

The Senior

COURIER



TAUNTON
SCHOOL

20th March 2020

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ENCHANTING CHORAL CONCERT



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CHORAL CONCERT
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" WE MUST RECOGNISE
THE GREAT CAPACITY
WE ALL HAVE **WITHIN**"

DALAI LAMA

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And plenty more....

CHALLENGE

NURTURE

INSPIRE

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TS HEADS UP ON...

Dear Parents,

I have drafted this letter many times over the past 24 hours as it is hard to find the words to describe the position we all find ourselves in. Nevertheless, it is a time to be strong and to think about the future.

The decision to “cancel” public examinations next term was a big shock and especially so given that we have not been given any indications of how our students will obtain the qualifications they need. Given the level of uncertainty and speed of change we must be careful not to make assumptions. Quite simply, we don’t know what the Government will decide. There is the possibility that exams will take place later in the summer, or qualifications will be based on online assessments, or that qualifications will be based on predicted grades. The IB and CAIE, the exam board that administers some of our IGCSE qualifications, have stated that their exams will still go ahead in countries where schools are still open. For now our clear advice to students due to sit public examinations is to continue with that preparation until we have certainty on the qualification process. One thing I can confirm is that we will not insist on our usual sixth form entry requirement of 5 GCSEs at grade 5 or above for entry in September 2020.

As a community we will take our social distancing responsibilities seriously and we are determined to ensure we deliver an excellent education throughout the period of closure. Thankfully our term ends tomorrow and the children deserve a rest. My amazing colleagues are working hard to ensure that we will deliver an outstanding learning experience remotely through our Virtual Learning Environment (VLE). We have provided training sessions for staff and more detail will be issued tomorrow on the practicality of using the VLE. It is inevitable that we will need your support in making this work as children will need to engage with the material at home.

We will continue to take our pastoral responsibilities very seriously and please do contact your child’s tutor if

you have any questions about progress or any concerns you might have.

We are waiting for guidance on how we can support “key workers” in our parent body and we will certainly do all we can. We are proud of our community and now is a time when we must all pull together. We don’t just want to fulfil minimum requirements here. We want to support the efforts in fighting this virus and are looking at ways that we can support those organisations that provide health and emergency support.

Finally, the most important statement in our strategic vision is “the wellbeing of our pupils is at the heart of everything we do”. We must all stay focused on this. Our children are not finding this easy and to be faced with the prospect of no school for possibly six months, uncertainty about qualifications after lots of hard work and not seeing their friends for a long time is difficult at any age. We must all support them with love, warmth and understanding. This is hard for them and therefore routine and stability is vital. If schools are closed until September I will ensure that our Year 13 students are able to celebrate their time with us and there will, at some point, be a Commemoration event and a Leavers’ Ball.

I am meeting with the senior team daily and please be assured that we are thinking of you all. We will continue to communicate regularly and I am so grateful to you all for the overwhelming words of support and your positivity. We are all in this together and together we will come through it.

With best wishes

Lee Glaser,
Headmaster








CATCH IT.



BIN IT.



KILL IT.

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FOR THE MOST
UP TO DATE
INFORMATION
AND OUR FAQs**

COMPETITION AND REBUTTAL ABOUND AT THE JUNIOR INTER-HOUSE DEBATING

Year 9 and 10 students provided an excellent evening of public speaking and debating for the Junior Inter-House Debating Competition on Friday 13 March. The standard was high with a strong element of assertive debating and a number of notable performances; a record thirteen houses from across three parts of the school entered teams, Marshall entering a second debating team hors concours to even up the Main Debates. Everyone should be congratulated for taking part, but hitting the most points overall were Marshall, closely followed by Jenkin and then Goodland. Marshall dominated the public speaking competitions, being in the top four for all three categories; however, other outstanding performances in the Impromptu Speaking and Interpretative Reading were offered by Bevan and Jenkin, and in the Persuasive Speaking by Wills West, Besley and TSIMS. Despite significant competition and rebuttal, Goodland stole the prize for the Main Debate, with Weirfield hard on their heels, and Evans just behind. The Best Individual Speaker was judged to be Ben Redrup, while Jack Butler and Nathan Roberts are clearly ones to watch.

Well done and thanks to everyone for taking part and making judging and spectating such an enjoyable experience. Many thanks also to the timers, judges, helpers and supporters who made the event run so smoothly.



A VERY MUDDY CHALLENGE

On Sunday 15th March, Ed Cousins (Yr 12, Evans) took part in a tough cross-country cycle challenge on the Isle of Wight. The 7 Hills Challenge is a 25.6 mile rough terrain event with approximately 160 riders. This was a first time experience for Ed and he was pleased to finish in just over 4 hours. He plans to return again next year, when he hopes to knock an hour off his time. In the meantime, Ed will be undertaking a further challenge on the Isle of Wight over the Easter holidays. Ed together with fellow Year 12 pupils (JJ, Dan and Kai) will be circumnavigating the Isle of Wight to raise funds for Love Musgrove. The 60 mile route will be very scenic but with many punishing hills. The team have set themselves a target to raise £1,500 for Love Musgrove. They would very much appreciate your support – raising £1,500 for our local hospital would be a great achievement.

www.justgiving.com/fundraising/tour-de-isle-of-wight



CHALLENGE

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'ABD AL MALIK' FRENCH SEMINAR



A level and IB students of French had the excellent opportunity of attending a university-style seminar delivered by the University of Exeter's Dr

Eleanor Hodgson on Monday 9th March. The seminar focused on the French rapper, poet and 'slammeur' Abd Al Malik and his work's interpretation of multiculturalism in France. This was not only a thought-provoking academic seminar, but also directly relevant to both the IB and A level courses our students study and gave our students a fascinating insight into what studying languages at university is like.

Daniel Chalkley,
Head of MFL



LINGUISTS' DINNER

This year's Linguists' Dinner for Year 13 students of Modern Languages took place on Thursday 12th March and did not disappoint. The annual event is an opportunity for Upper Sixth linguists and their teachers to come together as they are nearing the end of their course to celebrate and say farewell before their exams. The evening consisted of a two-course dinner, a quiz and certificates awarded by teachers for hard work, commitment and excellent progress. We were even treated to a some fantastic Spanish music from the Upper Sixth hispanists. All in all, an excellent evening was had by all.

Daniel Chalkley,
Head of MFL



ANNUAL WEIRFIELD EASTER EGG HUNT

Easter still seems a little way off, however the annual Weirfield Easter Egg Hunt went ahead as usual on the last Sunday of the spring term. Sadly we were not blessed with spring-like weather as it was rather wet and miserable, however we were undeterred and went ahead with an indoor hunt. Over a hundred chocolate eggs, bunnies and chicks were hidden around the Rec Room before some eager Weirfieldians were let loose and the Hunt began. The girls' competitive edge was clear to see and in no time at all the girls had filled their buckets!

Laura Brayley,
Housemistress Weirfield



Taunton School @tauntonschool · 1h
 60 students have been recognised for their cricket talent and selected onto elite county and district pathways! A record-breaking year once again. 🏏 We are very proud of you all 🙌

Read more tauntonschool.co.uk/2020/03/20/60-...

#Cricket #DoMoreBeMore #ChallengeNurtureInspire

Taunton School Sport and 9 others

TWEET OF THE WEEK!

Keep up with the latest news, stories and announcements from across the school through our social media accounts. Click the icons to be directed!

CHORAL CONCERT



On Saturday 14th March, the amassed members of Taunton School's Community Choir sang John Rutter's Magnificat accompanied by a professional orchestra and conducted by Taunton School's Director of Music, Mark Cracknell. The result was a 70 strong choir with members from the preparatory school and the senior school, right through to parents, former staff and members of the wider Taunton School Community.

With the Magnificat showpiece taking place in the second half, the concert began with a performance of Ludwig van Beethoven's Egmont Overture by Taunton School Orchestra in what is the 250th anniversary of Beethoven's birth. The fiery and dramatic overture was performed wonderfully by the orchestra with a wonderful intensity from the entire orchestra and lovely solos from the woodwind. Following this and a performance of Peter Warlock's Capriol Suite by the professional players, the focus turned to the two winners of the Autumn-term Concerto Competition. Year 13 pupil Daniel Lloyd-Jones performed the first movement of Vaughan Williams idyllic Concerto for Oboe and Strings. His playing was mature and professional and he handled the challenging cadenza passages with great aplomb. Then Daisy Hickson, who was recently named Taunton Musician of the Year,

enchanted with Viktor's Tale by John Williams. The music was light and joyful from the off and a great finish to the first half.

John Rutter's Magnificat's seven movements provide ample opportunity for both the choir and soloists to have the spotlight. The first two movements are purely choral with the former being a light and joyful movement and the second a sincere carol reflecting the character of Mary. Year 13 pupil Florence Rihll had the first solo movement with the flowing melodies of "Et Misericordia" before the choir took back over in the fanfare-like "Quia fecit mihi magna" which featured solos from Hetty Christopher, George Knowles and Sebastian Dean. The fifth movement, "Fecit Potentiam", again showcased the ability of the choir in syncopated and chromatic lines which emerged in a fugue-like pattern, giving each section of the choir their own solo.

Following this, Daisy Downham sang Rutter's serene setting of "Esurientes", a beautiful and touching movement. The final movement, "Gloria Patri" returned to material from earlier in the piece before finishing with a glorious and exalted final amen. A fitting end to a fantastic concert.

Zachary Reading,
Co-ordinator of Instrumental Music

CHALLENGE

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RAF FLYING EXPERIENCE

Last Friday, six year 11 and 13 cadets from the RAF section visited MOD St Athan for the first Air Experience Flying visit of the new year. In glorious sunshine and high spirits, the cadets undertook a series of manoeuvres, from simple turns, to aerobatics, and Kingsley Feng even had the opportunity to take off for the first time.

My thanks to the cadets for their impeccable behaviour, as always, and to Dr Loaring who kindly took them.

James Wood



SIXTH FROM STUDENT SOPHIE'S FLYING EXPERIENCE...

On Friday the 13th of March three RAF Cadets and three RAF NCOs had the great honour of participating in the flying experience of a lifetime. At 6 am we made our way up to the Royal Air Force Association in Barry, Wales, as part of our CCF training and had the opportunity of flying the Grob Tutor light aircraft.

Upon arrival, we promptly took part in safety training followed by a demonstration and practice of carrying out a parachute jump. After the required training, we were able to take the sky and fly the aircraft. The Grob Tutor light aircraft has great visibility from its large canopy and is agile enough to allow it to perform full aerobatics.

This is the third time for me to go flying and really no words can truly express this exhilarating experience. As a group of six, we were able to spend a long period of time understanding the nature of the aircraft, take control and with the encouragement of our instructors, complete several aerobatics. This includes the 'Slow roll', in which the plane makes a complete rotation around its roll axis while keeping the aircraft flying a straight and level flight path. Another manoeuvre started with a stunning view heading towards the sky as we then let the aircraft stop, rotate 180 degrees and hurl towards the ground before levelling off to glimpse the horizon on a splendid spring day.

Along with the other cadets, I am really proud of the overall achievements and due to the adrenaline pumping the day, it made it an incredibly memorable one. One that I would recommend to all who like a challenge.

Sophie Brett



[CLICK HERE](#)
TO VISIT OUR
FACEBOOK PAGE AND
SEE A VIDEO OF A
STUDENT IN ACTION!

Artwork of the Month: March

Year 11 GCSE Fine Art Students' Exam Pieces



Artworks produced by:
 Laura Assanti, Rose Harvey, Kelly Hou, Georgia Imm, Alice Kirscher, Kate McVicar,
 Zara Oppenheim, Chloe Sanderson, William Wang, Katja Wegner, Daniel Wen,
 Teddy Woolstencroft

SPORT

BICTON ARENA

Milly Struel, Cecilia Fawden and Fliss Gostling represented TS at Bicton Arena in the 1-1.05m Class this month, placing 3rd overall.

Well done girls!

Kate Walters,
Head of Educational Progress



FIRST POINT TO POINT WIN FOR TAMBY WELCH

On Sunday 15th March the Dart Vale, South Pool and Modbury Harriers Hunt staged their Point to Point meeting at Buckfastleigh on what turned out to be the last day of Point to Point racing of the 2019/2020 season.

After several weeks of lost meetings due to weather, the entries and runners were plentiful and racing competitive; in the DVSPMH Members Subscribers and Farmers race Tamby rode sister Hannah's Ragged Dream (Fr) to score a narrow victory over his four rivals at the outsiders' price of 7/1. The combination was assisted by removal of the last fence, which meant that the 3 mile race was decided in a long run to the line after the last jumping effort.

The win represented a first for 6 yr old Maiden Ragged Dream, a first for young Owner/Trainer Hannah, and a first for 17 yr old rider Tamby.



HOCKEY

RESULTS V WELLINGTON- 14/03/2020

TEAM	RESULT
1STS	W 4-2
2NDS	W 6-0
3RDS	W 5-1
U15A	L 4-2
U15B	CANCELLED
U14A	W 7-0
U14B	W 1-0

4THS PLAYED KINGS 4THS WON 13-0.



U14A V WELLINGTON

A super way to end a challenging and enjoyable season. This is how many described our last game of the season against Wellington school which ended 7-0 to Taunton. For the majority of the game, the ball was played in the opposition's end with some great attacking play, by Alex Chaffey. Once again our midfielders had a great game, with Logan DuPont controlling the middle alongside Alex Small, Seb Mally and Charlie Bedford. The goals came from Rafe Salvador, Logan DuPont x2, Alex Small, Charlie Bedford, Fin Robertson.

Overall it was a great performance and a very enjoyable way to end for all the boys.

Alex Small,
Year 9 Student

2NDS V WELLINGTON

Taunton rounded a successful season off with a convincing win over Wellington.

With both Calum Pinn and Ollie Tucker available for selection we had full confidence we would be able to keep a clean sheet. Both keepers left the ball well but did not have too many saves to make.

The defence was well orchestrated by Dan Edwards who's looked more like a natural hockey player week by week. Aerials from Freddie S G and movement forward by Ollie Edward made it difficult for the wellington defence combined with, some tackles from Matt Ashby to secure our defence. The midfield was well controlled by Henry W, Barney W, Teddy W, Adam L-W and Ben J (briefly) before Taunton scored their first goal via a deflection short corner.

Captain Large offloaded the ball well upfront often assisting the in form Jonny Cole who was searching for a first Hat trick. Freddie C and Bertie M were instrumental in the build-up play of 3 of Taunton's 6 goals proving themselves as real impact players in a very strong 2nd team.

Our 2nd team finished the season with 5/6 wins and 1 loss making them joint most successful team of the season.

Well done boys.

NETBALL

RESULTS V HAYGROVE- 12/03/2020

TEAM	RESULT	PLAYER OF THE MATCH
U14B V their U14A	L 1-20	Eva Bibba Wilbourn/Chloe Hims
2NDS	W 30-13	Matilda Clarke/ Lucy Beresford

RESULTS V EXETER SCHOOL- 14/03/2020

TEAM	RESULT	PLAYER OF THE MATCH
1STS	W 48-26	Isla May
2NDS	W 25-16	Eloise Winsor
3RDS	W 24-16	Eloise Taylor

RESULTS V TSI- 14/03/2020

TEAM	RESULT
4TH	W 16-4
5TH	W 17-10

U15 COUNTY CUP CHAMPIONS

COUNTY CUP RESULTS-11/03/2020

TEAM	RESULT	OPPOSITION
U15	W 15-1	Bruton School for Girls
	W 10-5	King's School, Bruton
	W 10-3	Haygrove School
Semi-Final	W 11-2	Queen's College
Final	W 8-5	King's School, Bruton

Player of the tournament: Ellie Trescothick.

U19 COUNTY CUP CHAMPIONS

COUNTY CUP RESULTS-11/03/2020

TEAM	RESULT	OPPOSITION
U19	W 14-4	Wellington School
	W 11-4	Wells Cathedral School
	W 11-10	King's College
	W 17-5	Richard Huish College
	W 15-5	King's School, Bruton

Player of the tournament: Isla May and Martha Mileham.

U14 NETBALL GIRLS AT NATIONALS

RESULTS 14/03/2020

TEAM	RESULT	OPPOSITION
U14	W 9-7	Whitburn Church of England Academy
	W 8-6	Bromsgrove School
	W 9-8	Sheffield High School
	L 5-6	Guildford High School
	L 4-14	Stockport Grammar School
	L 8-12	Farnborough Hill
	W 10-6	Wellingborough School
	L 7-10	The Broxbourne School

Player of the tournament: Olivia Hooper and Amelia Mukamitali

FINISHED: 10TH IN THE COUNTRY

Last weekend the U14's travelled to Welwyn Garden City for the National Schools Finals having qualified through the County and Regional rounds as Champions. The girls started the day nervously, warming us with an air of quiet and anxiety.

Our first game was against Whitburn Church of England School who we knew very little about. The girls started extremely well dominating from the first whistle, taking control of the game, winning 9-7. Next up were Bromsgrove, who have a reputation for producing great netballers. Again the girls started extremely well, with some fast flowing netball, winning 8-6. With two wins the team was becoming more confident and started excellently against Sheffield High School, winning the first half 5-1. Sheffield came back strong in the second half, however, the girls held on for a 9-8 win. Guildford High School were next up, and had some good wins under their belt. We didn't start well and at half time were 1-4, the girls didn't let their heads drop and came back fighting the second half. Sadly they just ran out of time, losing 5-6 (Guildford finished 4th). The loss definitely knocked the girls confidence and they let Stockport get the better of them, losing 4-14 (Stockport finished 3rd). The girls tried hard to re-focus themselves for the next game and after a 3-7 first half the girls managed to pull it back to an 8-12 loss. With everyone in our group beating each other the girls found a new enthusiasm finding out that they could still reach the semis. They all played well against Wellingborough giving us our 4th win 10-7. Our last game was against Broxbourne who need a win for a chance at a semi-finals spot. The girls fought hard, narrowly losing 7-10. This put us 5th in our group and =10th in the country.

All girls had a great experience, learning lots with every match. Olivia Hopper and Amelia Mukamitali were outstanding all tournament. Well done to all the girls.

Lisa Manley,
Head of Netball



CHALLENGE

NURTURE

INSPIRE



NETBALL AWARDS DINNER



On Wednesday evening Netball girls and staff enjoyed the annual Netball dinner and awards presentation. This is a chance to celebrate all that is Netball at Taunton School and for the girls to thank their coaches for their hard work throughout the season.

This year the following girls received awards:

	PLAYER OF THE SEASON	PLAYERS PLAYER OF THE SEASON	MOST IMPROVED PLAYER OF THE SEASON
U14A	Bella Wells		Ellie Marsden
U14B	Chloe Hims		Eva-Bibba Wilbourn
U14C	Shialu Srithar		Jess Oppenheim
U14D	Mollie West		Esther Kane
U15A	Darcie Coleman		Julia Louw
U15B	Bryony Griffiths		Ailarni Braine-Clarke
U15C	Elizabeth Dutton		Aniela Cuevas
U15D	Charlotte Hatcher		
1ST	Martha Mileham	Daisy West	
2ND	Kara Klimczak-Gange	Verity Winsor	
3RD	Kate McVicar	Flo Salter-Green	
4TH	Mabel Pyne	Neive Davis	
5TH	Sophie Chant	Zara Oppenheim	
THE MANLEY CUP	Zoe Shadlock		

HOUSE NETBALL AND HOCKEY

NETBALL RESULTS

Junior A Competition

1st- Jenkin
2nd- Woodfield
3rd- Bevan

Junior B Competition

1st- Jenkin
2nd- Bevan
3rd- Woodfield

Senior A Competition

1st- Jenkin
2nd- Besley
3rd- Boraders

Senior B Competition

1st- Besley
2nd- Bevan
3rd- Jenkin

HOCKEY RESULTS

Juniors:

Marshall
Goodland
Evans
Wills west
Will east
Fairwater

Seniors:

Marshall
Goodland
Boarders
Evans

HOUSE HOCKEY

House hockey today was played in good spirits, it started with Junior House hockey which was fiercely contested. Marshall the run away leaders in the end having to overcome a draw with Goodland, but Goodland fell short of the chase in the following games. Fairwater battled hard and the midfield of the table was tightly contested with just a few points and goal difference separating them. Senior house hockey too on a turn for the different with 3 boarding houses combining to make a boarders team 3 day houses. Despite a 4-3 thriller with the eventual winners Marshall the boarders only victory came over Evans to fill third place. The final was again Goodland v Marshall, Goodland taking the lead quickly with Marshall equalising not long after, the game in the balance it could have gone either way, however it was Goodland missing the target through a few sitters, Patrick Large the 2nd team talisman with a chance to put his name in Goodland history missed finishing a great attack narrowly. Instead it was Chaffey, Webber & Lewis-Williamson the future of the 1st team Attack who put the game to bed for Marshall and winning them Senior House Hockey. The tournament was played in great spirits with the boys competing hard!

Well done to all!

Elliot Foweraker,
Director of Hockey



THE BATH AND OTTER CUP

Last Friday the swimmers travelled to the London Aquatic Centre to compete in the Bath Cup, an event running since 1910 for schools who are members of HMC and from 1995 saw the introduction of female schools, based on the growing number of schools moving to a co-educational offering. This year saw 72 entries in the female schools races and 80 entries in the male school races.

The competition started with the Girls Freestyle 4 x 50m relay, Taunton swimming in Heat 3, and recording a total time of 1.56.29, placing both 5th in what turned out to be the fastest heat of this competition. Going into the final in lane two, the girls swam 1.55.97, swimming quicker than their heat, but placing 6th overall in the A League Competition (all schools of over 500 students)

The Boys Freestyle relay came next, with them swimming a 4 x 100m. Swimming in Heat 4, the boys really attacked their races, although for some the back 50m proved hard work in the long course pool and they had hoped for a 4 x 50m like their female counterparts, but swimming with determination and persistence ended with a really high calibre swim of 4.04.04 and placing 20th overall.

The Girls 4 x 50m medley started off the afternoon session.

Swimming in the heats and finishing 5th overall in a time of 2.09.08, taking to the final again in lane 2, the final saw the swimmers attack and chase the eventual winners Bromley all the way through. The team earning a silver medal in a time of 2.06.34, an awesome time shaving 2.7 seconds off their heat time and with only half a second separating the three teams fighting for that podium spot, securing the silver medal on the touch was fantastic in a close race, which could easily have gone either way.

The Boys 4 x 50m medley came next, the fact they were now swimming 50's meant that they could really attack their one length swims. They finished their heat in a time of 2.02.56 and finished in 18th place overall.

The swimmers were all a credit to the school and were well prepared for the races by our Head of Swimming Development Graham Davidson, as a school we are pushing forward on our reputation as a school with outstanding swimmers and of course performing successfully in this high calibre competition.

Hayley Mortimer,
Director of Co-Curricular



STUDENT SPORT SUCCESS

ALEX MALE

Well done to Alex Male who placed 23rd out of 323 runners at the English Schools Cross Country in Liverpool on Saturday 14th March 2020.



60 STUDENTS ELECTED FOR ELITE CRICKET PATHWAYS



A massive 60 students from Taunton School have been selected in the latest round of County and District cricket pathways – a record breaking year once again.

Both boys and girls ranging from 9 to 18 years have been selected for county, district, academy and international squads, including Somerset, Devon, Cornwall and as far as Hong Kong. Director of Cricket Mr Pete Sanderson said: "These students are a credit to how sports players can mix their academic studies with still developing their sporting skills. I'm extremely proud to see so many students getting recognised for their talent. They have all worked extremely hard in their different groups and individual sessions that the school runs throughout the winter."

Congratulations to all the students who were elected.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read more on this story on our website!