



Frewen College Newsletter

Summer Term - May 2023

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Dear parents

It's the middle of the summer term! The sun is shining at last, we no longer need to be wearing overcoats to walk around the school, and the school fields and grass areas have dried out after the long, wet winter.

Preparations are beginning for the annual activities week, end of term concert, sports day, prize giving and all the other events that we have to look forward to before the long summer holiday.

But of course, this is also exam time. I have been impressed by how seriously the Year 11s and Sixth formers have been taking their exams this year, and how keen they are to do well. We will continue to support them in this: continuing teaching them and helping them to revise in classes where they have yet to take the exam, and providing supported revision in those where the exam has been completed. The vast majority of exams will be over within two weeks of half term.

We are pleased that the students are so keen to succeed. As I have written before, many of our students have tendencies to anxiety, and we are aware of the risks of adding additional pressure to those who are already putting pressure on themselves. I know that parents are also supporting the students to revise and prepare at home, and I am sure you will also be harnessing your own child's motivation to do well.

And, of course, it is important that over the coming weeks, including over the half term break, students have breaks from studying and revising - getting away from their computers and books from time to time, and making sure they have some rest and sleep, in order that they can come back in June ready for the challenges ahead.

To repeat a theme from earlier in the year, the message should be "Do your best; don't get stressed" - although, if they are keen to do well, they may well have some exam nerves.

I would like to end by wishing all the best to those students who are taking their exams, and to wish all frewen families a happy half term break.

Nick Goodman
Principal



Prep School

by Debbie Fraser

Woodlands and Forest

We have been studying woodlands and forests this term. It has taken us around the world; from the tropical rainforests of South America to our local woodland in East Sussex. We have enjoyed learning about the layers of the rainforest and the animals which thrive within each layer. We have learnt about deforestation and the impact it has on the water cycle in affected areas and then the impact this has on the local environment.

We have also learnt about plants and trees that are found in the UK. We have classified them as either deciduous or coniferous.

Our recent trip to Bedgebury brought this learning together and allowed us to compare the plant and animal species found in two different locations: Bedgebury and Frewen.

Frewen Prep Bird Watch

We have also been following the progress of a robin, who decided to nest in a welly boot planter in our garden. This week we saw some hatchlings! In just a few days the hungry hatchlings have changed so much. We are thoroughly enjoying watching their progress from a safe distance.



Mrs Sharley

Mrs Sharley will be retiring at the end of this academic year after 15 years of teaching at Frewen.

Many students throughout the Senior School and Sixth Form will have benefited from her amazing teaching at the Prep School and so we would like to invite contributions for a book of memories from students of all ages, please email :

sally.welch@frewencollege.co.uk

A collection is also being made, reference 'Mrs Sharley' to accounts.



Boarding by Hannah Lewis

The lighter nights have finally arrived, and our boarders have enjoyed making the most of the school grounds which are just starting to burst with colour. Football, tennis, and water balloon fights are the most popular evening pastime of the moment, which means we've had some tired, soggy but happy boarders at bedtime!



The weekends continue to be popular with almost half of our boarders choosing to stay in. With a historic Coronation Weekend to mark, we enjoyed a lovely afternoon tea complete with strawberries, celebration cupcakes, scones, and a lovely cup of tea! Other great activities at the weekends this half term have included, fun and games at the beach, mountain biking at Bedgebury Pinetum, shopping trips and bouldering at The Climbing Experience in Maidstone.



Looking ahead to next term, we are excited to get out more in the sunshine, enjoy more awesome weekend activities, take part in National Boarding Week and celebrate the end of another school year with our end of term party!



English

by Rebecca Lowe



Our Key Stage 4 students have all been working hard towards their various exams this term.

Mr Claasen's Year 11 group have now completed the Eduqas English Literature exam. To complete this they studied the set texts; 'Romeo and Juliet', 'A Christmas Carol', 'The History Boys' The Eduqas Poetry Anthology' as well as preparing for an unseen poetry question.

Katie Dearden says

"I've really enjoyed studying English literature. My favourite text has been 'A Christmas Carol'. I particularly like the themes and the character development of the protagonist Scrooge as he develops throughout the novella".

The first of the two English Language papers takes place directly after the half term break on Monday June 5th. This is the fiction and creative writing paper. The second paper takes place on Monday 12th June and its focus is non-fiction and transactional writing.

All our students will be coming home equipped with a range of revision materials. There is also a link to a walk through of the first exam here: [Eduqas GCSE English Language Component 1 EWT.pptx \(live.com\)](#)

[Eduqas GCSE English Language Component 1 EWT.pptx \(live.com\)](#)

Rose Cubison says

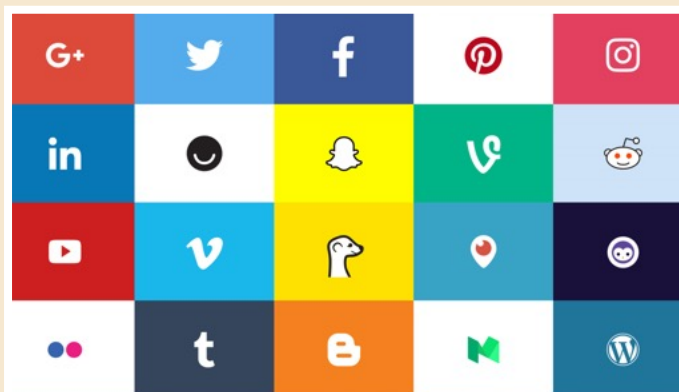
"I feel that I have really improved at English language these last couple of years. I have really enjoyed reading through past texts and one of my favourite texts concerned a Botswanan private detective named Mma Ramotswe. I feel I have developed my spelling, sentence structure and my analytical skills".

Many students in year ten have sat Functional Skills reading and writing papers this term, this is their first real experience of an external exam.



Hudson practicing his presentation on Lego.

More recently, they have been working towards the speaking and listening module. They initially had to present a speech on a topic of their choice. They then had to take part in a group discussion around the topic of social media. Their knowledge of this particular topic has been illuminating.



How many of the following social media platforms do you recognise?

This term, Ms Taylor-Wade's year 8 group have been studying, as their class reader, 'The Outsiders'.

'The Outsiders' is about two weeks in the life of a 14-year-old boy. The novel tells the story of Ponyboy Curtis and his struggles with right and wrong in a society in which he believes that he is an outsider.

Ponyboy and his two brothers Darrel (Darry), who is 20, and Sodapop, who is 16, have recently lost their parents in a car accident. Pony and Soda are allowed to stay under Darry's guardianship as long as they all behave themselves. The boys are 'greasers', a class term that refers to the young men on the East Side, the poor side of town. The greasers' rivals are the Socs, short for Socials, who are the "West-Side rich kids."

Jake Collier-Hesmer says

"The book teaches you a lot about history and what America was like in the 1960s. It is quite a sad read because there is unnecessary death and hardship. It shows you the difference between the rich and poor in society and how it is difficult to move from one class to another".

As a department, we are always looking at new and innovative ways to make English fun and enhance the curriculum. This last half term, we have added to our resources by creating a games cupboard that includes a range of English, phonics and spelling games designed to improve various aspects of literacy and understanding.

If you have any questions about the English or literacy provision at Frewen, please do not hesitate to email me at rebecca.lowe@frewencollege.co.uk

Drama

by Claire Jackson

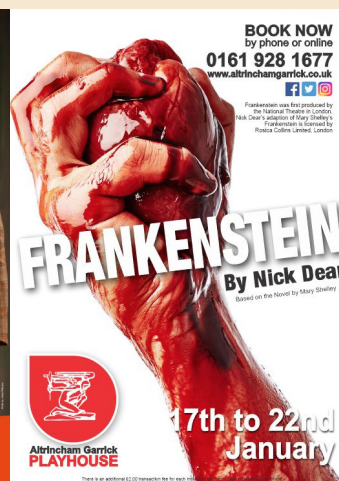
So much has happened in the drama department over this year that we felt that we needed to have a quick whizz through some of our highlights, starting with the Christmas show, *The Panto is Cancelled, NOT!* This was a fantastic achievement by our students who put so much work and effort into making this a success and performed with such confidence in front of our first live audience in over three years.



Our Yr 11's have been completing their final assessment this term which was a play they devised themselves called *The Fairytale*. It was based on the theme of Truths and Lies and is a comedic discourse on how current generations have built up false perceptions about each other which bear little resemblance to their realities. Our design students Katie, Rose and Jules did an outstanding job in bringing this exaggerated Brechtian style drama to life with their costumes and set design. Equally, Alex, Elsie and Isaac performed showing their understanding for staging and communicating their stereotyped characters with great skill.



Yr 10's have worked incredibly hard on finishing their first assessment which was a study of the National Theatres, *Frankenstein*, adapted by Nick Dear. They've also studied *Ricard Beans*, *One Man, Two Guvners* developing their skills in *Commedia Del 'Arte* and refined their naturalistic techniques through an exploration of Arthur Millar's *The Crucible*.



Drama

by Claire Jackson

The Yr 9's have also managed to squeeze in three very different play texts this year starting with Refugee Boy by Lemm Sissay exploring what life is like for a young boy arriving in the UK from Eritrea and then moved on to learning physical theatre skills and looking at the world through the eyes of a boy with aspergers in The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time. Their final play is Blood Brothers by Willy Russell and each of them will be learning a monologue which they will perform and evaluate.



Yr 8's, after being submerged in the world of stage combat and sword fighting techniques have been recently focusing on the design elements in Theatre, such as costume and set design. They have learnt how to research their ideas, create mood boards, do draft sketches and finally create a scaled model of their designs.



In Yr 7 we started the year with an exploration into Ancient Greece and Greek Theatre. We used the myth of Daedalus and Icarus to learn about chorus, cannon and echo, to develop their vocal and physical skills.



They then moved on to full faced masked theatre techniques, creating their own devised scenes and are now learning all about the half-masked characters from Commedia Del Arte.

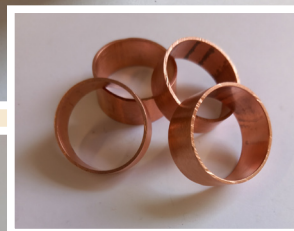
Design & Technology by Marea Saunders

The Y7s having been looking at how we get the timber they use in DT comes from. They have visited the Arboretum at school and looked at the differences in the types of trees that are grown for timber. They are now experts in the differences between hardwood and softwood, hopefully remembering that it isn't how hard or soft they are. They are currently in the workshop making a bird feeder out of pine.

Y8s have finalised their own designed marble game and are moving on to the manufacturing stage, planning their work and selecting their own materials and methods of construction.

Y9 completed the copper bangle project and now continue to work in metal. This time it is mild steel which they will use to make a candle holder. They are experiencing the difference in working in mild steel compared to the malleable copper they used for the bangle project.

The Y10s have almost finished their designer's gift shop project, just in time for starting the coursework element of their GCSE after half-term.



PE

by Jo Hambleton

Sports Day

Sports day is approaching on Friday 16th June in the afternoon. Students have been practicing their events during games and it has been lovely to see so many student engaged and learning new skills. There will be a variety of sports from traditional track and field events such as 100m, Javelin and long jump to alternative activities such as football shoot out, tug or war, archery.

The rivalry between houses is building who will be triumphant this year and Knocking Lions off the top spot.

More details to follow about timings.



Keeping active for summer

As we start to move into the long summer break can you as a family take on a summer fitness challenge to help keep you active and keep moving

- Can you start the couch to 5k running scheme?
- Can you plan and take a walk in the countryside using a map to navigate?
- Can you go on a family bike ride?

Scheme such as Active Hastings run lots of summer sports activities.

https://www.hastings.gov.uk/sport_play/getactive/activehastings_listings/



Last Football match for the Year 11's vs Year 10's

" Well done to everyone today, you all did brilliantly what made for a very enjoyable afternoon of football."

Wednesday 25th May



Art

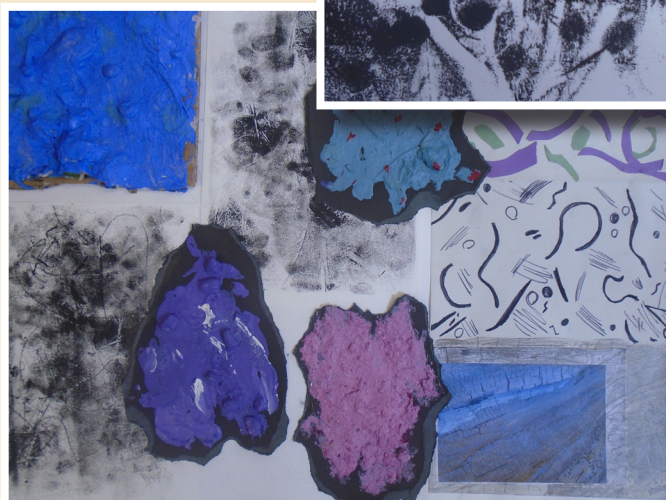
by Duncan Sangster

Year 7's this term in art, have been looking at texture and how it can be made, and why it is used. They have been responding to the work of Larry Poons an American abstract painter and the Boyle Family, a collaborative family of artists based in London. Students have visually analysed their work and used similar materials and techniques to create their own textured surfaces.

This has involved getting messy in some lessons, combining wallpaper paste, PVA glue, grass and dried leaves with paint, to then apply onto card to construct experimental work that reflects a huge amount of risk-taking and chance. Later on in the project, students have then explored how pattern can come from texture and have designed beautiful motifs inspired by tree bark. It's amazing how the simple things that often go unnoticed can inspire our artwork!



Larry Poons - William Turner Gallery



Catering by David Quye

As June and July come racing towards us we are getting ready for our busiest period. We have lots of days out to cater for plus the day I most look forward to which is prize giving. This is a chance for the catering staff to show off a little and do something different. This year we will be aiming for a little of bit Rock n Roll in our presentation.

By the time this is published we would have had another Burger Day, always popular with the students. Next term we will be trying a take-out day in which all food will be cold and will be wrapped enabling people to take there food out, hopefully to enjoy in the great British summertime. (Bring your own Brolley.)

The serve yourself buffets have proved great fun. The Greek evening suggested by the students was a real success.

On a serious point we had a visit from the EHO. We gained 5 stars which is a tribute to all the kitchen staff who work continually to maintain high standards of food hygiene.

Onwards and upwards!

David



News from the Gardens

by Daniel Le Cornu

Marvellous Meadows in May!

To establish meadows around the school grounds we have been leaving areas of grass unmown and have planted up two new meadows from seed. It's amazing to see the variety of wildflowers that grow in these areas, and this will add to the biodiversity of the site from attracting insects, rodents, and birds of prey. The meadows will be cut down in early September as part of the ongoing management of these areas.



The meadow parkland adjacent to the visitor carpark.



The newly planted meadow in the parkland, a mix of grasses and wildflowers.



The arboretum bluebells and meadow.



The meadow area behind boarding.

News from the Gardens by Daniel Le Cornu

Wild Garlic
(*Allium ursinum*)



Annual honesty
(*Lunaria annua*)



Water forget-me-not
(*Myosotis scorpioides*)



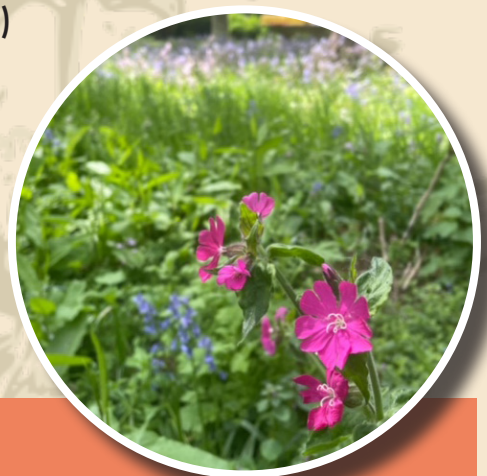
Cow Parsley
(*Anthriscus sylvestris*)



Garlic mustard
(*Alliaria petiolate*)



Red campion
(*Silene dioica*)



Look out for: Common Spotted Orchid (*Dactylorhiza fuchsia*). Common vetch (*Vicia sativa*) Yellow rattle (*Rhinanthus minor*), in the coming months...

Sixth Form

by Hazel Lawrence

The summer term is always a busy time in Sixth Form with students preparing for exams, completing their final assignments and thinking about moving. This can be a time of excitement as young people look forward to the future, but also the anxiety that change can cause us.

Young Minds have a range of strategies to support young people at these times. Below are Young Minds' grounding techniques which can be useful when things feel like they are spiralling.

At the start of this term, we sadly said goodbye to Zara Rose, one of our excellent Sixth Form TAs. However, we have been very pleased to welcome back Steph White to help us out twice a week and to Fliss Barnett for doing some extra days to help us through the exam season.

Some early exam news:

Well done to Rachel who has passed her Level 2 Beauty Therapy Diploma. I know the TAs who have benefited from supporting her in practical lessons all recommended her work.

Well done to William who recently passed his driving test!

Sixth Form dates for your diary:

5th June - English Language Exam

7th June - Maths Exam

12th June - English Language Exam

14th June - Leavers Party!



Looking After Your WELLBEING ONLINE

We all know that taking care of our minds and bodies is essential to keep us feeling happy and healthy. The thing is, we spend so much of our time online these days that it's also important that we remember to look after ourselves in the digital world, too. Our poster has got some simple but useful tips for supporting your wellbeing while you're gaming, on social media or just using the internet.

