

# Dame Alice Owen's School newsletter



## Letter from the Head

### Hannah Nemko

Dear All,

As we all cautiously move towards our next iteration of the 'new normal', there was much to welcome in the [new guidance for schools](#), which describes what school may look like in the new term.

The emphasis is now on reducing the disruption to education, accepting that the risk of the virus to most children is very low but that the negative impact of continual lockdowns is high.

As a result, the government has now recommended that, from the Autumn term, as long as we do not have any reason to re-instate them, we can wave goodbye to the staggered timings of the school day and that face coverings will no longer be advised for pupils, staff and visitors. Most importantly, it will no longer be necessary to keep children in 'bubbles'. This means that we can look forward to a return, for all students, to specialist classrooms and activities. Assemblies, clubs, sports teams, mixed orchestras, ensembles and drama productions can all resume in the pre-Covid way we have missed. The new guidelines mean that we will be able to welcome audiences back to our concerts and productions, we can go back to planning our theatre visits, trips to educationally valuable places and maybe, in time, we will also be able to look towards running our exchange trips and other exciting opportunities abroad. It feels as if the school that we love has been sleeping under a mound of leaves and that it will soon be able to rise up, shake them all off and we will be able to pick up from where we left off.

The SLT and Admin team have particularly welcomed the announcement that the NHS will take over contact tracing from 16th August 2021. As we move into Stage 4, those under the age of 18 years and 4 months will no longer be required to self-isolate if they are identified as a close contact of a positive Covid-19 case but will be asked to take a PCR test instead; they would only have to isolate if this test shows that they are ill themselves.

Of course, no one should come into school if they have symptoms, have had a positive test result or have any other reason why they should stay at home to avoid the risk of passing the virus on. We will continue to request that students on site



## Issue highlights...

Owen's art pupils honour Covid heroes [page 8](#)



Two Live@Five concerts showcase music [page 10](#)



Sports successes and class highlights [page 12](#)



who develop possible symptoms of Covid-19 during the school day be collected from campus without undue delay. This is in line with the guidance. We would further ask that these students take a PCR test as soon as possible following this to determine the nature of their illness.

Families travelling abroad in the summer should bear in mind the impact any requirement to quarantine or isolate upon return may have on their child's education and are asked to consider this within the dates that they may be planning for any holiday.

Whilst the lifting of restrictions is exhilarating for some, we understand that they may also be a little worrying for others. Please rest assured that plans will be in place for reinstating certain measures should we see rates of infection starting to rise at school and that we will continue to emphasise the need to maintain the basic good hygiene measures that we have all got into the habit of.

- We will continue to have appropriate cleaning regimes throughout the campus.
- We will continue to ensure that all rooms are well ventilated.
- We will continue to encourage frequent and thorough hand cleaning and the use of tissues in order to 'catch it, bin it, kill it'.
- Our sanitising units will be maintained but it would help greatly if students could attend school with a packet of tissues and small bottle of hand sanitiser to help with these efforts.

As you may already be aware, we have been asked to test all students on-site twice on their return to school in September. We will be offering these tests to Year 7, 12 and 13 on Thursday 2nd September and Year 8, 9, 10 and 11 on Friday 3rd September in advance of their return to (or start at) school and then again on Monday 6th and Tuesday 7th September, during the school day. Staff and students should then continue to test twice weekly at home throughout September after which time this will be reviewed by the government.

I am sure that you will all join me in thanking the school team who, whether in the classroom, the various administrative, support or site roles, have worked heroically to keep the school functioning as well as it has been. I am certainly very privileged to be able to work with such a dedicated, talented group of people who have the best interests of the students firmly at the centre of all they do.

Unfortunately, as every year, there are some members of staff who will not be staying with us as we emerge from the Covid-cocoon. With sadness, we say goodbye to:

Mr Brand, Mrs Dorotheou, Mr Morley, and Mrs Gillingham who we wish well as they begin their retirement. To Miss Lowe, Mr Nolan and Ms Jenkins who we wish well in their new, promoted roles. To Mr Poliakoff, Mrs Whitehead and Mrs Wakely who we hope enjoy their new schools. To Miss Roberts who is moving away from the area. To Mrs Balkind, who we hope returns to teaching in due course. To Ms Spagnoli who we wish all the best in her teacher training. And to Dr Picken, Mr Costin, Mr Marshall and Ms Kern (on reception) who have helped us cover for maternity leave and alike over this year, thank you for all your help and support and to Mr Levy, who has helped knock the school's network into far better shape than we thought possible.

It has been my absolute privilege to work with such a talented and dedicated team of teachers this year more than any. I know that parents, carers and students will join me in thanking all those above for helping to make a real and positive difference to your children and the school.

I am delighted to say that the school is now fully staffed for the year ahead and that we are excited to welcome a number of new members to the team in September including:

Ms Asaffo, Teacher of Computer Science; Ms Brunner, Teacher of Spanish and French; Ms Doust, Head of Biology; Mr Duke, Teacher of Physics; Mr Henshaw, Teacher of English; Ms Pettengell, Teacher of PE;

Mr Salter, Teacher of Music; Ms Simpson, Teacher of Sociology; Mr Southorn Assistant Director of Music; Ms Stein, Head of Careers; Ms Sunderland, Teacher of English; Mr Robins, Director of Sport, Ms Vora, Teacher of Maths.

Congratulations also go to Ms Fradley on her promotion to Head of Physics, Ms Paine on her promotion to Head of French and Ms Perrin who has been promoted to Head of PSHRE.

My final thank you goes to you, our parents and carers, for your support and kind words throughout this year and to your brilliant children who it has been an honour to work with.

Wishing you all a restful summer.

**Hannah Nemko**

## **SUPPORTING STUDENTS WHO HAVE BEEN ASKED TO SEND 'NUDES'**

Many young people find themselves in the situation where they are asked to send 'nudes' to their peers and are not sure how best to respond. I wanted to make parents/carers aware of an app called **Zipit** which has been produced by the charity Childline. The app allows young people to send an amusing image (GIF) to diffuse the situation and get student's online chat back on track.

If you want to find out more please click on the following link.

<https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/sexting/zipit-app/>

We encourage students who have been asked to send 'nudes' or received unwanted messages of a sexual nature, or have sent 'nudes' to others to speak to one of the pastoral or safeguarding team in school. We also encourage students to speak to their parents/carers about any activity online that concerns them and we would encourage parents/carers to be aware of what students are doing online too.

Pam Perrett

Assistant Head and Designated Safeguarding Lead

## **CALL FOR VOLUNTEER MINIBUS DRIVERS FOR THE AUTUMN TERM**

We are very hopeful that from September, sports fixtures will be able to return to normal. Usually our PE staff are fully trained to drive our students to fixtures in the school minibuses. However, due to changes to our PE staffing and some new staff not yet qualified to drive our minibuses, we may struggle to find qualified drivers within our staff to take our teams to fixtures without some support in the short term come September.

We are, therefore, looking for volunteers in the school community who may have experience of driving minibuses or who have D1 on their licence and would be willing to help us out. Even with the relevant experience, we would carry out an internal practice drive so that you can get used to the minibus and because the safety of our students is paramount.

Most fixtures take place after school until approximately 6pm depending on the opposition and the sport. As the term progresses and the day gets shorter, this may move forward an hour or two. Help would also be needed for some Saturdays. There would always be a member of staff with you in the minibus with the students.

If you are willing and able to help out on any days, or would like further information, please email [burrowesj@damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk](mailto:burrowesj@damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk).



# 'I am not alone': peer mentoring programme at Owen's

During the last 18 months, we have been running a peer mentoring programme within the school. This pilot programme, which saw Year 10, 11 and 12 pupils working one-to-one and as part of a drop-in lunchtime club with Year 7, 8 and 9 pupils, was very successful in terms of numbers of pupils involved (over 200) as well as pupil and guardian feedback.

To build on this, we have been busy developing our mentoring skills. On June 15th, 33 Year 11 pupils attended a full day of workshops and training to prepare them to support younger pupils.

The day's activities and discussions focused on building skills in facilitating effective communication and positive interactions as well as developing strategies for the promotion of wellbeing both for themselves and their peers.

Pupils engaged with the content of the day with incredible maturity and positivity and feedback about what they had enjoyed and learnt included:

*We enjoyed 'the open and thoughtful discussions, talking about how to help with wellbeing and finding solutions which are helpful to us and others'.*

*'Seeing that I am not alone, others have the same problems and deal with the same stuff'.  
'Empowering ideas – open conversation'.*

*We learnt 'how to be a good role model, how to improve our own and others' wellbeing, how to build positive relationships and develop relationships and communication with others.'*

While the peer mentors will support pupils in all KS3 year groups, our main focus in September will be working with the new Year 7 cohort. As part of our discussions on the training day, Year 11 planned what they thought the shape of peer mentoring should be. They decided they would like to work with all Year 7 pupils through form time activities and by being a visible presence in the school. They will also be running a lunch time drop-in room for any Year 7 who would like to attend where quiet activities are available or pupils can just sit and chat! They will also work one-to-one with pupils during form time and run small group sessions at certain



points in the year to aid the initial transfer into secondary school and also look at managing workload and stress around assessment time.

Myself and Mr Skyes are running a second day of training for those who couldn't attend in June and so hope to have a team of about 50 mentors for September.

We were so proud of all the Year 11 pupils who attended the training and the insight, support, openness and compassion they displayed throughout the day. We are lucky to have such incredible peer mentors and I am so excited about the support they will provide during the coming year.

If you would like to know more about peer mentoring, particularly if your child will be in Year 7 in September, then please do get in touch with me at [jonesd@damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk](mailto:jonesd@damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk)

Dominique Jones

## NEWS FROM THE HISTORY DEPARTMENT

### Year 9 enjoy British Library Women's Rights exhibition

The History Department were delighted to be able to take some Year 9 students to an exhibition at the British Library this half term.

It was brilliant to finally be able to take students on a trip under the current Covid guidelines and to give them the opportunity to enrich their understanding of the curriculum. The students that were selected have impressed their teachers with their commitment, focus and enthusiasm in their History lessons this year.

Students spent time studying the exhibition 'Unfinished Business: The Fight for Women's Rights' and it enhanced their comprehension of their current topic, the Suffragettes. It also explored current



issues regarding inequality between the sexes and provoked students to think of how the status of women had progressed in History, whilst highlighting what work still needs to be done to achieve equality. It examined how modern feminism has its roots in the complex history of women's rights.

The History department would like to congratulate the students that were chosen for their outstanding contribution to their lessons this year and thank them for their engagement on the trip.



## NEWS FROM THE MATHS DEPARTMENT

# Intermediate and Junior Maths Challenge successes

Earlier this term, pupils from Years 9, 10 and 11 were invited to sit follow-on rounds after achieving excellent results in the Intermediate Maths Challenge.

Congratulations go to:

<b>Grey Kangaroo Merit Winners (Year 9)</b>	<b>Pink Kangaroo Merit Winners (Year 10)</b>	<b>Pink Kangaroo Merit Winners (Year 11)</b>	<b>Cayley Olympiad Merit Winner (Year 9)</b>
Sophie Chandan Stephen Goodlad Leo Nichols Jacob Roberts	Eiden Ishraq Eva Kelly Joshua Tate	Daniel Goodlad Roisin Keohane Aimi Weightman	Matei Pirtac

## Junior Maths Challenge

Over 300 pupils from Years 7 and 8 participated in the Junior Maths Challenge this term. We won 59 Bronze and 69 silver medals. Congratulations to all of the pupils who took part especially our gold medal winners.

### Year 8

Alicia Abe Jafar Alani Seth Baker Jack Buchanan Samantha Cheng Samuel Giles	Zackarya Ishraq Sally James Melissa Kassioti Victoria Kawonczyk Solomia Mankovska Dhruv McElwaine	Ava Mohammad Aghaei Lucia Moreiragilbert Niamh Murphy Ourania Neophytou Zara Qadus Emily Roberts	Tabitha Sleeman Sophie Stane Yitong Yue Jack Fu Martha Mills
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### Year 7

Jonathan Chan Hayden Cohen Andreas Efstathiou Andrew Fennell Adrian Hakimi	Archie Islam Raffy James Henry Kaufman Ruofu Li Akshay Manek	Edward Metcalf Jaik Parmar Aaron Tailor Lucy Terzopoulos Talia Tikochinsky	Kian Trivedi Vanshika Tummala Leo Tyler Callum Venter Hannah Senior
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Special congratulations go to Hannah Senior (Year 7) who won Best in Year and to Jack Fu (Year 8) who won Best in Year and Best in School.

39 pupils were invited to sit the Kangaroo follow-on round of which 17 did exceptionally well and achieved a merit. Congratulations go to:

Alicia Abe Jafar Alani Jack Buchanan Hayden Cohen Andreas Efstathiou	Andrew Fennell Samuel Giles Zackarya Ishraq Raffy James Melissa Kassioti	Akshay Manek Dhruv McElwaine Niamh Murphy Tabitha Sleeman Kian Trivedi	Leo Tyler Yitong Yue
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## NEWS FROM THE FOOD AND TEXTILE DEPARTMENT

# Owen's pupil wins Tunnock's Teacake Challenge 2021

The [Tunnock's Teacake Challenge](#) is an annual food styling competition run by the Food Teachers Centre which is open to all schools in the UK. The Challenge for 2021 was to present a Tunnock's Teacake to the theme of 'Teacake Travels Around the World'.

With many students working from home this year, we set this challenge for KS3 food students as some welcome practical work. As usual, Owen's students took to the challenge with gusto and we submitted more than 40 entries to the competition.

Judging criteria was: presenting a stunning dish, creativity, skills and the use of ethically sourced ingredients. Students were also told that their ideas should reflect traditions, sights, smells and/or tastes of a chosen country or culture.



There were hundreds of entries from around the country and we are delighted to announce that Beatrice Regan in Year 9 was the overall winner of the 14+ category with her amazing French patisserie design (pictured above).

Also worthy of note is Conrad Greulich's African lion design (left) which won a judges' recommendation.

Many thanks to Mrs Kerim who organised this competition for KS3.

*Ms Cerny Head of Food and Textiles*

## NEWS FROM OWEN'S ALUMNI

We are pleased to announce the launch of [owenians.com](https://www.owenians.com) – our new interactive hub, bringing together current and past parents, Owen's alumni, friends of the school and members of our associated sports clubs.

A big thank you goes out to our site sponsor, [Orbital Climate Solutions & Renewables Ltd](#) – an Owenian-owned business offering A/C, Air Source Heat Pumps, Ventilation and Solar PV for domestic and commercial clients across London and the Home Counties.

Whether you are interested in Owen's alumni news, viewing the school archives, the ability to purchase branded merchandise (coming soon) or access to exclusive, professionally organised Owenian events, sign up [here](#) for more information.

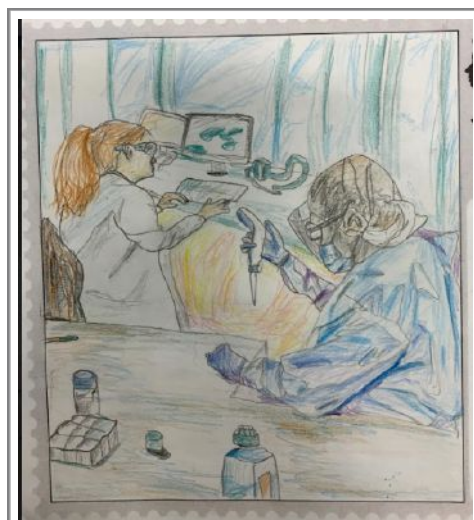
## NEWS FROM THE ART DEPARTMENT

# Honouring the heroes of the pandemic... on stamps

In our House Art Competition this term, students were asked to think about who their hero or heroes of the pandemic are, and to then design a stamp in their honour.

Since the coronavirus pandemic began, there have been many people who have done great things. Many of them are not famous, but they have done extraordinary work. These are the people who have helped us all through a really difficult time. Some are frontline workers in healthcare, others look after elderly or vulnerable people.

Millions of key workers have kept the country going when most of us were told to stay home for our own safety. And there have been many people who volunteered to help people in their communities who needed help or support. We enjoyed thinking about these people and how what they have done makes them heroes.



Andreas Efstathiou



Thekli Violaris



Rhea Puri



Sonny Buether

We had lots of fantastic entries, they were sent off to The Royal Mail at the end of May, alongside thousands of other entries from around the UK. A special panel of judges will pick the winning designs this summer. The final eight stamps will be sent to Her Majesty The Queen before they can be printed and issued.

So fingers crossed, with a bit of luck, you may be seeing a stamp coming through the post in 2022 designed by an Owen's student!

Thank you to all those who entered.



Years 7, 8 and 9 entries



## NEWS FROM THE DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

# Owen's students take part in F1 in Schools Competition

[F1 in Schools](#) is a prestigious international engineering competition in which students work in teams to design and make the fastest model car, powered by compressed air.

It is something I've always wanted to do – my fondest memory of coming to visit Dame Alice Owen's as a Year 5 at the annual Open Day was seeing the F1 cars demonstrated in the DT department.

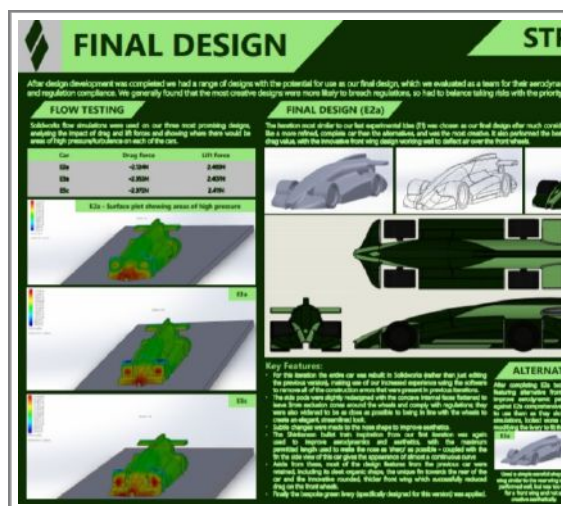
Having joined the school, my interest in the competition continued to grow and when the first coronavirus lockdown occurred in 2020, it provided the perfect opportunity to finally take part. We worked on the project for over a year, using CAD/CAM software to design and manufacture a car inspired by Shinkansen trains as well as merchandise and a 'pit display', and communicating virtually over voice call during the two school closures.

Although F1 in Schools is a challenging project at the best of times and parts of it were very difficult for me, I thoroughly enjoyed it overall. I learnt so much – not just engineering skills but also about leadership and working collaboratively.

My thanks go to our DT teachers Mr Stensel and Miss Chan without whom we could not have done the project, our friends and family who were always there to offer advice and support and my team – Matthew, Kia and Jacob. You have done everything I could have asked for and it was an honour to work with you.

*Sean Huang, Year 12.*

The Regional Finals of the F1 in Schools Competition takes place in the week commencing 12th July. An update on the team's progress will be announced in the autumn newsletter.



## NEWS FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

# Music at Owens continues with Live@Five concerts

Following a fabulous set of Year Group Live@Five concerts in the first half of term, Owen's musicians continued to work hard to create the programme for two more concerts, the 2021 Junior Summer Concert and the 2021 Senior Summer Concert.

In each of these, ensembles across the key stage were finally able to perform to each other, (though still with stringent Covid hygiene precautions in place, keeping the year group bubbles separate in the Edward Guinness Hall).

On **24th June** the **Junior Summer Concert** featured three new ensembles: the Year 8 Chamber Choir, the Year 7 Chamber Choir and the Y7 Drummers and Calypso Band, in

addition to the Year 7 and Year 8 Orchestras, the Year 8 Wind Band and the Year 9 Jazz Ensemble. As we were still unable to bring in parents to watch the concert, the performers also made up an attentive and enthusiastic audience for each other, and the concert was recorded and shared on a private YouTube channel.

It was a wonderful, varied feast of music demonstrating how, even when split into Year group bubbles, Owen's musicians have the commitment, talent and teamwork to produce exciting performances. We were delighted to welcome **Ms Jenkins** back to the stage conducting the Y8 Chamber Choir, and members of Year 8 made a heartfelt speech and presentation to her at the end of the concert to say thank you, to bid farewell and to wish her luck in her new school. Our thanks to all the ensemble leaders, ensemble assistants and accompanists. See below for the links to watch this concert.



The following week, on 30th June, we were delighted to welcome members of Year 11 and Year 13 back into school to join Year 10 and Year 12 musicians for a monumental **Senior Summer Concert**. This was a concert of three 'halves', in that the interval actually consisted of an outdoor set of items to accompany our picnics, performed on the amphitheatre on a beautifully calm summer's evening that

evoked the atmosphere of a rather chilled-out festival. In this concert, once again, the musicians were 'bubbled' and, once again, their energy, talent and commitment spawned a remarkable wealth of musical



items. These included three orchestras, a concert band, two jazz bands, a brass ensemble, a soul band and a contemporary music group. In order to share the excitement of the moment with our external audience, we live streamed the indoor parts of the concert, with the outdoor set being recorded and edited into the video afterwards (see links below).

The third and final section of the concert consisted of a wonderful performance of *Gloria* by Vivaldi, with socially distanced choirs, soloists and orchestra, having all rehearsed separately, uniting together in this joyous piece. It was so exciting to end a mammoth concert with such a large and diverse range of performers 'on stage' together!

And this was how we bid farewell and wished good luck to our Year 13 musicians, presenting each of them with a posy of Owen's themed red and yellow roses. They, in turn, took to the stage to thank the ensemble leaders with whom they have worked over the years. In the midst of the choir, **Ms Jenkins** celebrated her final concert at Owen's joining the altos, singing among the students she has taught and followed since they were in Year 7. Goodbye, good luck and thank you for the music!

Our enormous thanks to the Year 10 and Year 12 Tech Crew and Mr Pickering, without whom none of these events could have been possible.

To watch either of these amazing concerts, click here:

The 2021 [Junior Summer Concert](#)

The 2021 [Senior Summer Concert](#)

## Performance platforms

Owen's musicians have also taken to the stage as soloists in a series of five Performance Platforms. This term they were organised in year groups, and there was a tangible sense of excitement and moral support in hearing each other's performances. Congratulations to all the performers and thank you to the Dame Alice Owen's Principal Consultants for organising the events.



**NEWS FROM THE PE DEPARTMENT****SPECIAL MENTION**

A massive congratulations to Year 10 GCSE PE student Alfie Reynolds who represented Middlesex U18 at the South East regional Golf tournament this term. The tournament took place over two days at Kings Hill golf course in Kent and consisted of two rounds using the medal scoring system. Alfie did extremely well finishing with the best score for Middlesex in round one and the second best score for Middlesex in round two. Considering that Alfie was playing against some older students, he did particularly well and the PE department is extremely proud of this achievement. Alfie is now competing in the England South Boys – Faldo Series, 12th -14th July.

We look forward to seeing how Alfie's golf career develops over the next few years.

A special mention goes to Alex Lockett in Year 9 who competed in the Junior National Longbow British Outdoor Championships. The competition took place over two days. The first day, despite torrential downpours all day, she won with a score of 353, some 125 points ahead of second place. The second day Alex created two new national records! Well done Alex!

**CRICKET**

**Year 7** – Our Year 7 boys have shown a lot of promise in their first season. The team has been unlucky with two games being rained off. In their other four fixtures, they managed to win one and lose three. That said, two of the losses were by the narrowest of margins. Overall 16 students have represented the boys team this year, which shows the strength and depth within the year group.

The Year 7 girls played in their first cricket festival. The afternoon consisted of playing a 10 over tournament. The girls had very exciting matches, winning by 1 run against The John Warner School and losing by 4 runs against Haberdashers' Aske's School. Overall, the girls had a great afternoon and showed great improvement!

**Year 8** – The Year 8 boys team have been the unluckiest team in school with three fixtures cancelled because of rain. That said, they did manage to get their first win under their belt against Haberdashers' Aske's Boys School. Sam Giles and Jack Buchanan have performed particularly well in recent matches.

The Year 8 girls were unlucky with the weather as their tournament was cancelled due to rain. That said, they did play against Belmont School before half term and won by 2 runs in an enthralling match. The girls have shown fantastic dedication to training and show a great desire to improve next year.

**Year 9** – The Year 9 team have had a mixed set of results this year. They did fantastically well to reach the quarter final of the County Cup, before losing to a strong Bishop's Stortford High School. Additionally they have been on the end of some tough results against some very strong schools. Mikail Taimoor put in a number of good displays and almost led the team to a victory over Haberdashers' Aske's School. The weather has hampered training significantly, hopefully over the winter the students can get some training in preparation for their cricket season next summer.





The Year 9 girls team were also extremely unlucky with the weather, as the rain meant that their tournament was also cancelled. They've shown a brilliant attitude at training and I'm sure next year the girls will have the opportunity to showcase the skills that they've learned in lessons and training in some competitive matches.

**Year 10** – The Year 10 cricket team had a brilliant season, managing to reach the County Cup semi final. Callum Lloyd scored 65\* and Max Bhowmik took 3 wickets for 6 runs in their quarter final cup win vs St George's School. This was a fantastic win for the students and a brilliant achievement to reach the last four schools in the County. The future looks bright for the 1st XI next year with a number of Year 10s ready to make the step up.

The Year 10 girls played in their first ever cricket festival. The afternoon saw them receive coaching from a Hertfordshire cricket coach and a coach from old Owen's Cricket Club as well as playing two 10 over matches, one against Queenswood School and the other versus Mill Hill School. All of the girls seemed to enjoy the experience and certainly showed huge improvements throughout the afternoon both in terms of their understanding of the game and their individual skills.

**1st XI** – The 1st XI have had a good season, they have played five matches. The boys can be proud of their efforts in the U17 National Cup; as they beat Aldenham by 3 runs.

Aditya Sembian had an excellent season, starring with both bat and ball. Josh Gunter accumulated a good half century against Mill Hill and top scored against Haileybury in the U18 National Cup. There is a lot of talent in all three year groups, hopefully this can continue next year under a new captain.

We wish the Year 13s all the best with whatever they move onto and hope that they continue to play cricket whether at club or University next season.



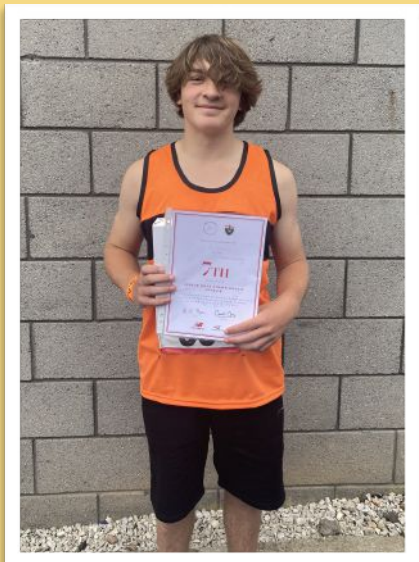
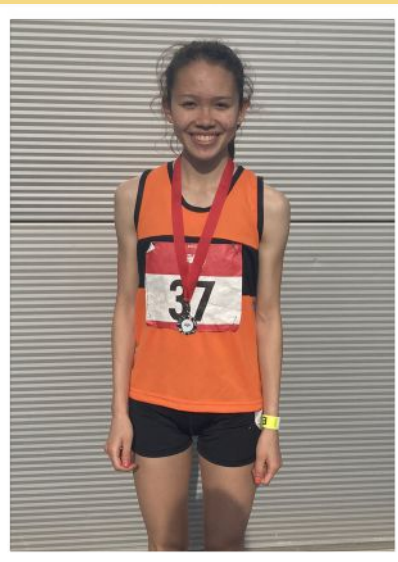
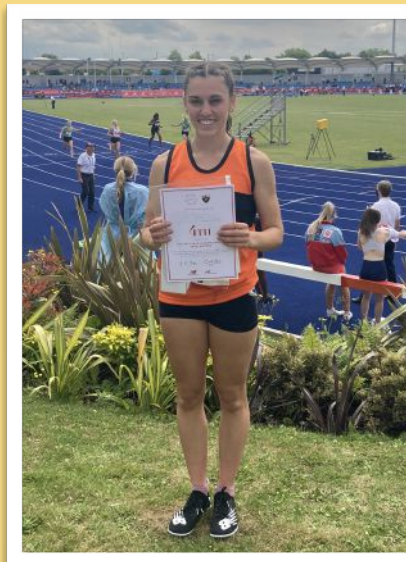
## ATHLETICS

Congratulations to five Owen's students who have been selected to compete at the National English Schools Athletics Championships on the 9th-11th July in Manchester. Well done to Milo for Javelin, Lierre for Triple Jump, Aimi for 1500m, Freya for 3000m and Evelyne for High Jump.

Evelyne was in a tough Senior Girls High Jump competition finishing in the top 12 in the UK. Freya had a really tough 3000m final in a surprisingly hot Manchester, the pace was quick and there was a group of eight who broke off. Freya ran really well and finished a brilliant 4th in her final year. Lierre was in a tough competition and missed the cut off and finished 9th, missing the next three jumps by 6cm. This is a fantastic achievement by him as he has limited coaching this year due to pandemic and exams.

Aimi W had a brilliant race which was highly competitive between her and the Merseyside athlete. Aimi ran a strong race and finished a fantastic 2nd with a brilliant time of 4.26.85 meaning she is picked to represent England in the England Schools International match later this year.

Milo Grigson was our final student to compete over the weekend going into the competition Milo was ranked 16th in the UK. Milo threw a fantastic 40.68m to finish in 7th position! Well done to all students who competed this weekend, as a school we are super proud of you all.

**Milo****Aimi****Freya**

Athletics this year has been somewhat stop/start due to the wet weather and the fact that our long jump pit was five feet under water at points. However, the students' attitude and attendance has been fantastic and this has showed in our results.

**Year 7** – After a shaky start with attendance at practices, the Year 7s have begun to show the talent that is within the year group. The first match the Year 7s had was a friendly match against Chancellor's School held on school site. The students were fantastic and the number of them involved was brilliant. This led on to a successful District performance with wins for the Year 7 Boys and a 4th place finish for the girls.

**Year 8** – The Year 8 team has done exceptionally well throughout the season competing both in the county league matches and also in district. Both teams have shown dedication and commitment to practices. The Year 8s also competed in the Track and Field Cup where students must compete in one Track event and One Field event. Against tough competition the students really performed and lots of students were rewarded with PBs. At the District Championships it was yet again another win for Owen's with the boys finishing 1st and the girls 2nd. A special mention to Emily Roberts and Fred Taylor who competed in the County Championships and finished a fantastic 5th place a year young. We are really looking forward to seeing what these athletes can do next year.

**Year 9** – The Year 9s have really stepped up this year, with some students competing in the U16 team on a regular basis. The Year 9s have had friendly competitions against Chancellor's School where students were able to try different events and highlight themselves as a key athlete for next year's team. The Year 9 athletics team also competed in the Track and Field Cup while the Year 10s were on mocks. The students performed exceptionally well and allowed them to gain new personal bests. At District Championships, the Year 9s really demonstrated their athleticism, with lots of 1st, 2nd or 3rd place finishes. This meant that both the Year 9 Girls and Boys team were District Champions for 2021. At the Hertfordshire County Championships, our two best place finishers came from our Year 9 Boys team, Milo finished in 2nd place in the JB Javelin and Jacob finished 1st in the JB 800m. What a fantastic achievement and we wish Milo all the best when competing for Hertfordshire.

**Year 10** – It was the last year of school competition for our Year 10 students and they have been fantastic and showed how dominant they are in both County league and District. In the County league, the students really performed when faced with difficult competition. We started off the season with lots of wins. Our second match was really tough but the students worked hard and demonstrated their sporting and athletics ability. At District



championships, the students really excelled and it was nice to see lots of medals in the Year 10 area. The Year 10s finished with a 1st place for the boys and, the girls who had had a tough competition against Bishops finished a fantastic 2nd. Special mention to Kachi, Niamh and Hope who all competed at the County Championships. All making it to the final, with fantastic results and times. Well done girls!

### District results:

Year 7 Boys - 1st	Year 7 Girls - 4th
Year 8 Boys - 1st	Year 8 Girls - 2nd
Year 9 Boys - 1st	Year 9 Girls - 1st
Year 10 Boys - 1st	Year 10 Girls - 2nd
Overall boys - 1st	Overall Girls- 2nd
OVERALL SCHOOL – 1st	



## GOLF

Led by Captain Brendan Brunton, our golf team (pictured right) successfully defended the Morkill Cup versus Aldenham School at Old Fold Manor Golf Club.

All played well and debutants Fred Taylor and Josh Williams should be proud of the way they conducted themselves on the day.



## PE DEPARTMENT STAFF NEWS

It is with a heavy heart that we say goodbye to the following three members of the PE department.

Mr Nolan has been a fantastic member of the PE department and has really pushed on the boys cricket programme since he joined four years ago. We know he will be a fantastic Head of Cricket in his new school.

Mr Costin joined when Mr Gamester left and has really helped develop the girls' cricket programme creating opportunities for girls to try cricket in festivals.

Miss Lowe has, alongside Mr Gamester and Mr Dugan, developed a substantial athletics programme since joining four and a half years ago, and will be greatly missed. Her enthusiasm and commitment have been immense and she has brought so much to the department. We wish her all the best as Head of PE in her new school and have no doubts that she will be a huge success.

## NEWS FROM THE OSA

**Nearly New Uniform Sale** – With restrictions as they are, the committee were very excited to run the first ever online pop-up shop with click and collect during the first week of July. At the time of going to press, feedback was great and there are plans to hold more of these. Thank you so much Tricia, Balu and all who made it happen.



Of course, all funds raised go back to the school. Stock is made up of donations and uncollected items of lost property stored in the school office at the end of each academic year. Donations of good quality items can be put in the red wheelie bin, not far from the entrance hall, currently at the foot of the stairs to the old library or handed into the school office, in a suitable bag, labelled "OSA Nearly New".

If you have any questions or would like to help with this please email: [uniform@theosa.org.uk](mailto:uniform@theosa.org.uk).



**Match Funding** – Are you an Owen's parent who works for a blue-chip or multinational company such as...

Abbey National plc | Accenture | Alliance & Leicester plc | Alliance Capital Ltd | American Express | Amoco Foundation, Inc | Andersen | Argos plc | AstraZeneca | Bank of America | Bank of England | Bank of Scotland | Barclays Bank plc | Barclays Capital | Barclays Group | BOC Group plc | Boston Consulting Group | BP | Bradford and Bingley plc | Bristol-Myers Squibb | British Telecommunications plc | Cable & Wireless | Camelot Group plc | Capital International Research | Centrica plc | Chase Manhattan | Citibank Group | Coutts Bank | Credit Suisse First Boston | De La Rue | Deloitte Consulting | Deutsche Bank | DHL | Dixons Group | Dresdner Kleinwort Wasserstein | EMI Group plc | Ernst & Young | Exxon Mobil | GlaxoSmithKline plc | Goldman Sachs | Guardian Royal Exchange plc | HSBC | Invensys | JPMorgan & Co Inc | Kingfisher plc | KPMG McKinsey & Co | Merrill Lynch Mercury | Microsoft Corporation Inc | Moody's Investors Services Ltd | Morgan Stanley Dean Witter | National Grid Transco | National Power plc | National Westminster Bank plc | Northern Electric plc | Norwich Union plc | Pearson | Pfizer | Procter & Gamble | Reuters | Robert Fleming & Co | Royal Bank of Scotland Group plc | Schroders plc | Scottish and Southern Energy plc | Seaboard Shell | Sigma Securities | SIT Investment Associates Foundation | Sky Broadcasting | Stagecoach Holdings plc | Standard & Poor's | Tesco plc | Texaco | Thames Water | The Economist Group | UBS Warburg | Vodafone | Warner Music International | William M Mercer

Many companies like these offer a Matched Funding scheme as a perk for employees who volunteer their time for charities like the Owen's School Association. All schemes are slightly different, but it generally works along the following lines...

If the OSA raises £600 at a second-hand uniform sale and a parent who has a Matched Funding scheme at their work volunteers to help at the sale, then the OSA can claim a matching donation of £600 from the company.

It won't take up a lot of your time to find out whether your company offers this – usually the HR department is a good place to start – but it could make a huge difference to the funds that the OSA is able to raise for the school. In the last 12 months, even given the challenges of holding in-person fundraising events, the OSA received over £5,000 in match-funded donations from companies via parents.



To find out more, there are a few steps you need to take:

1. Contact your HR department to find out what they offer, including the parameters for making a claim.
2. Let us know what you find out! We will then keep your name on a list and every time there is an opportunity for you to help with a fundraising event, we will give you the paperwork you need to claim the matching donation from your employer

It really is that simple. We look forward to hearing from you! Please contact Tabitha on:

[contact@theosa.org.uk](mailto:contact@theosa.org.uk)

**Easyfundraising** – Shopping online via the easyfundraising website is a great way to make money for the school without any extra cost to yourself.

Please remember to use easyfundraising when you do your Christmas shopping this year.

Over 4,300 shops and sites will donate to the OSA – Owen's School Association – for FREE when you use easyfundraising to shop with them. This means you can raise donations for us when you buy anything from holidays and insurance to gifts like toys, jewellery, tech, experiences and more!



These donations really help us and all you have to do is use easyfundraising when you're ordering the things you'll be buying anyway. See this [link](#).

**Refreshments** – This has currently been suspended but if you would like to get involved in the future please email Sharon on [refreshments@theosa.org.uk](mailto:refreshments@theosa.org.uk).

**Book Covers** – We are glad to announce that due to unprecedented demand the OSA have SOLD OUT of book covers for now. But please do email us and we will order more when we get suitable numbers.



**200 Club** – The OSA operate a Lottery style 200 club with two £50 prizes drawn per month, often with an extra draw taking place in December. Annual membership is £12 per number. For further details, please contact Deepika via [200club@theOSA.org.uk](mailto:200club@theOSA.org.uk)

**OSA website** – [www.theosa.org.uk](http://www.theosa.org.uk). The website has had a great revamp and the OSA continues to add content and make improvements. We welcome your feedback – if you have any comments, suggestions or can help in any way please get in touch at [contact@theosa.org.uk](mailto:contact@theosa.org.uk).

**Facebook** – Don't forget to follow us on [Facebook](#).

**OSA Committee** – These are currently held on Zoom on an ad hoc basis. If you would like to join the OSA committee, you would be most welcome, please email: [contact@theosa.org.uk](mailto:contact@theosa.org.uk).