

# Dame Alice Owen's School newsletter



## Letter from the Head

### Hannah Nemko

Dear All,

The start of the school year always brings excitement and a host of new things for the new term: new shoes, new uniform, new pencil case but this year it also brought us a new teaching block. We are all enjoying the bright and airy feel of the building, which is in

stark contrast to the one we have left behind. On behalf of all the staff and students, I would like to thank all those who donated classrooms, bought bricks or made donations towards teaching equipment as well as to the OSA who have donated tens of thousands of pounds towards this mammoth project including sponsoring the teaching TVs in each of the classrooms.

As the year began, students have been reminded of the three rules of the school into which all behaviours fit: **Ready, Respectful, Safe**. We expect students to be ready and equipped to learn, respectful of the school, themselves and others, and to comport themselves in a manner which keeps them and others safe at all times.

I would welcome your support in our quest for respect for the school and its uniform and remind parents and carers of the uniform expectations:

- Students are not allowed to wear any decorative jewellery with the exception of one small stud (not sleeper) in each ear.
- Skirts (including those worn by Sixth Formers) must approach the knee i.e the vast majority of the upper thigh should be covered by the skirt. We would appreciate it if girls who have out grown their skirts, leading to these being very short, could be bought a new one over the half term break. This rule also helps protect the students' modesty as they move around the school. *We have a wide range of second-hand uniform including many skirts which are available to buy on parents' evenings with the first being scheduled for November 7th 2019.*
- AirPods and earphones are not to be worn when walking around school and, like phones which are being used in appropriately or in the incorrect place, will be confiscated if seen.



## Issue highlights...

Year 11 geographers head to Swanage [page 6](#)



Owen's Jazz evening at The Bull Theatre [page 9](#)



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



- Shoes are to be sturdy leather or leather effect and not canvas. Boots are not permitted to be worn.
- Gel/shellac nails or suchlike and false eyelashes are also not permitted in school.
- Base layers can be worn alongside school jumpers and/or blazers but must be white.
- Hoodies are not permitted in school and are not a replacement for a coat.

Thank you for your support with this.

There is much to read about in this half term's newsletter as the school has got off to another flying start. The visits have been numerous ranging from the Duke of Edinburgh's Award trek to Tring to the sunny sites of Swanage where the Geography field trip students had a great and useful time via the laboratories of Cambridge, the Knitting & Stitching show without forgetting a historic visit to Europe House to witness the Brexit discussions in full flow. You can read all about these opportunities as well as others in the pages ahead.

The year was turned on its head as not only did we celebrate the achievements of the Upper School with Visitation being held in the second week of term but Ms McClean, together with the Year 7 form tutors, Mrs Jackson, Mrs D Jones and Dr James accompanied Year 7 to Brewers' Hall to receive their beer money before the hall closes for work. The students were told of the history of the hall as well as the link the Brewers have with the school and why. Colonel O'Dwyer, Clerk at Worshipful Company of Brewers, respectfully requested that the crowns were neither spent, not put on eBay before the week was through, reminding the new cohort that the relationship the school has with the Brewers' Foundation is a special one. Indeed, whenever I meet alumni of the school, I ask whether they still have their crown and most still do!

Another strong link we have with the Brewers is through golf. Indeed this half term we were delighted, amongst other victories, to defend the Morkill Cup beating Aldenham School to remain the champions! Well done to Mr Meekin and his teams.

We have had many more victories and impressive displays of sportsmanship across the sports this term, which Mr Gamester and his team have facilitated. The teams are always delighted when their peers and family can come along to support them. You can read about the achievements, all too numerous to mention here, inside this newsletter.

In our slightly more unusual sports, our ski team entered the East of England Schools Skiing Race earlier this month, in spite of the warm weather, students coped with the slopes really well and came a fabulous 6th place, which we hope proves good enough for them to qualify for the Nationals next month.

In Music, the performing year got off to a swinging start with Owen's Jazz at The Bull Theatre evening. With thanks to the Nicholas Barnes Trust who sponsored the Jazz project, under the guidance of Mr Crossley, Mr Hunt and Mr Kelly, students from Years 7 to 13 showcased their jazz and improvisation talents in an evening that featured the Owen's Big Bands, small jazz combos and improvisation groups, as well as a band made up of professional musicians (pictured above right) in the form of Owen's very own Visiting Music Teachers: Mr Crossley, Mr De Souza, Mr Guy, Mr Hunt, Mr Kelly and Mrs McNally-Mayne. We would also like to thank Ms Bamber, Mr Crossley, Mr Hunt, Mr Kelly and Mrs George for their time spent organising and rehearsing for the evening, as well as the Tech Crew for all their fantastic support.



Year 9 and Year 11 students enjoyed a visit from the Redheart Theatre Company who helped bring the Gothic fiction genre to life. Thanks go to Mrs Friel for organising this visit.



In Drama, Years 10-13 enjoyed a presentation from [VAMOS Theatre](#) company which left them inspired to produce their own plays using masks.

Finally, as the clocks change and the darker evenings draw in, I would like to remind students about staying safe when walking around in the dark. Remember to try to walk with others or along lit roads. Stay alert and be aware – do not walk around with your headphones in, a hood blocking your peripheral vision or looking at your phone indeed, ensure all your valuables are out of sight.

Wishing you all a restful break.

**Mrs Nemko**

## DAOS STUDENTS CELEBRATE EXAM SUCCESS

### Year 11 GCSE results

Congratulations go to our incredible Year 11 cohort who have achieved excellent results in their GCSEs!

25% of all GCSE grades awarded were graded 9, with a further 25% graded 8 and 19% graded 7. That means that an incredible **50% of grades achieved were 8 or 9** (equivalent to the old A\* and above) with 69% graded 9-7 which is roughly equivalent to the old A\*A grades.

90% of all grades awarded were 9-5 with 96% graded 9-4. 92% of students achieved 5 or more standard passes including English and Maths with an incredible nine students achieving 10 or more grade 9s.

I am sure that our students, parents and carers will join the school in thanking the staff for their dedication and support throughout the GCSE years. The school would also like to thank all our parents and carers for the support they have given the school and our young people as well as to thank our students for being such an incredible group of young people to work with.

### Year 13 A-Level results

Dame Alice Owen's A-Level students celebrated another fantastic set of results with **61% of grades awarded at A\* or A!**

44% of students achieved 3 or more A-Levels at A\*A grade with eight students achieving a staggering 5 A\*As at this level.

84% of exams were graded between A\* – B.

**23** students now have confirmed places at Oxbridge and over 90% of students have achieved their university place.

Our warmest congratulations go to our students who worked so hard to achieve these incredible grades. Our thanks also go to the staff who supported our students academically and pastorally during their Sixth Form years. We are equally grateful for the support our parents and carers have extended, not only towards their young people, but to the school as well.

## MICHAELMAS DAY REMEMBERED



Many thanks to Old Owenians, Valarie Cross (nee Stubbs) and Pamela Mansi (nee Stubbs), two of the four sisters who attended Owen's from 1943-55, who sent us these beautiful flowers along with this note:

'Michaelmas Day, 29th September, was always celebrated as the School's birthday at Owen's Girls School. Honour Dame Alice Owen. Best wishes Pamela Mansi and Valerie Cross.'

**Due to our new and more sensitive fire alarm system, students are no longer allowed to bring aerosol deodorants or sprays, of any kind, into school.**

# Owen's AstroTurf pitch refurbishment completed



Owenians young and old are among the first to benefit from an infrastructure fund, which will eventually see more than £800,000 pumped into Hertsmere community projects.

On Monday 7th October, councillors, school leaders and sporting youngsters gathered to watch the official unveiling of the school's newly refurbished AstroTurf pitch.

The new surface, which was installed over the summer, was part-financed by a £50,000 grant from Hertsmere Borough Council's Community Infrastructure Fund (CIF), gained via a bid by the school's Facilities Manager, and previous Director of Sport, Mr Ian Breeze.

As well as our own pupils and staff, Owen's all-weather-pitch is used by local junior football clubs, including Potters Bar United, Crusaders and Town. It also provides Potters Bar Hockey and Cricket Clubs a facility on which to play matches and train. Practice sessions for a local marching band are also held on the pitch.

The new improved surface not only helps increase participation for current users, but will also enable more activities for older people, such as walking football, to be run at the site.

## Plaque presentation

At the unveiling, Councillor Dr Harvey Cohen, Portfolio Holder for Planning, presented a plaque acknowledging that the project was completed in partnership with the council. Cllr Cohen said: "Schools are at the heart of their community and Dame Alice Owen's School is a prime example of that. These pitches provide sporting opportunities for a range of groups and clubs, which cater for men and women, young and old, from beginner to higher level.

"The previous surface was in a poor state of repair, and it was vital that they were reconditioned as soon as possible to ensure all the teams and community groups dependent on these facilities could continue to play and practice here.



"I'm delighted that Hertsmere Borough Council through our Infrastructure Fund was able to provide some of the funding needed for this project – and that the refurbishment could be completed in time for this term's sporting events."

The CIF is a pool of funding the council has collected from a levy on certain types of new development that can be used for improving local facilities and services.

It was announced at the beginning of the year that Owen's, along with 15 other organisations, had been successful in their bid for funding. Two groups received larger amounts of money, totalling more than £600,000, including Elstree University and Technical College and Communities 1st (formerly Community Hertsmere).

All applicants had to fulfil specific funding criteria set by the council.

Ian Breeze, who took the lead in making Owen's bid for the grant, said: "Dame Alice Owen's School is so grateful to the Hertsmere Community Infrastructure Fund for enabling the completion of this sports project. This grant will enable the school to continue to develop community links through access to our facilities."

## NEWS FROM THE MATHS DEPARTMENT

### INTERNATIONAL MATHS OLYMPIAD 2019 SUCCESS FOR DAOS PUPIL



Congratulations go to Aron Thomas who achieved a Silver medal in the International Maths Olympiad 2019.

Year 13 student Aron came 65th in the world competition and 2nd in the UK team.

## NEWS FROM THE ART DEPARTMENT

# DAOS HOUSE CHRISTMAS CARD Competition

House  
point for  
every  
entry.

Prizes and  
House  
points  
awarded  
to winners.

WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE YOUR CREATIVE SKILLS AND DESIGN IDEAS. YOU ARE INVITED TO CREATE A SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CARD.

PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR HIGH QUALITY 2D CHRISTMAS CARD DESIGNS ON CARTRIDGE PAPER TO THE ART DEPARTMENT BY MONDAY 4<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER

A WINNING DESIGN WILL BE CHOSEN AS THE SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CARD to be mailed out and copies sold for Charity.

*For more info please Mrs Wakley in the Art Dept.*





## NEWS FROM THE GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT

# Year 11 geographers head to Swanage for field trip



On Wednesday 18th September 2019, all the Year 11 geography students and five members of staff travelled to Swanage, Dorset for a geography field trip. On arrival, after a noisy, four-hour-long coach journey, we went for a peaceful walk to visit the infamous Old Harry Rocks and see a sweeping view of Swanage Bay and its town from the top of Ballard Down. We were lucky to have visited at a time with such (surprisingly) good weather.

On our second day in Swanage, after a good night's sleep, we went to the beach to complete some fieldwork including beach profiles and measuring groyne heights and investigating the effectiveness of the coastal defence systems. After a quick stop for fish and chips, we returned to the town where we carried out some human fieldwork including an environmental audit in which we tallied all the shops, services and amenities we saw along the way.

After all our hard work, we had plenty of free time in the evening where we enjoyed a competitive game of football in which Mr Fry and Mr Macdonald participated, followed by a quick trip to the arcade.

Finally, on the last day after everyone had packed (thrown everything in) their bags and were ready to leave, we had the opportunity to ask people some questions about how Swanage provides for an ageing population. We gathered some results and slowly started to head back home. The last day was quite relaxed – more or less until everyone started complaining how tired they were!

We all enjoyed the educational experience that came with the trip. We appreciate every teacher involved in organising and helping out with the trip.

**By Anushka Das, Year 11**





## NEWS FROM THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

### Year 9 enjoy a theatre trip to see *The Woman in Black*



On Wednesday 16th October, a group of 50 Year 9 students travelled to London to see a performance of *The Woman in Black* at The Fortune Theatre. An exhilarating performance was enjoyed by all and the atmosphere was heightened by the students' responses. A fantastic evening was rounded off by meeting the actors while we waited for the coach home. Thanks to Mrs Friel, Ms Roberts, Mrs Ioannou, Mrs Lofthouse and Mrs McClean who accompanied the trip.

### Redheart Theatre Company entertains Years 9 and 11

Year 9 students enjoyed a morning of Gothic horror on Tuesday 1st October, welcoming Rupert Mason from the [Redheart Theatre Company](#) for his annual retelling of Edgar Allan Poe's *The Tell Tale Heart* and *The Red Room* by H.G. Wells.

Students were riveted by Mason's performance, brought alive with a soundscape and lighting to create an atmospheric and electric experience.

A brief Q&A session followed with questions from students eager to understand the techniques behind such wonderful writing.

Later that afternoon, Year 11 were presented with a one-hour retelling of *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, which provided an important revision of the complex text.

Mason managed to engage the audience with skill and leave them with a deeper understanding of the inner workings of Jekyll's mind!



## NEWS FROM THE POLITICS DEPARTMENT

### Year 12 and 13 Politics students visit Europe House

On the 1st and 2nd of October, the Politics Department took all Year 12 and Year 13 Politics students on a visit to Europe House in Westminster.

Europe House is the EU's headquarters in the UK and as such is at the epicentre of the UK's process of leaving the European Union. The education officers there ran a series of workshops and activities that supported, stretched and challenged our students' understanding of the institutions of the EU. They also sought to achieve the impossible in explaining the questions we all want to know the answers to: What actually is Brexit? How will it work? And, what happens next?



We were particularly proud of our students during their EU quiz when they (on average) answered 10 out of 18 questions correctly. By comparison, a sample of 50 sitting MPs scored a measly average of 7 out of 18. Clearly then, our students ought to be the MPs of the future!

We are hugely grateful to Sam Evans and the staff at Europe House for running such an entertaining and challenging two days of workshops.

## NEWS FROM THE PHYSICS DEPARTMENT

### Physics at Work trip to Cambridge

In September, 45 Year 11 students and three Physics teachers visited the Cavendish Labs Annual Exhibition. Each group of students attended six short talks and demonstrations on a variety of physics topics and applications.

Student **Liam Finnegan** describes his experience:

On Thursday 19th September, we were lucky enough to visit Cambridge University. We attended a number of different lectures about the various branches of Physics. First we learnt about Rolls Royce – but this wasn't a lecture about the cars, no, it was about jet engines! I was fortunate enough to build my own mini jet engine which I enjoyed. My favourite lecture, however, was on superconductors. It was unbelievable! I got to see a disk levitate and hover in mid air by means of magnetism and forces. There were many more lectures on subjects such as polymers, fatigue, the new hydrogen microscope and printing, where we got to inscribe our names onto pens and pencils.

The trip really opened up my eyes to the variety of career paths available in the world of Physics. I'd like to thank Mr Poliakoff and the other science teachers for organising this amazing trip. It was truly inspiring!



A superconducting puck, cooled by liquid nitrogen, floats above a ring of magnets.



## NEWS FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

# Owen's musicians delight audience at jazz evening



The Music Department were delighted to present a fantastic evening of jazz on Friday 11th October to a sold-out audience of families and friends at [The Bull Theatre](#) in Barnet. It was a really exciting opportunity for pupils to play in a professional venue and to showcase all of the exciting work that has been taking place as part of the Owens Jazz Project.

The project began in May when Owen's jazz musicians were fortunate enough to spend half a day working with members of the National Youth Jazz Orchestra, working by ear, in true Jazz tradition, learning new tunes, devising unique arrangements and exploring further the skill of improvisation. This laid the foundations for the Junior and Senior Big Bands' work last term as well as giving the impetus for more improvisation groups and small jazz combos to be set up. These were all in evidence in the event at The Bull Theatre.

### Junior Big Band

The Junior Big Band, under the direction of Neil Crossley, opened the concert in toe-tapping form, with an array of improvising soloists. Manav Paul added his composing prowess to that of the famous Argentine musician, Pablo Ziegler, adding his newly composed 'shout-chorus' for the whole band in *Murga del Amanecer* and their set ended with their new trademark: whole ensemble stab chords in time with a bouncing tennis ball!

The Owen's Jazz Quartet – Joe Loveday, Jacob Bavetta, Maxim Lavrov and Henry Rugg – demonstrated the magical musical chemistry that can be brought out in a small combo group, including their collaboration with



**Jazz Quartet**



**Music Staff Jazz Ensemble**

Year 13 vocalist, Sylvie Hallam, in a soulful rendition of Erroll Garner's *Misty*.

Every single member of the Junior Improvisation Group, led by Neil Crossley, involving students from Years 7-9, treated us to improvised solos in a performance that included a catchy rendition of Miles Davis' *So What*.



**Junior Big Band**

The first half of the concert closed with our 'surprise item', featuring a jazz combo of professional performing musicians in the form of our very own Visiting Music Teachers! Neil Crossley (clarinet), Michael De Souza (guitar), David Guy (double bass), Gareth Hunt (piano), Lance Kelly (trumpet) and Niamh McNally-Mayne (vocals) brought us (with the help of Year 10 student Josh Gearing on drums) some of their favourite numbers, such as Allie Wrubel and Herb Magidson's *The Masquerade is Over* and sent us off to the interval smiling with *King of the Swingers (I Wan'na Be like You)*.



**Massed Jazz Band Rehearsal**

If any of us feared we would be lost without jazz for the duration of the interval, we were in luck – the Owen's Jazz Quartet were set up in the bar! They provided a backing suitable for every manner of refreshment, from a fine Argentinian Malbec to Ben and Jerry's Cookies and Cream!

### **Senior Big Band**

In the second half, the feast continued, as the Senior Big Band, under the direction of Lance Kelly, delighted us with the warmth and depth of their sound, as well as the brilliance of their high trumpets, in a set that included Jim Martin's *Orilla Del Mar*, Jesse Harris's *Don't Know Why* (made famous more recently by Norah Jones) and Joe Loveday's Big Band arrangement of John Williams' *Raiders March*.

The Intermediate Improvisation Group, a group of students from Years 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 tutored by Gareth Hunt, directed themselves and brought us, again, the spirit of close collaborative jazz featuring some impressive and very assuredly stylish soloing with their renditions of *Blue Bossa* and *Sunny*.

The evening ended with all 40 musicians back on stage together for the massed finale, performing Herbie Hancock's *Cantaloupe Island* incorporating, of course, more solos as well as massed improvisation, ending the evening with big smiles all round!

Our thanks and congratulations to all the performers who played and sang so well, to Mr Hunt, Mr Crossley and Mr Kelly for all their leadership and coaching of the ensembles, to Ms Bamber and Mrs George for helping to organise the event, to Wesley and the Tech Crew for their help in setting up in the venue and moving equipment, and to all the parents and families for coming along and being such a great audience.

We would also like to thank The Nicholas Barnes Trust for its generous support of the Owen's Jazz Project.



## NEWS FROM THE TEXTILES DEPARTMENT

### Year 11 textile students visit Knitting & Stitching Show



This October, Year 11 Textiles students had the opportunity to visit the Knitting & Stitching Show at Alexandra Palace. Established in 1987, the Knitting & Stitching Show was the original craft fair. The idea was simple: to create a place where like-minded crafters could meet up, discuss ideas, learn new skills and shop for their annual craft supplies. The Knitting & Stitching Show at Alexandra Palace now welcomes more than 30,000 crafters every October.

This was a very inspiring day out, providing students with the opportunity to view work by leading textiles artists in the Textile Galleries, and chat with the artists themselves as well as talking to recent textiles graduates from Nottingham Trent University. Students also took part in a range of creative workshops including: Goldwork, Crochet with Wire and Creating a Triangular Zipper Purse. The rest of the day was spent browsing the hundreds of craft stalls to get ideas and inspiration for their own GCSE projects.

This was our first time visiting the Knitting & Stitching Show and we hope it will now become an annual event on our Textile Design calendar.

### Fashion Design Careers Workshop with the FRA



This September, the Textiles Department organised its first 'Careers in Fashion' workshop, run by the [Fashion Retail Academy](#) (FRA). Upper School Textiles students had the opportunity to learn about the wide range of career options available to them in the fashion industry such as design, buying and merchandising.

Students also took part in a number of activities that included coming up with a new brand concept and marketing a company for the Black Friday sales. The students really impressed with their creative and innovative ideas. They also completed a questionnaire designed to help identify their ideal job within the fashion industry.

Many thanks to Georgina and Sean from the Fashion Retail Academy for running this exciting and inspiring workshop.

## NEWS FROM THE PE DEPARTMENT

### NETBALL

**Year 7** – The Year 7s have been enthusiastic and brilliant at training with over 60 girls turning up to trials and practices on a weekly basis. The students have worked hard to develop their skills and understanding of the rules. We have had two games against The Ridgeway Academy and Bishops Hatfield where the girls have shown great skill and team cohesion. We look forward to seeing how they develop over this year.

**Year 11** – The Year 11's have played several fantastic games with very competitive scores. Due to exams, the annual District tournament happened on the week beginning 14th October and the girls played exceptionally well, only losing to a really strong Queenswood side. We are impressed with the commitment of the girls juggling exams and sporting commitments.

**Seniors** – The Seniors have played some fantastic games recently. They were unfortunate in their County Cup defeat but played exceptionally well as a team. The girls then continued to play well, competing in the District tournament where they finished in 2nd place. The girls are looking to have a promising season with many upcoming fixtures taking place after half term.

### HOCKEY

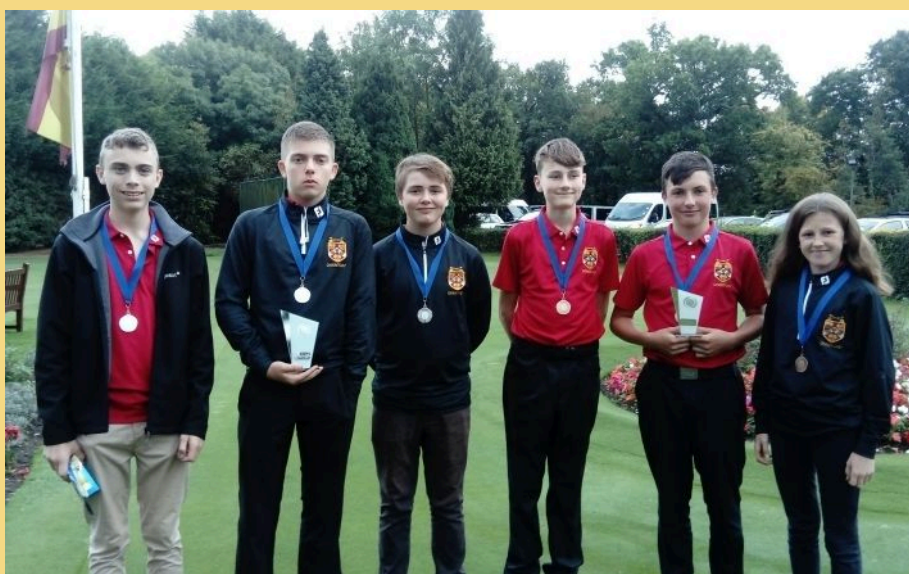
**U12 girls** – The U12 girls have made a great start to their hockey season. They have shown great commitment to their two training sessions a week and are showing very good progression, seeing as they only started playing hockey four weeks ago. Although defeated in their first two games, they have worked hard as a team and are looking forward to the rest of their hockey season.

**U14 girls** – The U14 girls have had a great start to the season with their Saturday morning fixtures. They played two really exciting games, losing to Bancrofts but beating Forest. They have tackled the challenge of 11 A-sides and are developing their tactics and knowledge of the game. The highlight of the season has been their close game against St Edmunds College where the girls worked hard on the skills developed in training.

### GOLF

September was a brilliant month for golfers at Owen's. With the number of players at the school growing, we were able to field three strong teams at the Arkley Senior Challenge to defend our title from last year.

The teams (pictured right) played some excellent golf and the team of Jonathan Boscott, Alistair Clews and Tom Ranger finished in second place just one point behind the eventual winners. The team of Brendan Brunton, Alfie Reynolds and Maisie O'Shea also finished amongst the prizes in third place.







This success was then followed by a fantastic performance in our annual match against Aldenham (team picture left) in which we successfully defended the Morkill Cup.

The players would like to thank the Brewers and Old Fold Manor Golf Club for their generosity and support on the day.

If any boys or girls would like to try golf, they should contact Mr Meekin.

## FOOTBALL

**Year 9** – The Year 9 team have improved since the start of term, playing extremely well against schools including Aldenham and St Clement Danes. The squad unfortunately didn't show their true potential in the County Cup fixture, however they are well placed to qualify from a very challenging District Cup group.

**Year 10** – The Year 10 team have played every Saturday, where they won two games. They have won and lost a game in the District Cup and narrowly went out of the County Cup. The team has played well in all games and, despite some narrow defeats, they have certainly improved in many aspects of the game.

**Year 11** – The Year 11 team have won their only game this half term where they have progressed into the next round of the County Cup after a win against The Bishop Stortford High School. Upcoming games after half term include the next round of the County Cup and a District Cup quarter final.

**1st XI** – The 1st XI football team have started the season well, after losing the first game to a strong Aldenham side, results have improved dramatically. The team has changed significantly since a number of players left last year, therefore it took a number of games and training sessions for the new squad to gel.

The highlight of the season so far has been the 7-1 victory in the National Cup against Simon Balle School. There is a lot of talent in the squad and the boys have a chance of competing for silverware if they continue to improve as a team.

## RUGBY

Pupils in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 have been training well and will start their Saturday block fixtures after half term.

**1st XV** – The Seniors rugby team have been working extremely hard since the start of September, with a huge number of boys consistently turning out for training. They showed fantastic spirit in their opening game against Broxbourne School, grounding out a 22-21 victory. The county tournament at Haileybury followed, where the team faced opponents from Tring, Broxbourne and Queen Elizabeth schools.

A lot of learning took place during the afternoon and a much improved performance against Beaumont School has given the team confidence going forward. The players will take a well earned rest over half term before playing weekly fixtures up until Christmas.

## CROSS COUNTRY

The school entered the English Schools' Cross Country Cup which took place at the beginning of October. We had runners in junior girls, junior boys and inter girls competitions, with the top three schools progressing to the regional finals in November.

The junior boys team acquitted themselves as well as they could, and will benefit hugely from the tough competition. The junior girls raced well to finish 2nd, with Lila Byass (Year 8) winning her overall race. The inter girls dominated their team event, with all six runners placing in the top 8! Aimi Weightman was the overall winner and the team are hoping to qualify for the National finals, which take place in December.

## SKI SUCCESS

DAOS entered a Senior Boys team this year in the English Schools Ski Association (ESSKIA) race held on Sunday 15th September at The Gosling Ski Centre, Welwyn Garden City (pictured right). The students skied really well, it was a very hot day and the slope ran slower than usual. The boys came a close 6th and might qualify for the National qualifier finals next month in Norwich.



Our fastest skiers on the day were Daniel Heymoz in Year 13 with a time of 11.43 seconds and Arthur Bucher, with a time of 11.73. Oscar Siddle's personal best time on the day was 13.96 seconds while Elian Razavi's personal best time on the day was 14.54 seconds. A huge congratulations to the boys as these are excellent times considering it was a very hot day, really well done!

Dame Alice Owen's total time was 1:15.23 with a gap: + 10.61.

We were very grateful to parents and Mrs Wootton as well as Dr Mitchell who helped out on the day – without their help the competition couldn't take place.

## JUDO

Oliver Almond (Year 10) represented England in Judo in an international competition in The Netherlands in October. During the two-day competition, Oliver had 13 fights, winning 10 of them, against players from all over Europe.

He came a creditable 7th place at the event in Emmen and then won a bronze medal in the event in Alkmaar (pictured right). Congratulations to Oliver!





## NEWS FROM THE OSA

**Year 7 Parents Cheese and Wine Party** – On 3rd October, the OSA organised a party for the Year 7 parents to meet the class teachers and parents of new friends. As you can see from the photos, it was well attended. Parents were welcomed by the head Hannah Nemko as well as by Glenn Taylor from OSA who explained the objectives of OSA and invited new parents to participate in organising activities.



**Upcoming Event: Quiz Night Saturday 9th November** – The OSA Autumn Quiz is taking place on the evening of Saturday 9th November at the School (see flyer on page 17). We have made some improvements to the existing format which we know you will like.

For those that have not attended before, please do book early as there is a capacity that we are unable to exceed. You can book a table of 8-10 with other parents or friends or if fewer, we will match you up with other parents. Ticket prices remain the same as the last few years, the food will be plentiful and the bar will be fully stocked.

If you are able to bring a raffle prize with you (or drop off at reception if you are unable to attend), it would be very much appreciated. If you are willing to donate a more expensive gift (with a value of more than £50), we are likely to auction it on the evening. Both the raffle and the auction make a huge difference to the monies raised so please do help if you can.

This is a really fun way for you to support the School so we very much hope to see you on the night.

**Where the money goes** – With the new teaching block now in use, the OSA are pleased to announce that £20,000 of the money raised in the last academic year went towards the new teaching screens in the classrooms. Please ask your children for an explanation of how these screens aid in their learning.

**Easy Fund Raising** – Shopping online via the Easy Fund Raising website is a great way to make money for the school without any extra cost to yourself. Just go to



[www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) and select Owen's School Association as your charity. For those thinking about holidays, lots of travel companies take part in the scheme.

**Refreshments** – The OSA serve drinks and snacks at about 40 events a year, mostly concerts and Parents' Evenings. If you are able to help with drinks at any of these this and next term please email Sharon on [refreshments@theosa.org.uk](mailto:refreshments@theosa.org.uk).

**Book Covers** – Book covers are available for sale during the year and an order form can be found on the OSA website, [www.theosa.org.uk](http://www.theosa.org.uk). Alternatively, a paper copy of the order form can be found in a yellow folder in the OSA box. Please mark any envelopes 'book cover order'.

**Match Funding** – If you are employed by a company that is able to offer matched funding and would like to make a donation to Owen's School Association, please contact [matchfunding@theosa.org.uk](mailto:matchfunding@theosa.org.uk).

**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).



**School Uniform** – Good quality previously owned school uniform is available throughout the year by contacting Julia Clews. School uniform will be available to purchase at Parents' Evenings.



All items are carefully displayed and priced reasonably. Payment can be made by cash or cheque (payable to Owen's School Association). 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.

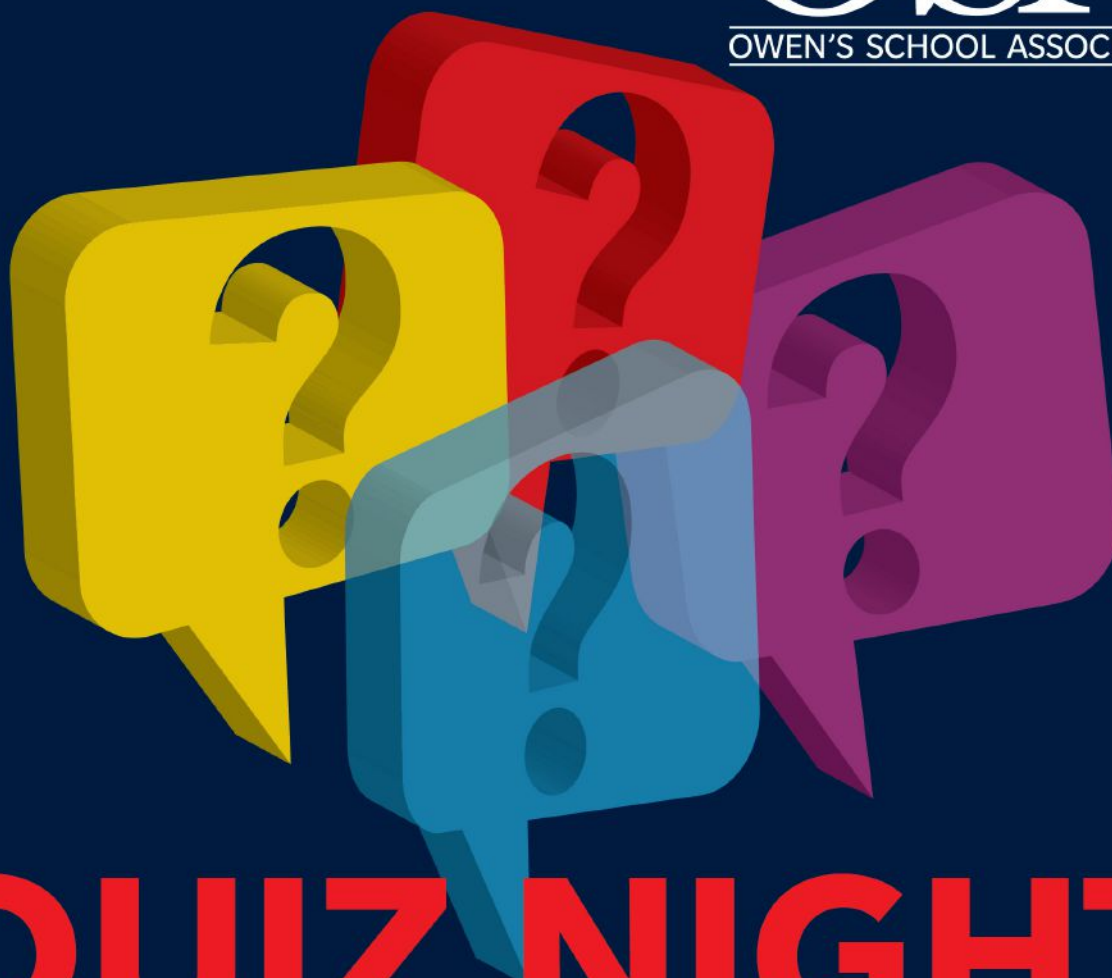
Donations of **good quality** items can be put in the red wheelie bin in the school entrance hall or handed in to the school office, in a suitable bag labelled for the attention of Julia Clews "OSA Nearly New".

**OSA Website** – [www.theosa.org.uk](http://www.theosa.org.uk). Please take a look! The OSA continues to add content and make improvements and would 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).

**OSA Committee** – If anyone would like to attend an OSA committee meeting and help raise funds for the school, meetings are held on the first Monday of each month currently at 7.30pm in The Old Library. You can attend as a one off or join the committee, it's up to you. We would love to see some new faces and look forward to welcoming you.

**Facebook** – Don't forget to follow us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/theosa).





# QUIZ NIGHT

**SATURDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2019**

**7PM FOR A 7.30PM START at DAME ALICE OWEN'S SCHOOL**

All adults and 6th formers welcome

**\*SUPPER INCLUDED\* \*BAR\* \*RAFFLE\*** Please do not bring your own drinks

**£15** per person **£6** for students

**Max 10 people per table.** Don't be shy about ordering one, two or any number of places as we can make numbers up to 8 or 10 using year and form groups.

**OFFERS OF RAFFLE PRIZES ALSO GREATLY APPRECIATED**

Purchase tickets at: [www.buytickets.at/theosa](http://www.buytickets.at/theosa). For queries email [events@theOSA.org.uk](mailto:events@theOSA.org.uk)

**ALL FUNDS RAISED SUPPORT DAME ALICE OWEN'S SCHOOL**

# Music and Drama 2019

## Autumn Term

Wednesday 6th November at 7pm

### **Chamber Concert 1**

Edward Guinness Hall

*Tickets available online through WisePay*

Wednesday 13th November at 7pm

### **Choral Concert**

Edward Guinness Hall

*Tickets available online through WisePay*

Tuesday 19th November at 7pm

### **Wind and Brass Concert**

Edward Guinness Hall

*Tickets available online through WisePay*

Tuesday 3rd December at 7pm

### **Orchestral Concert**

Edward Guinness Hall

*Tickets available online through WisePay*

Tuesday 10th December at 7pm

### **Chamber Concert 2**

Edward Guinness Hall

*Tickets available online through WisePay*

Thursday 12th, Friday 13th & Saturday 14th December at 7.30pm

### **Winter Play**

Main Hall

*Tickets available online through WisePay*

Monday 16th December at 7.30pm

### **Nine Lessons and Carols**

St. Mary's Church, Potters Bar

*Seats available on the night*