



TAUNTON
SCHOOL

Senior School COURIER

25th September 2020

#TAUNTONSCHOOL

TEA TIME CONCERT



On Wednesday afternoon, the Music Department hosted the first Tea Time concert of the new term with performances from four talented Senior School students.

We had Eliza playing the 3rd movement of trumpet concerto by Oskar Bohme, Lily with Chopin's Prelude in B minor, Rufus playing Scherzo Brillante by Koetsier on the French horn, and the concert concluded with Isaac sharing a beautiful piece of his own composition on the piano.

There was a small audience in the Chapel and the concert was also live streamed to parents so it could be enjoyed by all.



More Inside

[Meet the School Nurse](#)
[#BehindTheScenes](#)

[Keeling Bursary opportunities](#)
[And plenty more....](#)

Next Senior Courier: 9th October 2020

Head's Up: Learning in a time of Covid

by Damian Henderson, Deputy Head Academic



My long-held conviction that September is the best month to be a teacher has taken a bit of a battering this year! Normally, I absolutely love the return to school. Even after two decades in teaching, there is something quite thrilling about handing out fresh exercise books, meeting new students, and picking up conversations with colleagues after the long summer break. Summer 2020, of course, did not give anyone in education much of a break: the national confusion surrounding public exam results issue, and the extensive planning required for Covid protocols, meant that September sunbats were less dazzling this year for most of us. Most distressingly of all, I found out on the first morning of term that someone had broken into my house and replaced all of my work trousers with ones two sizes smaller. Please can that person own up and hand them back?!

Given the tyranny of the new hygiene rules, and the disruption to normal planning wrought by Ofqual's U-turns, I have been so proud of how teachers have got lessons off the ground, and how students have taken the interminable hand-sanitizing and mask-remembering in their stride. Something approaching "normality", whatever that is, feels a bit closer every day. The amazing new dining room has settled down, the vast majority of quarantining and displaced students are back in school, and our dozen or so new staff have had a taste of the warmth (though not yet the bar!) which characterises our wonderful community.

Naturally, we all have a keen eye on the national picture, particularly relating to changes to assessment and exams in 2021

and beyond. The good news for students is two-fold. Firstly, we were as a school relatively unscathed by the scourge of 'Covid learning loss'. Secondly, to use a golfing analogy, students can only play with the clubs they've got. They are the age they are once and once only. Most things are well outside their sphere of control and not worth worrying about. As with every preceding generation, the sole thing our young people can control is how much effort they put in on a daily, weekly, or termly basis. This is why our three-weekly effort grades are so important, and I am pleased that the first clutch of grades are being harvested today, so that we have a snapshot of how students have settled in and developed positive work routines.

So, it is going to be a long term. My hope is that, just as remote learning brought joys in unexpected places e.g. the astonishingly good Saturday morning Scholars' talks on Teams, this term of 'blended' education will, in turn, surprise us with unanticipated moments of beauty. I hope that these will be captured in subsequent Couriers and I will report back in person later this term.

May I wish everyone the very best of health and happiness, this autumn term.

Damian Henderson

The Week Ahead

Saturday, 26th September	8.30 - 8.55 Chapel and Enrichment 13.30 - Cricket Fixtures 14.00 - Hockey Fixtures 15.30 - Hockey Fixtures 17.00 - 18.00 - Two Moors Festival - Young Musicians Competition
Sunday, 27th September	All Day - Two Moors Festival - Young Musicians Competition 11.00 - 13.00 - Boarder's Brunch 14.00 - 17.00 - Boarder's Activity - Conservation Work in Stover
Monday, 28th September	All Day - Two Moors Festival - Young Musicians Competition
Tuesday, 29th September	All Day - International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste 8.30 - 8.55 Chapel 14.30 - Cricket Fixtures 15.30 - Cricket Fixtures 16.00 - 17.00 - Year 9 and 10 Enrichment
Wednesday, 30th September	8.30 - 8.55 - Headmaster's Assembly 12.40 - 13.30 - Boarding House Staff meeting 17.05 - 17.30 - Tea- Time Concert, Chapel
Thursday, 1st October	16.00 - 17.00 - Year 11, 12 and 13 Enrichment 17.00 - 17.05 - Deadline for Tutor comments - All Years
Friday, 2nd October	All Day - International Day of Non-Violence Keeling Bursary Application deadline 8.30 - 8.55 Scholar's Sessions 18.30 - 19.45 - Burke Debate 18.30 - 20.30 - Sixth Form Open Evening

The Keeling Bursary

Year 11 parents: are you aware of The Keeling Bursary?

We are passionate about ensuring that all young people with a desire to work hard and take part can access an outstanding education. We are keen to ensure that all of our Year 11 students who want to stay on in the Sixth Form are not prevented from doing so by financial restrictions.

We therefore offer many bursaries at Taunton School and many of our top performing students are bursary holders. The Keeling Bursary is open to Year 11 students whose parents need some financial support when their child moves into the Sixth Form. Established through the generosity of Old Tauntonians Henry Keeling and Jan Nuttall it is aimed at students who will benefit most from continuing their studies in the Sixth Form at Taunton School, but for whom this would be very demanding financially. The associated fee remissions are often substantial. Please do consider making an application or feel free to contact me if you would like further information. Applicants will be required to complete a Financial Circumstances form. Expressions of interest should be returned to my PA, Kate Short kate.short@tauntonschool.co.uk by **2nd October 2020**.

Lee Glaser, Headmaster



The Keeling Bursary was established through the generosity of OTs Jan Nuttall and Henry Keeling

Fee remissions are often substantial. Expressions of interest should be returned to Kate Short at kate.short@tauntonschool.co.uk by **2nd October 2020**.

A unique fleet

Bus enthusiasts amongst you may have noticed that we have recently added another brand new coach to our transport fleet. As a school, we have one of the most extensive transport systems of any regional school and are the envy of educational establishments nationally.

Our efficient, safe and reliable transport network eliminates the logistical nightmare of coordinating the school run for busy families, covering a wide catchment area with convenient pick-up points.

All of our drivers are fully vetted, trained and employed by Taunton School.

Our drivers are exclusive to each route so you'll benefit from the sense of security and familiarity provided by knowing the same driver will be responsible for your child's safety and welfare to and from school.

Our fleet of vehicles consists of three 57 seater coaches and 11 modified, bespoke built Ford and Mercedes Benz minibuses with separate luggage compartments.

Find out more about our transport offering on our website: <https://www.tauntonschool.co.uk/about/transport/>



The Senior Courier

#BehindTheScenes

Have you spotted the film crews in school this week? We have been busy filming Heads of Department to create content for an innovative way to deliver our virtual Sixth Form Open Evening on Friday 2nd October.

Be sure to tune in next week to find out about each subject direct from our fantastic team of teaching staff.



We also welcomed a special BBC film crew who are documenting a good news story about some of our students. We can't give away too much detail yet, but watch this space for more detail about the prime time tv programme!

Meet the Sister in Charge of Health Centre - Emily Kane



What is your role within Taunton School?

I'm the Sister in Charge of Health Centre, which is based right in the heart of the school next to Griffins shop.

When did you join and what were you doing before?

I joined Taunton School in September 2016, and before that I was a school nurse in another school.

How have you found your first few weeks back at School during this pandemic?

Really busy, but it's so great to have everyone back on site!

What led you into Nursing as a vocation?

I always wanted to be a children's nurse and it really is the best job in the world!

Which aspect of your role at Taunton School do you enjoy the most?

I like spending time with young people and supporting them through their time at Taunton School.

How do you switch off from the job when you get home?

I enjoy relaxing with my family or friends, walking our dog or reading a good book.

Quick fire questions now...

What are your hobbies?

Walking, making and creating anything.

Favourite TV programmes?

I love The Yorkshire Vet!

Thank you Emily, it's been great to get to know more about you!

Scholarship prize win for Laura

Congratulations to Year 12 student Laura Assanti who has scooped a coveted prize of a scholarship on to one of Immerse Education's Cambridge courses.

Laura entered the essay competition over lockdown to win a scholarship to the Oxbridge Summer School 2021 to study a course in Biology. She was successful with her essay entry 'To what extent is human behaviour genetically determined?' and was awarded a partial scholarship to any educational course within the programme next summer.



This is a fantastic achievement - well done Laura!

Caro Wedgwood and Joanna Evans

Apprentice finalist inspires Business BTEC students

Last week Apprentice finalist, Lewis Ellis, joined the Year 12 and 13 BTEC Business students for an in depth chat on Marketing and Recruitment. Lewis gave an hour of his time to discuss his career-to-date, his time on the Apprentice and his current Marketing business (Hussel Marketing). Furthermore, during a question and answer session, Lewis allowed students the opportunity to contextualise their current BTEC work. It was a thoroughly enjoyable session and Lewis has offered to come back and support our students on a more regular basis.

Peter Stoddart, Head of Business and Economics

Who is Lewis Ellis?

Lewis was a final five finalist on the BBC Apprentice 2019. A self-proclaimed "maverick" who doesn't like to follow the rules, Lewis nearly won the entire process to gain the £250,000 investment from Lord Sugar. A self-confessed workaholic his favourite saying is, "I may not be the smartest guy in the room, but I'll sure as hell work harder."



SPORT

Cricket

Rusty performances particularly with the bat; both senior teams got in good positions with players in but collapses followed as no-one went on past the 30s. They have already played seven matches which helped them!

1st XI

Taunton 137 ao Coston 39 Hockey 32
Clifton 138 -1

2nd XI

Clifton 141 - 8
Taunton 111 ao Pomeroy 37 Barrett 25 Flitton 20 not out

14s

Taunton 153 - 6 Willoughby 51, Flitton 38
Clifton 141 - 5 Wilcox 2 - 13

15s

Clifton 140 -6 Chaffey 2 -15
Taunton 102 ao Dupont 51 not out

1ST XI REPORT

Taunton won the toss and got themselves into a great position despite the early loss of Adam Small after he played a crunching square cut in the first over. A stand of 70 by Ben Coston and Jacob Hockey took the score to 100 for 1 with 15 overs remaining. Unfortunately both were dismissed in consecutive balls, a lesson to be learned as then a collapse followed so Taunton were dismissed for 137. One note, Ben Chaffey hit a huge 6 before his strange dismissal. The total was never enough and despite some good appeals in the good spells from Henry Weatherill and Max Fletcher, who got the only wicket, a heavy defeat occurred.

Mr Sanderson

2nd XI REPORT

Clifton batted first on the Front and amassed a challenging total versus the Taunton attack, there was a very good 6 over spell by Alfie Macdonald who took 2 for 16. There were also wickets for Webber, Woolstencroft, Roberts (J) and Pomeroy. In reply Taunton recovered from a sticky start, where they lost 3 quick wickets, Harrison Barrett (26) and Ben Pomeroy (37) put on 65 for the next wicket to be a in a strong position. However, following the theme of the day a collapse followed leaving 60 required with two wickets left. Taylor Flitton wagged the tail making an excellent 20

not out but this was not enough to get Taunton over the line.

Mr Sanderson

15As

We eventually got a team to go to Clifton with illness and injury depleting an already under strength team. Mr Pring and Mr Sanderson were very appreciative of the Wills East boys who came to the rescue, well done Jack Done and Josh Stevenson. Clifton batted first on an interesting pitch, despite the efforts of Alex Chaffey who got two victims and a wicket maiden for Fabian Flay, Clifton amassed a strong total of 140. Logan Dupont, who recovered from illness just in time, was the only batter to seriously affect the score, he made 51 not out off the same amount of balls. Unfortunately, only Fabian managed double figures and Taunton were defeated by 39.

Mr Sanderson

14As

The Taunton School Foals began their Autumn Series with a win against Clifton College at the weekend on a balmy day on Lovers. Having won the toss, Mason chose to bat and went about setting up a target with Willoughby as an opening partner. An opening partnership of 51 runs ended when Mason fell for 18 but it set the tone for the innings that Harvey backed up with 16 himself. Flitton entered the fray with the score on 83 and scored with freedom for 38 runs. Willoughby brought up his fifty in the final over and perished a few balls before carrying his bat. A fine all round batting performance ended at 153-6 from 25 overs. McKay and Burnett opened the bowling tidily against some good batsmen. Burnett made the first breakthrough with a caught and bowled. Wilcox and Billings took over and kept the rate down with the former taking 2-13 from five overs. The bowling was shared around and the game was very much in Taunton's favour. Some strong hitting from the Clifton number 4 threatened to take the game to a tight finish, not helped by some dropped catches, but some good bowling at the death and a run out from Howells meant a reasonably comfortable margin of 12 runs was the final result. A really pleasing display from a new side, with no little skill and a great attitude shown throughout – roll on next week!

Mr Godfrey



Rugby achievements

Congratulations to the following players who have been selected on to the following rugby pathways:



EXETER CHIEFS

U17s:

Barney Dietz

BRISTOL BEARS

U18s:

Nick Payne

Excel U16s

Gabriel Baldegger
Ashley Foster
Michael Hudson
George Nuttycombe
Freddy Perham
Charlie Way

Excel U15s

Lewis Frost
Ben Giles
Fabian Flay

Aspire U16s

Gabriel Cameron

Under 15s

Bryce Bedingfield
Oliver Butler
Findlay Robertson
Joshua Stuckey
Jack Butler
Mark Hallett

Under 14s

Eloic Bell
Brogan Flitton
Thomas ford
Edward Hudson
Frey Land
Ollie Mellenchip
Alfie Howells
Henry Kingswell
Anthony McKay
Jack Burnett

SPORT

Football

Taunton School 1st vs Millfield 3rd result 2-0 to Taunton School

(Goal scorers: Brody Peart and Henry Woodward)

The first team were excited to play their first match of the season away to Millfield 3s. With debuts for Charlie Shave, George Charalambous, Harry Kent and Henry Woodward the team went on to win the match comfortably with a particularly efficient second half display. Apart from a couple of scares under the high ball the win was much deserved with Dan Travers looking accomplished at centre back and with Max Soon growing into the game in the second half. Both goals were well taken and scored by our Year 11 students (Brody Peart and Henry Woodward) with Henry being the player of the match due to his constant menace and work rate.

Taunton School 2nd vs Millfield 4th result 3-3

(Goal scorers: Jacob Ferguson x2, Matt Jones)

This was an exciting game to start off the second team's football season with a 6 goal thriller. The game started in a calm fashion but soon sparked into life when Millfield went 1-0 up. This sparked an energy into the TS students who came back strong but couldn't quite exploit the possession they were retaining until a well created chance fell to Jacob Ferguson who hit it so well the goalkeeper fumbled it over the line. The majority of the first remained on level terms with few clear cut chances being created until Millfield managed to go 2-1 up just before half time. This got head coach Mr Stoddart fired up, who was not willing to let his side open up their campaign with a defeat, so changes and positions were changed for the second half. Taunton started strong and managed to work themselves a corner, which was delivered in for defender Matt Jones to flick in at the near post. Taunton continued to pile on the pressure and took the lead midway into the second half with an excellent and composed finish by Jacob Ferguson. Taunton looked likely to see out the game with the win Mr Stoddart so thoroughly wanted, but with an injury to Matt Jones with 10 mins to go forced Miles Butt into centre back who up until then was playing a man of the match performance. However his constant walkabouts out of defence left many gaps which Millfield exploited towards the end of the match and they capitalised with about 5 mins to go bringing the score line level. This was probably a fair result on the balance of playing during the whole match, but one that Mr Stoddart will take a while to get over. I would like to thank Mr Henderson for also refereeing and for the support from both staff and students throughout the game.

Matt Reed



SPORT

Notable cricket achievements over the summer

Joleigh Roberts – Played for Somerset U17s and full team, trialled for Storm and was 2nd leading wicket taker including 4-38 Vs Wales

Izzy Hogevald – Somerset u17s

Ollie Heard – selected for the Bunbury Festival where the England U15s team is selected from. He also played for his own age group but also Somerset U18s team

Rhys Appleton – represented Wiltshire U16s taking 3 wickets in two matches to go with taking 5 wickets twice for his club

Henry Weatherill – played for Somerset U18s

Ben Chaffey - played for Somerset U18s and scored 145 for his club

Aidan Carter – played for Cornwall U18s taking 5 catches Vs Devon

Adam Small - played for Devon minor counties XI, taking 3 catches and Devon U18s

Thomas Ford – played Somerset U13s, would have been higher apart from injury

Kian Roberts – played Somerset U13s, 14s, 15s and 16s

Ben Mason played - played Somerset U13s, 14s and 15s, scoring over 50 twice

Findlay Robertson - played Somerset 14s and 15s

Logan Dupont - played Somerset 14s, 15s and 16s

Cole Willoughby - played Somerset U13s

George Nuttycombe – selected for Somerset U15s

AJ McKay - played Somerset 13s, 14s and 15s

Alex Chaffey - played for Somerset pathway teams at U13s and scored heavily for Taunton Deane

Bryce Bedingfield - played for Somerset pathway teams at U13s

Frederick Stevenson - played for Cornwall U17s, U18s and the Cornwall minor counties B team

Jack Oldland – Cornwall

Nathan Roberts – Cornwall U15s

Ben Coston – played for Cornwall U16s and U18s

Jacob Pengelly – played for Cornwall U16s and U18s

Can this list go into Courier. Thanks

Alfie Macdonald – Cornwall U15s, including 110 not out and 4-19

Alex Vincent – played District Under 13s and 15s scoring an impressive 63

Alex Small – pathway cricket for Devon U13s

Brogan Flitton – Pathway for Somerset U13s

Taylor Flitton – Represented Taunton Deane U19s as a Year 10 pupil

Will Harvey – Somerset U13s

