefeated all season, and played a brand of technical, possession-based football beyond their years. After a keenly contested final against St Gregs, they deserved the 2-1 victory that had the parents cheering from the sidelines. The season has been a real team effort, but special mention must go to JJ, Henry and Jack who were scouted for Kent trials.

The Year 8 team play out from the back in a manner that demands as much courage as it does technical ability. They dominated the final with at least 75% possession but couldn't manage the victory in normal time that their efforts thoroughly deserved.

Penalty shoot-outs are a lottery, and unfortunately, we were on the wrong side of this one, but their development as players compensates for any disappointment. Freddie, our captain and leader from the back, was unfortunately missing as he had a national final for Ebbsfleet FC the same day but would have been proud of his mates and their efforts.



The Year 9 team had the chances to win their final in normal time but had to settle for a spot-kick victory which sweetened the Year 8 shootout loss earlier in the day.

Marshallled superbly by their captain Santino, the team thoroughly deserved their bit of penalty luck, and retained the trophy that had the crowd bouncing with pride and joy.



GIRLS FOOTBALL

The girls' football season has been a delight to oversee from start to finish. On the back of the recent successes of the Lionesses, the demand for girl's football is at the highest it has ever been. Our afterschool football club often saw 40+ students in attendance and it has been a pleasure to see girls of all ages and abilities enjoy football together and get the opportunity to develop their skills.

After many afterschool hours of practice, the season got underway. For some of our year 7s, it was their first experience of playing competitive football. After some valiant performances from the girls with our year 8s leading from the front, unfortunately they missed out on the final, but they will certainly be back and hungry for success next season.

A special mention to year 8's Harry S and Arabella for their impressive performances and positive attitudes throughout.

The year 9/10 was a different story, and after dominating each tournament, including some excellent, fast-flowing attacking football, they reached the WSKFA final at Rusthall FC. After a screamer from just inside the opposition half from Bella, the opposition equalised, forcing a penalty shootout. Unfortunately, it wasn't meant to be for the girls this year, however as some of them say goodbye to school football, they can leave with their heads held high after a great season. The route to the final was a team effort, but a shoutout must go to top scorer Lois and captain Phoebe for their instrumental performances throughout.





GOLF AT KNOLE PARK

Tim White

A huge thank you to The John Stoodley Trust for giving our students the opportunity to experience golf again this year. Knole Park GC celebrates its centenary year in 2024 and has been recognised as one of the best courses/clubs in the country. Although we didn't enter students into the Kent Championships this year, Henry Vaughan (year 12) is having a great season, recently winning the Chislehurst GC Junior Open. Some of our students have really caught the golf bug and are working towards securing a handicap to qualify for next year's competitions.

Thank you to Andrew Butterfield, PGA professional, and Joe for teaching our students. Thanks to Knole Park GC for being so welcoming and allowing us to take over their practice facilities on Wednesday afternoons. Spaces are limited but if you are interested in joining Mr White at Knole Park next year, please let him know. Priority is given to students with a golf handicap, but beginners are welcome, and clubs and balls are provided for free.



INTER-HOUSE

Maisie Stock

CROSS-COUNTRY

The first sporting competition of the year took place the week before October half term where we saw all members of Key Stage 3 compete in the annual Interhouse Cross Country competition. As the weather declined, in true Cross Country style the runners faced tough yet ideal conditions. Despite their opposing thoughts on the wet and muddy terrain, we witnessed great determination and resilience throughout the event.

Once again, the Year 7 boys stormed the race with the top 10 running quicker than most of the Year 8s. Bertie had a great race, achieving the quickest time across the board out of all the boys that took part.

Despite this, we still saw some great performances from the Year 8 boys with Freddie winning first place with the same time as second-place runner, Teddy in Year 7. With a great set of results, it was clear to see that Year 7&8 increased the competitiveness of the event and set the Year 9 boys a challenge to beat.

For the girls, Mia in Year 9 ran the fastest out of everyone with a fantastic time of 7m 20s, being the only one to run quicker than 8 seconds and gaining the biggest lead of more than 45 seconds. Despite this fantastic performance, the high levels of competitiveness between the girls meant the results were closer than ever across all three year groups with Sophia and Gabriella also achieving top spot in their year group.

All the runners did their best and those in the top 10 did exceptionally well to secure a place in what was a challenging competition.

With all the points combined, this years cross country event was won by Rudolph House with a strong lead of 30 points. Next was Lee House in second place, with Khan and Attenborough finishing closely behind. Everyone's efforts were appreciated and recognised by the PE department, with the top performers in each year group being put forward for the Knole Run in November.

Place	Yr7 Boys		Yr7 Girls		Yr8 Boys		Yr8 Girls		Yr9 Boys		Yr9 Girls	
1st	Bertie P	10.54	Sophia B	8.04	Freddie D	11.20	Gabriella L	8.29	George M	11.55	Mia J	7.20
2nd	Teddy F	11.20	Sienna M	8.30	Beau S	11.24	Mia M	8.48	James S	12.07	Amy H	8.24
3rd	Mason D	11.28	Imogen H (joint 2nd)	8.30	Spencer L	11.40	Shiloh S	9.15	Harrison D	12.19	Isla G	8.25
4th	Bailey A	11.36	Freya C	8.33	Charlie H	12.20	Ellie W	9.25	Rocco A	12.40	Jess S	8.31
5th	Jack T	12.15	Evie H	8.34	Sulley B	12.50	Sophie B	9.42	Ollie T	12.50	Emma W	8.34
6th	Dylan B	12.43	Livi R	8.48	Luca RH	12.52	Aimee M	9.48	Vinnie F	12.55	Lola C	8.46
7th	Aaron P	12.46	Necia F	8.56	Max H	13.05	Thea C	9.50	Beau H	12.57	Phoebe D	8.52
8th	Tom F	12.48	Nicole D	8.57	Jimi B	13.13	Alicia T	9.52	Joshua R	13.08	Emilia P	9.00
9th	Charlie S	12.58	Sienna B	9.05	Jack B	13.22	Arabella W (joint 8th)	9.52	Alex A	13.42	Alana C	9.06
10th	Heath H	12.59	Xenia P	9.07	Max T	13.24	Ruby-Sienna F	9.57	Elliot B	13.35	Lily B	9.26



BOYS' FOOTBALL AND GIRLS' NETBALL

As always this was the most popular interhouse event of year. With all four houses entering A and B teams, it was all to play for. The event started with year 8 and 9 putting forward their strongest competitors. We witnessed a great mix of results with Rudolph, Khan and Lee all taking a top spot amongst all the teams that took part. Unknowingly there was one point between each of these three Houses and it was hard to call who had set the lead going into the year 10 and 11 tournament. After a heightened rivalry during the Year 10 and 11 tournament, it was an even closer competition as each House came out with varying results. Khan dominated the netball, whilst Rudolph and Lee celebrated their success in the football tournament.

With a four-point difference in the tournament results, once again the current standings were unknown. The last tournament of the day took place with Year 7 coming out raring to play. Attenborough got their first win of the day in the netball, whilst securing second place in the football as Khan got another victory. For Rudolph and Lee, it came down to goal difference with Rudolph coming out on top in third place.

It was hard to determine from the start which House would celebrate the win of the overall tournament, but Khan managed to finish in first place with Rudolph second, Lee third and Attenborough fourth. It was a great to see all those that took part and represented their House with pride.

BOYS' BASKETBALL AND GIRLS' FOOTBALL

Another annual interhouse competition took place and this time round we saw members of KS3 & 4 compete in boys Basketball and girls Football.

The first basketball tournament commenced between Year 8&9s, where we saw Lee House win all their games. Player of the tournament was clearly Luca after leading his team to success and displaying great sportsmanship all round. Whilst the basketball was taking place, the girls were well underway playing in an A and B football tournament.

The engagement from the girls was fantastic and we were very impressed with the quality of their performance. Khan and Lee finished neck and neck in the football as they both finished first and second in the two tournaments. The results for the Year 8 & 9 boys' basketball and the girls' football were then combined and the current standings saw Lee take the lead, closely followed by Khan with Rudolph third and Attenborough fourth.

The competition continued when the Year 10 & 11s tournaments took place. Lee managed to celebrate another success as they won the basketball again and the girls contributed to this by winning the B team tournament. Unfortunately, their A team didn't have as much success, causing Khan to steal the top spot out of Year 10&11 combined.



It was obvious that it was all to play for between Lee and Khan going into the Year 7 tournament, with Rudolph and Attenborough seeking third place. With an increased popularity in basketball and girls football this year, it was great to see all the Houses represented and playing to the best of their ability. The Khan boys won the basketball, with Lee in second place, Rudolph third and Attenborough fourth. Unfortunately for Khan, the year 7 girls couldn't replicate this placing them in fourth place.

Year 7 Rudolph celebrated their first and only win of the competition, with Lee and Attenborough finishing second and third. This meant that overall in Year 7, Rudolph finished top spot joint with Lee House.

After collating all the results from the day, the overall winner was Lee House. Khan were strong competitors finishing in second place, with Rudolph coming third and Attenborough fourth.

MIXED SOFTBALL AND ROUNDEES

Starting off unsure about whether the event would be able to go ahead due to the endless amounts of rain we experienced beforehand, we were so fortunate to have such sunny weather for the next interhouse competition, mixed Softball and Rounders. This time, Year 7 and 8 and Year 9 and 10 joined forces to represent their Houses.

There was an increased amount of rivalry between the Houses after the Softball as Rudolph, Khan and Lee all finished on the same number of points. However, for Year 7 overall Rudolph stormed to the top of the table after winning both of the Rounders tournaments taking place for Year 7 & 8.

Again, Lee beat Khan by coming second and unfortunately for Attenborough, they only entered one team for Softball placing them behind everyone else in the results.

For the Year 9&10 competition, there was only one Softball tournament. Khan did their House proud by winning, with Attenborough coming second, Lee third and Rudolph fourth. For Rounders, we witnessed an unreal final between Attenborough and Rudolph. Unfortunately for Rudolph, only having 5 players made it a tough game to win, resulting in Attenborough coming first and second across both tournaments. After collating the results for Year 9&10, Khan and

Attenborough finished joint first making a significant difference to the overall results.

For the final results, it was closer than ever as there was one point between first and second place. Rudolph managed to steal the win off Khan, with Lee and Attenborough next on the same number of points. The rankings for third and fourth place were determined through goal difference, resulting in Lee coming out on top.

Well done to all those that got involved, it was a great effort from all those that participated.

KNOLE RUN

Tyler Miller



Having achieved the best times in the interhouse cross country event, our top runners were selected to represent the school in the Knole Run. The prestigious event, held at Knole Park, is attended by a wealth of schools across the South East of England. A strenuous 2.6km (girls) and 3.4km (boys), including a mixture of hills, woodland and grass areas, awaited our runners. In front of hundreds of spectators, all students were a credit to themselves and the school; their effort, resilience and determination were admirable. The day was a huge success and a great experience for our students, and we are already excited for the next event.

A massive shoutout must go to Spencer who was our top performing boy on the day with a time of 15:09, and to our top performing girl, Imogen, with a time of 13:28.



NETBALL

Miss Hurley

Tonbridge Schools Netball League Results:

What a season the girls have had this year. The training every Monday after school for year 7 and lunchtimes for years 8 and 9 on Mondays and Thursday lunchtimes for GCSE has paid off and the girls should be proud of their achievements.

The year 10/11s remained undefeated all season with impressive wins over St Gregs, Skinners and Mascalls, some games winning by 20 goals. Player of the season Taiyah was impressive in any position she played, well done.

The year 9 squad also remained undefeated this season however didn't have many fixtures due to other schools not fielding teams. Impressive wins against Skinners and combined team with year 8 beating Mascalls and St Gregs winning 15-0, player of the season goes to Bella with her amazing netball skills keeping the other teams from scoring a goal.



The year 8 team have gone from strength to strength after their defeat to Skinners and combined with year 9 to get the confidence of winning games. Training will be after school next year and would be great to see new faces turn up.

The year 7s are the breakout squad of the last few years, with over 20 girls to select from for each fixture, goes to show the depth of this squad and how good they are. With impressive wins over High Christie winning 27-0, beating St Greg's 14-4 and wins against Mascalls and Skinners, became league champions. Well done to all players within the squad, excited to see how well you progress next season.

Training next year will be after school on Thursdays for year 7-9, so please join us.



NETBALL TOURNAMENT

Miss Hurley

The U12s attended the Kent Schools Invitation Tournament back in March and played against some tough opposition including Dane Court Grammar, Highsted Grammar, Holmewood House, Leigh Academy, Trinity School and the Victory Academy.

The year 7 team played their hearts out and lost narrowly to Holmewood House to finish second at the tournament, gold next year.



SPORTS LEADERS

Maisie Stock

Due to the success of Sports Leaders in previous years, this year we saw the highest number of pupils enrolled onto the Community Sports Leadership Qualification (Level 2). As a collective across Year 10 and Year 11, we had 80 Sports Leaders undertake the programme.

With a large number of Sports Leaders undertaking the Award, we have been able to continue our support with the Primary School Sports Network. Our Sports Leaders have been able to help facilitate a range of sporting events, including both intra and inter school competitions at school and within the wider community. They have been able to become exemplary role models and set a positive impression for Knole Academy. In fact, the increased recognition and success of their leadership has resulted in an increased amount of opportunity for them to lead within the local community.

It has been great to see most individuals step out of their comfort zone and demonstrate the desired leadership skills within a range of environments. Their ability to utilise their knowledge and experience to plan and deliver different sporting activities has led to an increased level of confidence, professionalism, and mature manner from each and every one of them. I hope they can possess these key leadership qualities in their next steps of education and employment.



SWIMMING

Maisie Stock

KENT SCHOOL SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

This was the first occasion where Knole
This year we saw more swimmers take
part in the Kent School Swimming
Championships which was held at
Hartsdown Pool, Margate in January.

Every swimmer took part in two different
individual events, competing at a high
standard within their age group.

Swimming isn't a high profiled sport at
Knole, so it was a fantastic opportunity
for them to represent the school and
showcase their talent.

We witnessed some fantastic performances
throughout the event, which were reflected
in the results.

We hope that their hard work and dedication
to the sport can continue to be recognised and
contribute to their success in the year ahead.

Orla

100m Backstroke - 8th place
100m Butterfly - 8th place

Ruby

100m Butterfly - 9th place
200m Individual Medley - 6th place

Isla

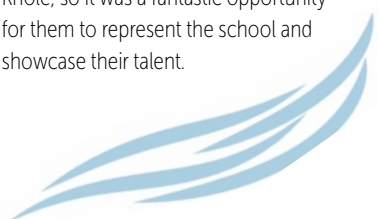
100m Backstroke - 20th place
100m Breaststroke - 26th place

Evie

100m Breaststroke - 2nd place
100m Freestyle - 13th place

Imogen

100m Breaststroke - 3rd place
200m Individual Medley - 7th place



OUTSTANDING PERFORMERS

Tyler Miller



Archie – Football

Going into his 9th season at Millwall FC, Archie had another great year at the Lions, achieving 4 goals and 6 assists from right back. His impressive form was noted by coaches and Archie became a regular for the U18s, where he played a key role in winning the Premier Development League Cup. Archie was also a part of the U18 FA Youth Cup squad, who were defeated by Leeds United U18s in the semi-final, but it is nevertheless quite an achievement to reach this far in such a prestigious competition.

Archie's commitment, hard work and dedication has earned him a scholarship at Millwall for the next 2 years, which was an extremely proud moment for Archie, his family and friends, and Knole Academy.



As Archie begins fulltime football and moves onto the next phase of his life, we wish him all the very best and will keep an eye on his football journey.

Chloe – Tennis

As Wimbledon has just finished for another year, it is a fitting time to celebrate our very own tennis star, Chloe Cleaver. Having taken a break from competing to focus on her GCSEs, Chloe was soon back on the court doing what she does best. Back on the ITF junior circuit, Chloe travelled to Ireland and made the final in the doubles. Chloe is now back to intense training to join up with the ITF junior tours around Europe as she was doing previously and will be representing Kent Women within the coming weeks. Chloe has her eyes set on breaking the top 500 in the World Junior Rankings, with the hope of getting on the WTA tour. With a strong team around her, along with her incredible talent and determination, we have no doubts Chloe will smash this target and continue to be in successful in upcoming tournaments. A massive well done.



Aubry – Swimming

The talented Aubry has found success again in the pool throughout the last year, the first of his accomplishments coming in November, where he travelled to Winchester for the Winter South East regionals and qualified for several events – the 50m, 100m, 200m breast stroke, the 200m fly and the 200m and 400m individual medley's. However, the best was still to come, as Aubry smashed his PBs with times of 30.43s in the 50m breaststroke and 1.06.57 just a month later at the Open Winer Nationals in Sheffield.

The new year came, and the success continued; Aubry won 1 gold and 2 silvers at the Kent Championships in April 2024.

April also proved successful for the swimmer, as he picked up 2 silvers (50m and 200m breaststroke) and 1 bronze medal (100m breaststroke) at the Summer South East Regional Championships.

Later in the month, Aubry travelled to Portugal to take part in the Nationals Open Championship, where Aubry secured his biggest triumph to date as he was crowned double national champion for 50m and 100m breaststroke. As a result, Aubry was selected to represent Portugal at an International meet in Malaga, Spain.

Due to his exceptional performances and constant podium finishes, Aubry has qualified for the GB Aquatics Championships for 50m and 100m breaststroke, as well for the Nationals Summer Championships for 200m breaststroke, fly, and individual medleys, both taking place in Sheffield.

Aubry has a very busy schedule coming up this summer and we wish him all the best on his quest for more gold medals.





George – Shooting

We are very proud of the wide array of sporting athletes we have here at Knole Academy. Our Year 12 shooter, George Madden, has put in some extraordinary performances this year, including becoming overall high gun champion and junior down line champion.

These victories secured George a sport for the England team meaning he will compete against the home nations in the British Open, and we couldn't be prouder as an academy to have an England international athlete in our ranks.

George also achieved 1st place in the Dougall Memorial Shoot, the oldest clay shooting competition in history, and was 2nd in the English Open for his class. Other achievements include winning the Sponsored Event against over 60 people, as well as becoming the Overall High Gun champion in George's class. His performances have not gone unnoticed, as George has recently become sponsored.

Moving forward, George has many aspirations for the future, including becoming Junior Champion in the Double Rise and hopefully making the England team in a different discipline. We wish George the best of luck at the European and World championships coming up, we have no doubt more success will come your way.

Evie – Swimming and Dancing

Another successful year has passed for the talented Evie Croucher. After competing in the Kent County Championships, Evie achieved an excellent 8th place finish in the 200m breast stroke out of the whole county, winning herself a medal. Evie then travelled to the South East Regional Championships where she made the final in both the 50m and 100m breast stroke, placing 4th and 3rd. Evie has just received the excellent news that she has qualified to swim the 50m and 100m breast stroke at the English Nationals in July. We wish Evie the best of luck for the Nationals, and hope you can bring a medal or 2 back to Kent with you.



It is not just in the pool in which Evie has found success, but also in the theatre. So far this year, Evie has taken three dance exams (Grade 5 modern, Grade 5 ballet and Grade 6 tap), and achieved a distinction and a score of least 82% in all of them. This is an incredible achievement and testament to all of the hard work that Evie has put into her dance. As a member of her dance school's performance team, Evie has had the opportunity to perform in some amazing venues including the O2 Arena and Disneyland Paris, as well as theatres in Crawley, Exeter and Sevenoaks. Performing at such a high standard in two sports is nothing short of exceptional and is credit to the work Evie puts into her training. We wish you the best of luck for all upcoming competitions and tournaments, keep smashing it.



Isla – Football

One of Knole's success stories came through the footballing expertise of Isla George, most notably for Ebbsfleet United in the Junior Premier League. Playing the most minutes for the U14s throughout the season, Isla played a key role in a 3rd place league finish, whilst making the Last 16 in the cup and beating Millwall on the way. Consistently good performances were rewarded with parents' player of the year, whilst also getting called up to play for the U15 team.

Whilst playing in defence a year up, Isla had a 100% winning record and managed to only concede 2 goals in 6 games. For her Sunday team, Isla again played a year up, achieving 2nd place in a competitive league. Again, her consistent performances were rewarded with a trial at West Ham, where Isla has made the final trial and is awaiting news. Isla was also at the heart of the defence in Knole Academy's year 9/10 girls team, who made the WKSFA final but unfortunately lost on penalties.

A massive well done to Isla for such a successful season, keep it up.

Jess – Jujitsu

We have a number of high-quality martial artists here at Knole Academy and Jess Tidy is one of them. A keen jujitsu athlete from the age of just 5, Jess' love for the sport grows each year and her performances continue to go from strength to strength. Achieving 2 gold medals in the Kent Championships for random attacks and nunchaku kata, Jess was so motivated by her achievements that she tried out for European Championships. After being selected for the team, Jess begun months of intensive training to achieve the best possible place at the event. To say the hard work paid off is an understatement; Jess achieved 4th place against a wealth of competitors from all over Europe, an exceptional accomplishment. Jess is currently a purple belt and working towards her brown belt, which we are sure she will achieve in no time.



Luca – Taekwon-do

After starting his Taekwon-do journey back in 2018 at Oaks Martial Arts, Luca has come a long way and his hard work is certainly paying off after achieving his red belt tag grade last February. Luca now has his sights firmly on achieving his black belt before the end of this year. Luca took part in the LTSI tournament at the University of Hertfordshire in March and was faced against tough opposition, so was excited for the experience. Impressively, Luca took gold in the sparring final which is an excellent feat. In addition to being a keen competitor, Luca is an upcoming coach to younger martial artists where he is able to pass his expertise onto the next generation of Taekwon-do athletes. We are proud of Luca's accomplishments and wish him the best of luck to achieve his black belt.



Lois – Football

Although suffering temporary setback, it has been another successful season at Crystal Palace for Lois Reeves. After scoring two goals in a local derby win against Charlton Athletic, Lois was on the wrong end of a nasty challenge which put her out of action for 5 months. However, due to her resilience and determination, Lois completed her rehabilitation and came back stronger, returning to play before the end of the season.

She returned to the starting 11 and helped Palace win the Surrey County Cup, playing a pivotal role in the final. Lois was also able to play a key role in the unbeaten league campaign, finishing 3rd above local rivals Millwall Lionesses and Charlton Athletic.

Lois' performances throughout the season caught the eye of her coaches, so much that she was offered a further contract at Crystal Palace for the upcoming 2024/2025 season, which she has accepted.

In addition to this, Lois was a key member and top scorer of the Knole Academy year 9/10 girls team, who narrowly missed out on silverware in the final of the WKSFA final.

Overcoming adversity and returning to form the way Lois did is an excellent achievement, and no doubt she will be able to continue this form into next year.



Mia – Discus and Dance

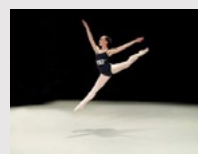
Knole Academy's very own future Olympian, Mia Jessup, has again achieved some incredible milestones this year. Mia picked up her second individual county championship, as she recorded an impressive distance of 28.63m to be crowned discus Kent County Champion. Proudly representing Knole Academy, Mia also competed in the Kenty County School's Championship where she was crowned champion with a throw of 28.55m. During training,

Mia has recorded throws just shy of the 32m mark which is deemed to be National Grade 1 standard – only a small percentage of athletes across the UK will achieve this. As a result,

Mia has been asked by the Kent County to represent them at the English Schools Championships, however due to other sporting commitments Mia cannot attend. Nonetheless, it is an honour for Mia to be asked to represent her county and something she should be very proud of.

Mia's sporting excellence is not kept to the athletics field; Mia auditioned for the ISTD Imperial Classical Ballet Awards and was selected with just 13 others to advance to the Intermediate Grade Final at the Centre School of Ballet. Mia also auditioned for the All England UK Young Dancer where she qualified for the top 100 in the Modern Theatre Section. Again, a wonderful accomplishment for our talented Mia.

To top this off, after qualifying last year, Mia took part in the All England Regional Final with her modern solo, where she achieved an unbelievable 2nd place, gaining her a place at the All England National Finals in July. A massive good luck to Mia for her upcoming competitions in both discus and dance, there is no doubt that you will continue to do Knole Academy very proud.



Mia – Cheerleading

It has been a wonderful cheerleading season for the talented Mia Martins. Once again, due to her dedication and commitment to the sport, the year has been full of success. Representing Unity All Stars, Mia competes at the highest junior level, and has even competed internationally. Mia travelled to Florida and won the cheerleading summit competition. It is an achievement in itself to compete internationally, but to win at this level is outstanding. Unsurprisingly, Mia is a x2 next generation athlete, which consists of the top 50 cheerleaders in the UK. When Mia is not cheerleading, she also finds time to play for her local football team. An immense season for Mia, well done.



Owen – Athletics

Alongside Paralympians such as David Weir and Eden Rainbow-Cooper, Owen trained immensely hard throughout the winter months at the Weir Archer Academy ahead of the season. To say the hard work paid off is an understatement; in April, Owen came second in the London Mini Wheelchair Marathons (Under 14s), at just 12 years old. This also included a new PB, smashing his old one by 18 seconds. The success doesn't stop there, as Owen achieved gold medals in the 100m, 200m and 400m Surrey Disability Open, as well as a PB in the 200m British Wheelchair Athletics Association Championships in awful weather conditions at Stoke Mandeville.

Despite such outstanding accomplishments, Owen remains as humble as ever and continues to put in the hard work in training.



The National Junior Athletics Para Championships, the NWRA Grand Prix and the Cerebral Palsy Sport National Championships are just some of the events that awaits Owen this summer.

Above all, it is Owen's drive, resilience and determination that makes him an inspiration for us all. A massive well done to Owen for everything you have achieved and will continue to achieve, you have all of Knole Academy behind you.



Phoebe – Football

2023/2024 proved to be another rewarding football season for Phoebe. Playing a crucial role for Crystal Palace U14s, Phoebe helped her team achieve second place in highly contested league against teams such as West Ham, Watford and AFC Bournemouth. This was followed up with cup success, as Phoebe got her hands on the Surrey County Cup after coming back from 3-0 down to eventually win on penalties. Her outstanding performances, including making the most assists for her team, were rewarded with a recognition award at the end of the season.

Phoebe was also part of the cup-winning Kent FA team, who are county champions after beating Essex in the final. Phoebe's hard work along with standout performances this season has earned her a two-year contract at Crystal Palace, as well as making it into the Kent County team again for next season.



Both are incredible achievements and provide Phoebe with the opportunity to showcase her talent at the highest level.

On top of these accomplishments, Phoebe also captained her school team to the final of the WKSFA final, where they unfortunately lost on penalties.

A very successful year for Phoebe and we wish you the best for the upcoming season whilst representing Knole, Crystal Palace, and Kent FA.

Santino – Football

Santino's football career keeps going from strength to strength, with this one being his most successful one to date. Although many achievements, the main highlight must be winning the U14 Premier League Albert Phelan South Cup. On the way to silverware, Santino overcame high quality teams such as Arsenal, Spurs and Chelsea, making the history books as the first ever Millwall academy team to lift the trophy.

Santino has also had the opportunity to play at some of the best facilities in the South East, including The Den and Selhurst Park, the home of Millwall and Crystal Palace. Santino has been an influential figure in the team, contributing with an outstanding 19 goals. His performances have impressed the coaching staff and he has been rewarded with a new contract which keeps him at The Den for another 2 years.

On top of this, Santino has also been selected for the Kent FA team for next season, which is an excellent opportunity for Santino to show his qualities against the best in England. For school, Santino put in a man of the match performance in the WKSFA final, where his year group were eventual winners on penalties. Santino's achievements this season are a testament to his constant professionalism, and we wish him all the best for next season.



Ruby – Swimming

Ruby has had another fantastic year competing in various swimming meets and her conscious effort to improve her performance has led Ruby to compete in higher standard events. Ruby's first major event of the year was held at the London Aquatics Centre where she competed for Kent in February/March. We saw some excellent results, where Ruby qualified for 15 out of 17 events.

In May, Ruby competed in the South East Regionals at High Wycombe. Despite being up against some tougher competition, Ruby was able to maintain her composure and produce some remarkable results. She was fortunate enough to qualify for four events. Ruby had a busy month, where she also competed at the AP-Race-London-International-2024. This time she was in a familiar environment, at the London Aquatics Centre. Ruby competed in six events, reaching the final for five of them. Ruby won her 50m Breast, 200m Fly & 100m Fly. This were not Ruby's only achievements, as she saw herself achieve a new PB in the 100m Fly.

Ruby should be super proud of what she has achieved this year, not only has she performed amazingly but her mental strength and determination has allowed her to reach an incredible standard of swimming. Well done for a great season.



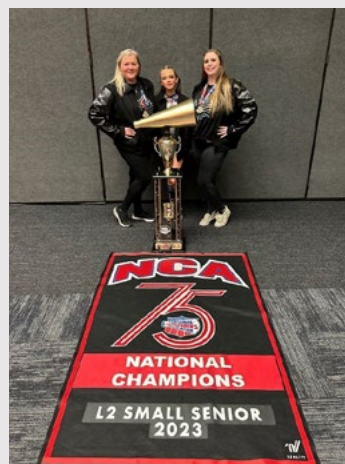
Sienna – Cheerleading

Our talented cheerleader, Sienna Gurr, has again had an outstanding year competing at the highest level of the sport. Representing her team Zirconium, Sienna travelled to USA to compete at NCA Dallas Texas, one of the most prestigious cheerleading competitions in the world. Not only did Sienna and her team beat every top American team, but they were the first ever UK team to win at Level 2 in 65 years – an amazing feat to achieve.

Back home in the UK, they have had a clean sweep in all UK competitions, winning multiple national championships throughout the season.

The most recent victory came in Nottingham, where Sienna and her team were crowned Royal Champions at the Battle of the Champions in Nottingham, meaning they received the highest score across the whole competition and all ages in her level, resulting in Sienna winning a prized jacket and ring.

As this is written, Sienna is about to compete in her last event of the season and after a year of constant success, we are sure she will bring home yet another gold medal.



WELL DONE TO ALL OUR SPORTING STARS!





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