# **Frewen College Newsletter**

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## Dear Parents and Students

The days are getting longer, summer is coming, and, at last, there is a sense that we are beginning to get back to something resembling normal after the disruption of the last

eighteen months.

Students no longer have to wear masks in school, and there is generally an optimistic feeling as we approach the final straight, towards the summer holidays.

Of course, Covid still hasn't gone away, and we are continuing to socially distance, sanitise, follow the one-way systems and undergo twice-weekly testing - but we have all got used to that. Some students have asked if they can start wearing blazers and ties again, and we are pleased for them to do this, and indeed would encourage it, in advance of a return to full uniform after the summer holidays.

The end of the school year is an important time in a school. It is a time when we celebrate success, mark the transition from Prep to Senior School or from Senior to Sixth Form, and say goodbye to those who are leaving us.

Normally, the focus of this would be our annual prize giving ceremony. Last year, we were still in lockdown, and any celebration took place online. This year, we had hoped that perhaps we might manage some kind of socially-distanced celebration, and possibly invite parents - but the rule of 30 is still in place, and although the government had hoped to end the remaining restrictions in late June, this now looks increasingly less certain.

We are, therefore, making plans to celebrate our students' success and say our farewells through a number of awards assemblies in year groups. While not as spectacular as a public event, it will ensure everyone is kept as safe as possible until they go home for the summer holidays.

Sports Day cannot take place in its usual form, but we are keen that students do not miss out, so there will be a Summer Fun Run on 24th June - again, behind closed doors. As part of this afternoon the Year 10 Study Skills groups will also then be running a range of activities including sponge the teacher, raffles, football shoot and a staff v student football match.

There may be other whole-school or year-group events, and we will keep you informed of these.

We are disappointed that we cannot resume public events before the summer holidays, but we should look on the bright side. We have come a long way since this time last year; at least students are all back at school, safe and happy. And we can look forward to next school year when - all being well - we can welcome you all back to school for the full programme of events. Let's all hope so.

Finally - thanks again to all of you for your continued support and co-operation during these unprecedented times.

Have a lovely halfterm week!



The Magnolia outside the auditorium has given us a lovely display for weeks, helped by the cool weather,

## **PREP NEWS** by Sally Welch



We were blessed yesterday with a fantastic day out to the Hertmonceux Science Centre.

This trip supported our work on 'Space' for Blue and Green classes and 'Forces' for Red class.

Due to Covid restrictions, we were the only school there which gave the children greater freedom to explore the site. The day began with pupils exploring the indoor Science activities based around 'Forces', 'Light' and 'Our Solar System'. Everything in this area was very hands on, and children were fully engaged trying out all the different tasks in this area.

Pupils then went outside and explored the science-themed play areas which again were based around Forces. We then moved onto an area dedicated to the exploration of the science behind how the flow of water can be controlled.

Pupils then visited one of the observatories and listened intently to our expert who explained all about the moving floor and how we can view Space using the amazing telescopes.

After lunch, pupils completed a workshop on 'Robotics in Space' and had the opportunity to work in pairs to control the robotic arms and move objects using the control panel.

Finally, we just about beat the rain with one last play outside before visiting the shop where pupils chose from a variety souvenirs before returning home, happy but exhausted.







## **English** by Neil Stanley

Over many years, Frewen College has built up an impressive reputation for public speaking. Since 2016, all students in Key Stage Three have taken LAMDA's Speaking in Public examinations. Typically, Year 7s take Entry Level, Year 8s take Grade 1 and Year 9s take Grade 2.

In 2020, our LAMDA exams took place - as usual in February. Little did we know, back then, what the next 18 months had in store!

This year, the exams were put on hold and we halfexpected them not to take place. However, with the relaxing of restrictions and the slow move back towards normality, they are now rescheduled for June.

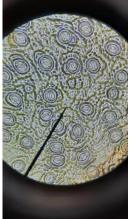
All our students, from Year 7 upwards are working extremely hard to prepare for their examinations. They have written speeches, chosen conversation topics, created posters and found interesting visual aids.

Please wish them the best of luck.

#### Science by Scott Wassell

Failte. Here is a quick update on what has been going on in the Science labs during the last term.

We are looking at plant structures and functions with the year 9 cohort. This year it will be a special extended topic. We will be covering the basics of plant photosynthesis and the movement of water



and sugar around the plant as normal , and we will be undertaking additional activities to enhance the topic. Some of the activities will include a large 3D display in the auditorium, setting up a recycled vertical garden and engaging with the 'Green Frewen' after –school club' to investigate sustainable uses of



the grounds. Pictured below is a photo of plant stomata on a leaf, and our bijou bottles of algae and indicator to show how light intensity affects the rate of photosynthesis.

We have been working hard with the year 11 students to gather as much information as we can to show an accurate reflection of the working level of each individual in Science.

## Health & Social Care by Rebecca Lowe

#### A Pertinent Probe into the Present Times

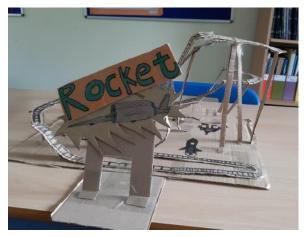
During this unsettling period of Covid-19 and a global pandemic, Health and Social Care as a curriculum subject has taken on a whole new significance which, I am proud to say, our Frewen students have embraced.

The Year 11 cohort are currently working towards their final exam; they are studying the various factors that affect our health and well-being. They have explored such issues as poverty, diet, obesity, substance abuse, environment, pollution and, perhaps most importantly, an individual's willingness to help themselves.

The Year 10 group have all been examining the different stages of life and how an unexpected life event such as a bereavement can affect an individual (physically, intellectually, emotionally or socially). They then explored the various forms of support that can help someone through such challenging times. The parallel between the course and the events currently affecting the World are clear to see.

## Humanities & Geography by Louise Payne

Year 7 Humanities: This term the students have been learning all about tourism and we have been studying specific themes, including extreme tourism to Antarctica, eco-tourism, and local tourism. They have undertaken making their own tourism models out of recycled materials and engaged in virtual tours of regions of the world and are currently working on their own design for eco-tourism hotels.



Year 7 Tourism models

Year 8 Geography: This term the students have been engaging with the topic of Glaciers and cold environments. Students have learned how glaciers move, how people can live and adapt to cold environments including places in the Arctic region, such as Svalbard, in Norway. They have produced some excellent work, including presentations and factfiles about the Athabasca Glacier and most recently, posters about glacier melt and global warming.

Year 11 Geography: Year 11 students have continued to work on the final aspect of their GCSE Geography course, engaging in the topics for Paper 3, as well as extensive revision. The students have been working hard at revising all of their Geography course for their assessments, being carried out this term.

## RE by Rebecca Lowe Focus on Religion

The Year 7s learning about Islam has, this year, coincided with the Holy festivals of Ramadan and Eid. They have explored the importance of the pilgrimage to Mecca and the Five Pillars of Islam. We have also examined how Muslims fast during Ramadan, but we are not all convinced that we would be able to do it ourselves!

#### **Serious Stuff**

Year 9 RE students have been introduced to some very big issues this term. With a great deal of maturity, they have been examining a range of controversial subjects such as abortion, the death penalty and capital punishment. Not only has this furthered their understanding of different religious perspectives, but has also allowed them the opportunity to see how a topic can be looked at from different angles.

## Gardening Club by Rebecca Lowe

Despite battling high winds and squally rain, Frewen College's 'no dig' gardening club has rooted down and is budding into life. We have cleared our site, laid down cardboard to deter the weeds and started to create a cottage garden style design of walkways and beds. The planting starts in earnest this week and we hope to have lots of delicious things to eat before the end of term!





#### DT by Rebecca Forbes-Gower



#### Year 11 GCSE DT

The best thing about our return from Lockdown has been the enthusiasm our DT students have shown for practical work.

All year groups have been using the workshop and have worked diligently to achieve some great results.

Students had been studying the work of Ray and Charles Eames during Lockdown and had looked at methods for forming plywood. They made their first models for Salad servers

from cardboard whilst at home, these were developed into accurate templates on their return and after weeks of practical we are very pleased to share the results.

## Year 7 Apple Bird Feeders



Year 7 have been studying the different categories of timber and learning about the properties of wood. In this project they have thought about the needs of wildlife and have designed individual apple birdfeeders.

They have worked with great enthusiasm and learnt new techniques, such as using a plane, pillar drill, hand held electric drills. The first



groups have now finished their practical and are very proud of the results.

#### Drama by Claire Jackson

A big hats off and a massive thank you to our fantastic Year 11 Drama students for the sheer effort that they have put into their final devised Drama project this term.

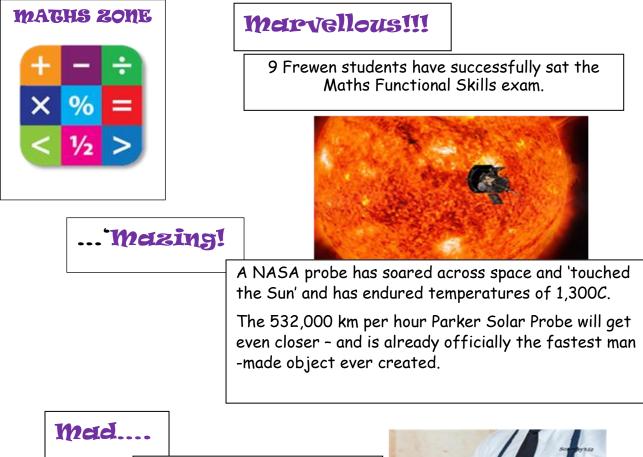
Starting with the story of The Pied Piper of Hamlyn, the students researched the themes, myths and truths behind this old story, finding links with our current world situation where plague, mistrust and broken promises have divided many communities.

Despite losing so many months of practical work, the students have delighted me with their drive to experiment and use their Drama techniques to devise a really exciting piece of drama. Hopefully soon, we'll all be able to watch our students perform live again!





Maths by Graeme Rawlings



Kanye West's 2008 'Grammy Worn' Nike Air Yeezy sneakers have sold for \$US1.8 million, a new world record price.





Mind boggling

All the COVID-19- virus circulating in the world could easily fit inside a single drink can.

Bath University maths expert Kit Yates worked out there are around two quintillion C-19 virus particles in the world at any one time. Two quintillion is two billion billion. Then he used the diameter of a virus at about 100 nanometres,/ 100 billionths of a metre to work out the volume!

## SIXTH FORM By Hazel Lawrence

This term has seen a resemblance of normality return to Sixth Form. We've managed a half term of students being in school / college, albeit with a continuation of some on-line lessons.

This has also been an incredibly busy term for students, as many are reaching the end of their courses. Final pieces of work and assessments have been completed, proofread, amended and handed in.

We have seen some brilliant results, including a Distinction for performance work; and another student gaining a Distinction for producing a comic. afternoon, on Thursday 24th June.

#### Activities will include:

Fun Run – all finishers will receive a medal. Fancy dress theme is pick a decade from 1900 – 2000, so, for example, come dressed as a hippie, dig out your flares or flapper dress! £3 entry. Organised by Sean, Annabelle & Jude



Nico's performance for Music

# **STUDY SKILLS** By Hazel Lawrence

In Years 10 & 11, all students have Study Skills lessons. These lessons are designed to help students to develop a number of employability skills. This term students have been focusing on developing their skills of 'working with others' while raising money for charity. They have been working with Mrs. Hambleton to arrange fundraising events for our Sport Day / Activities Football tournament – take part in a staff & student football tournament. 5 a side teams to find out who are the football champions of Frewen 2021! £2 entry fee, per person. Codey & Oli will visit tutor groups after half term to collect names & money. Organised by Codey, Oli, Louis & Finn.

**Beat the goalie** – a chance to see how many goals you can score. Who will be this year's goal scoring champions? Organised by Matt, Taylor, Charlie & George

**Sponge the teacher** – who doesn't want the chance to get their teacher back? This group are arranging the chance to throw wet sponges at brave (or silly) teachers! Organised by David, Harry, Luke & Noah

# GAMES & SPORT By Jo Hambleton

#### Duke of Edinburgh award

As soon as we were allowed, we took the opportunity to catch up on the delayed Bronze expedition. We had a Year 10 and Year 11 group who walked over 13km from Northiam to Brede. The weekend involved them map reading, using compasses and learning to navigate without

## GAMES & SPORT continued...By Jo Hambleton

devices. Students had to prepare and cook a meal for the group using Trangia's.

The Year 11 group had a brilliant few days. All the group took turns to lead a leg of the route and although the weather wasn't kind, they enjoyed exploring the local area. The Year 10 group managed to complete their practice weekend. They learnt valuable skills about the map reading and working as a team. They will now work towards their assessed weekend in Year 11.

Well done all those who took part.







#### **Bushcraft**

During our Games sessions for KS3 we have been trying to introduce more Outdoor Education options and this term have been lucky enough to have Ms Chambers helping and leading some Bushcraft sessions. Outdoor Education can help students develop skills such as independence, resilience, managing risk and problem-solving skills. We are hoping to continue this next year during these sessions and offer a range of Outdoor Education sessions alongside more traditional sport.

## Ms Chamber's Bushcraft tales

Students in Year 7, 8 and 9 have been enjoying learning some Bushcraft skills during their PE lessons, and after school in Bushcraft Club, on a Tuesday. They have been learning about knife law, safe handling and cutting techniques. Students have been showing their skills by creating feather sticks. The club students have also been learning about gathering appropriate wood for fire lighting, and about different fire lays for different purposes.

Last week students explored the grounds on a foraging walk, where they found some plants that are deliciously edible including young Beech leaves and Wood Sorrel (in moderation!) whilst also identifying the UKs most poisonous plant (Hemlock Water-Dropwort) growing at the edge of the stream running through the woods!



The foraging culminated in cooking some Bannock Bread in the woods, including some of the students' foraged ingredients.

#### Summer Fun Run

This year instead of our traditional Sports Day we will be organising a summer Fun Run. This will be a short running route around the grounds in which all students will take part. This is planned for Thursday 24th June in the afternoon. Sadly, because of the pandemic, we cannot invite parents to the event this year. There will be other activities planned in the afternoon by the Year 10 study skills groups. Fingers crossed for sunshine!

## **Boarding** By Sarah Medcraft

At long last this term has started to feel more like 'the good old days'. We have continued to keep weekend activities outdoor-based and these have included cycling at Bedgebury, paddle boarding at Rye Water Sports, crazy golf on Hastings' seafront and the ever-popular Lazerquest. The beach is always a firm favourite, and in between the rain showers we have managed a couple of evening trips to Camber Sands.

We hope to be able to publish the weekend activities in advance for the remainder of the term and these will appear on our website. It would make bookings easier if we could have as much advance notice as possible if your child would like to stay in for that weekend.

Our end of year party will be themed 'A Night at the Movies'. Movie-themed costumes are strongly encouraged, and we look forward to a start-studded grand finale.

We hope you have an enjoyable half term and look forward to welcoming our boarders back on the evening of Monday 7th June, not Sunday as originally planned.

# Issac's Scout'astic badges!

Issac, in Year 9 is celebrating being awarded his final Scout badge – he now has all 80 badges, quite an achievement for someone so young. Issac has been at Scouts for 8 years and has steadily gained his badges over the years.



#### Poppy swims to cook up a storm at Frewen



Poppy, in Year 11, has raised hundreds of pounds worth of Food & Nutrition equipment for Frewen through swimming many tens of lengths in her Granny's swimming pool. She wanted to use her love of swimming to support her favourite subject and increase the range of cooking equipment and utensils for the department. Her sponsorship has enabled the department to purchase: saucepans, knives, griddle pans, ice cream scoops (a particular favourite of Poppy's!) weighing scales, mixing bowls, frying pans, microblade graters, silicon spoons, oven gloves, hand mixers etc etc!

Miss Beaumont, Head of Food & Nutrition said: "We are so proud of her, and very grateful for such a huge new range of equipment, it's quite an achievement!"

Coming SoonDates for your Diary	
Students return to school	TUESDAY 8th June
Fun Run	24th June
Prep School Adventure day	30th June– 1st July
Prep School Knockhatch Trip	Monday 5th July
Term ends (half day)	Wednesday 7th July 1pm.
Autumn Term –students return on	Monday 6th September