



It has been an eventful summer term. We were pleased to be able to host a variety of full-scale events and activities - Sports Day, The Arts Summer Showcase, Year 8 Fun Day and Induction Days for the first time in many years! This bumper edition of the newsletter showcases the fantastic work and achievements of our students. We thank our staff and parents and carers for their continuous support.

CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENT

Rewarding students for exemplary achievements has been an integral part of our school culture. Well done to the awardees and keep up the excellent work!

Ethic of Excellence and Spirit of Endeavour Awards



We celebrate both achievement and 'great strides' at Drayton Manor High School.

The Ethic of Excellence Award celebrates sustained excellence in a subject, a one-off outstanding piece of work, or contribution to the school community.

The Spirit of Endeavour Award celebrates hard work and significant improvement in key areas of study. Students are nominated for these awards by their teachers. On Wednesday 13 and Thursday 14 July, we hosted celebration refreshments with the

winners of these awards in years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12. The students were very proud of their awards, and enjoyed being congratulated by their parents and teachers for their achievements.

Celebrating Awards of Merit

On Wednesday 6 July, Year 7 and Year 9 celebrated their grand achievement in exceeding 100 merits this academic year. A total of 136 students in Year 7 have exceeded 100 merits for their positive contributions to class, excellent character or exceptional homework. Students received their certificates at a breakfast celebration and the students and staff were very proud and are confident that they will continue to show good progress in the next academic year.

Year 10 Students - Awarding of Year 11 Ties

It is always a proud moment at the school when we can recognise the outstanding Ambition, Character and Civic Virtue of our students. This term, we awarded Year 11 ties to 60 Year 10 students in recognition of their commitment to their school community through volunteering with school activities and supporting their fellow students. Congratulations to students for their hard work. We look forward to our next celebration when school starts in September.



WELCOME TO DRAYTON MANOR Year 6



On 1 July, we welcomed Year 6 children for a taster of life as a student at Drayton Manor. The children were excited and curious to visit the school for the very first time. They were warmly welcomed by students from the Transition Team and escorted to the School Hall for a welcome assembly. The students experienced English, Science, Maths and DT taster lessons, then went on a tour of the school.

After a delicious lunch in the Dining Hall, the children enjoyed performances and demonstrations from the Music and PE Departments, as well as speeches by the Head Girl and SLT who set out expectations for students at Drayton Manor.

Thank you to all students and staff for making a success of the day. Special thanks to Clementine (81) for her beautiful piano recital.

Sixth Form



On Monday 4 and 5 Tuesday July, about 275 Year 11 students from Drayton Manor and other schools attended the Sixth Form Induction Day. Erin (12.2) started the day by singing a song she had written, clearly demonstrating how Sixth Form students can realise their full potential at Drayton Manor.

Ms Yates (Assistant Deputy Head) and Mr Poole (Acting Head of Sixth Form) talked about expectations for Sixth Form students, and the support available to them when they apply for universities, apprenticeships and career options. Students were excited to attend taster lessons in their chosen subjects, and met with current Year 12 students to learn about Sixth Form life. We look forward to welcoming them back at the start of the next academic year.



SPORTS DAY 2022



On Friday 8 July we held our Annual Inter-House Sports Day at Perivale Park Athletics Track. It has been two years since we were last able to host this event in this way for students. It was exciting to have the entire school come together to compete and celebrate the impressive athletic performances for their House. There were over 650 students competing throughout the day.



Despite the heat, students displayed true character and ambition to compete in 14 different events. The overall points were close between the four Houses going into the afternoon track events. However, a dominant performance from both the Year 8 and 9 Girls and Boys in the 4x100m relay sealed the win for Caladrius.

A huge thank you to all Year 12 students and staff who helped run events and supervise on the day.

- First place: Caladrius - 1046 points**
- Second place: Phoenix - 1039 points**
- Third place: Griffin - 963 points**
- Fourth place: Pegasus - 777 points**

TRIPS

World War One Battlefield Trip

History is learned best when you can put it into real context. So we were pleased that some Year 9 and 12 students were able to travel to Belgium and Northern France to visit the battlefields of World War One.

Orla (12.4) told us that the trip "offered the rare opportunity both to visit sites of

immense historical importance, and to understand the sheer size of the impact the Great War had on Europe."



She added, "It is one thing to learn about the horrors of the First World War, but to walk in the same trenches that thousands lost their lives in is indescribably haunting. Overall, it was an incredibly enjoyable and unforgettable trip, and we are grateful to the school for providing us with such a valuable opportunity."

Year 10 Geography Field Trip

Year 10 geography students developed geographical and personal skills during a fieldtrip to the River Chess located in Amersham, Buckinghamshire.

In sunny weather, students investigated changes in river channel characteristics along the course of the river. It was a fantastic opportunity for them to apply their quantitative and qualitative skills through various field methods, working as part of a small team, and collecting their primary data while standing in the river.



Malak (10J) said, "I had a lot of fun standing in the river with my friends, collecting primary data in my boots!" At the end of the day students concluded that the river characteristics studied do in fact change downstream. Well done to our fantastic geographers!

UEFA Women's EURO 2022

On Tuesday 12 July the PE Department took a group of 34 girls to Brentford FC Community Stadium to watch the Women's EURO football match between Germany and Spain. Most of the students had never been to a professional football match before. They were excited to see two of the favourites in the tournament playing at their local premier league football club.



The atmosphere was electric, and the stadium was almost full to capacity. Overall, the Spanish team dominated the match but they just could not break down the strength and power in the German defence. The match finished 2 – 0 to Germany. Both staff and students had a fun evening and are now excited about supporting England in the remaining matches.

THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE CELEBRATION



To mark Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, we hosted parties for Year 7 to 10 students from 13 to 17 June. Year 12 were able to celebrate after their UCAS exams on 22 June. With glorious weather, students gathered on the school tennis courts for a variety of activities – decorating their crowns, completing a quiz, participating in games to earn House points, and enjoying some light refreshments. Her Majesty and the Drayton Manor Phoenix also joined the celebration! Thanks to staff and student helpers, they created a cut-out image of Her Majesty. Students did not miss the chance to take pictures with The Queen and the Drayton



Manor Phoenix. Well done to students for running the event and demonstrating excellent virtues and creativity.



READING FOR GOOD

Civic Virtue is one of our key values at Drayton Manor High School, so we are delighted that 167 of our students took part in this year's Read for Good Readathon in June.



Students read books throughout the day, and raised a fantastic £1819.30 to provide books and storytellers for children's hospitals throughout the UK.

Thank you to all who took part, and families and friends for helping us raise so much money for such a valuable cause.

COMMUNICATING WITH TEENAGERS - PARENT EVENT

Following the success and popularity of last term's Childrens Mental Health Week Parent Event, we invited Dr Jenkins (Educational and Child Psychologist) back to talk to our parents and carers. She spoke about the development of the adolescent brain, emotional responses and shared strategies about how to communicate effectively with teenagers. This was followed by an active Q and A session. The feedback from parents was overwhelmingly positive and we will be looking at further opportunities to run similar sessions next term.

CAREERS SESSION WITH JAMES MURRAY MP

We were very grateful to James Murray, our local MP, for spending time with some of our Year 10 students in June. Mr Murray was extremely impressed by our students' knowledge of politics and by the nature of the questions they asked. Students were particularly keen to learn about Mr Murray's journey into politics.



Mr Murray also spoke with *Iskander (8L)*, who dazzled Mr Murray with his passion, knowledge and strength of character in his climate change activism.

Mr Murray has invited our students for a tour of The Houses of Parliament in the new academic year. We look forward to sharing more information about that with you in September.



ARTS SUMMER SHOWCASE

Wednesday 13 July saw the return of the first annual Arts Summer Showcase since 2019. It was absolutely worth the wait...bigger, better and more exciting than ever before! In the Piazza, our audience were treated to four sets of performances, including the Year 8 SHINE choir singing "True Colours" in vocal and sign language, the school Orchestra's engaging performance of music from "How to Train your Dragon", our Year 8 Band playing "The Club" and bringing the audience to their feet and a finale performance of "Signed, Sealed, Delivered" that had over 100 students singing and playing.



In between music performances, street food was available, including the DT Department's 'Popcorn in Pop Art' which showcased Key Stage 3 textiles students' work as popcorn cones. There were also crafting stations where guests could make a festival-style headband or receive festival glitter make up.



Meanwhile, in the Sir Montague Sharp building, event attendees were treated to more music on the Gallery stage from a range of talented solo students, whilst viewing the impressive talents of our GCSE and A Level artists. The exhibition had a breath-taking range of work, from experimental textile wall hangings and expressive large scale oil paints to translucent photographic installations exploring identity and lighting.



The Key Stage 3 exhibition was also a hit, with energetic Hundertwasser inspired paintings pitched against a sea of 240 Year 7 repeat patterns. Year 9 comic strips also made a narrative contribution with pop art style onomatopoeia adding to the energy. A beautiful collection of Year 7 Van Gogh inspired paintings helped bring calm to an otherwise busy environment! While we congratulate all our artists, the current Year 10 GCSE artists must be applauded for their group effort in curating, constructing, and refining the whole exhibition.



Elsewhere in the building, Key Stage 3 had created a stunning art installation of repeating patterns, a history exhibition highlighting artefacts students had made in response to the stimulus 'Black and British: A Forgotten History', a display of Product Design final projects and an interactive art exhibit. Visitors were invited to vote on the winner of an inter-house art competition based on school values and houses. The feedback from students, parents and staff alike was outstanding, and with the sun beaming down throughout, it really was an evening to remember.

SUMMER REFURBISHMENTS

This summer, our Facilities Team will deliver a number of improvements at the school before it reopens at the beginning of September. We are excited to share with you some of the highlights below, but a huge new development is the building of an Outdoor Gym for our students on school site. Please find [here](#) a snippet of some of the outdoor gym area with exercise equipment. We look forward to our students' feedback when they return!

Additional works include:

- Renew all of Allenby Buildings eleven flat roofs
- New sports performance flooring to both gymnasiums
- New acoustic works to lower gymnasium
- New automated windows to upper gymnasium
- New outdoor gym area with exercise equipment and outdoor table tennis tables. Works also include new fencing, lighting, safety flooring and enhanced CCTV top the area
- Lighting upgraded to LED for main school hall
- Enhanced security systems being installed to main school entrances
- Flooring renovations/improvements to Allenby main corridors and main school hall
- Every single corridor, classroom and area of the school will be painted
- Refurbishment to a number of classroom and faculty areas
- Improved directional signage for benefit of new students
- Additional house branding to key areas.

As well as these projects there will also be significant maintenance carried out of the site during the summer

- Annual deep clean of the school and catering facilities

- All health and safety annual works carried out
- Multiple electrical repairs and upgrades
- Various grounds improvements
- All vinyl floors to be machine cleaned

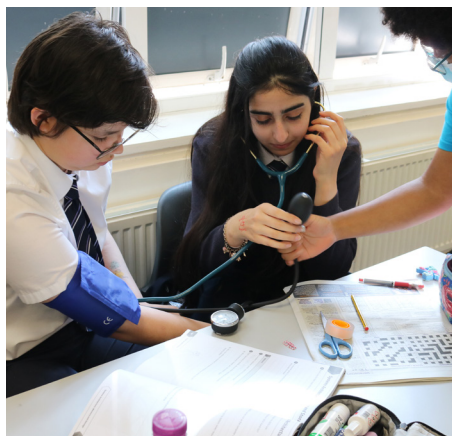
CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES AND WORKSHOPS

Before the end of school term, we organised a range of informative Careers workshops and experiential activities to prepare Year 10 and 12 students to make decisions for their future.

Year 8 - National Careers Challenge
Hermione (8F), Olly (8F), Bruno (8F) and Ahmed (8G) represented the school by attending the National Careers Challenge held at The ICC Birmingham. The group took part in the Thorpe Park Challenge. They were tasked to design a brand-new attraction where the queue line is an integral part of the ride experience, and present their ideas in a Dragon's Den style event. The students gave an excellent presentation covering design, branding and promotional ideas.

Despite their effort, the team was not selected for the next round of the competition but they did an excellent job regardless. Well done to these students for giving their best efforts and keep up the good work!

Year 10 - King's College London Medical Activity Day



On Monday 6 and Tuesday 7 June, 30 students took part in interactive workshops led by undergraduate students from the King's College London, to gain insight into studying medicine. Students learned the basics of cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), using blood pressure monitors and a blood draw. It was an engaging and insightful experience for students as they could ask questions about the study of medicine as well as undergraduate life.

The British Army 'Elite Skills Academy'



On Thursday 9 June, Year 10 students attended a full-day of skills-based activities on site led by the British Army. Students worked in groups applying their teamwork, time management, problem-solving and communication skills. Students found the opportunity challenging yet extremely helpful and stated that they would like to attend more of these workshops in the future. Students particularly enjoyed interacting with Army officers to learn about their work and training.

Next Steps Day



Year 10 students attended a careers focused Next Steps Day featuring presentations by representatives from the University of Exeter, the University of Bath, HSBC, Uxbridge College, West London College and Sixth Form study at Drayton Manor. Students enjoyed the presentations, and felt that they knew more about study and careers options available to them. They also gained valuable tips for writing a compelling CV. Thanks to the speakers for their generous support: **Ms C O'Mahony, Mr S Wenman, Mr J Ho, Ms L Hansberry, Ms D Ranson, Ms T Bennett, Ms J Swan** and staff.

Future Frontiers

46 students in Year 10 worked with a team of mentors from Future Frontiers, a charity that helps students achieve their career aspirations



and make informed decisions. Students assessed their strengths, interests, and motivations and learnt about careers suited to these. They also conducted research on what qualifications and skills they need to achieve their preferred careers.



Year 12 - Work Experience Week

Year 12 students enjoyed a week of work experience. It was a wonderful opportunity to gain hands-on work experience in their chosen field, and prepare for job and UCAS applications. Students conducted job searches, composed CVs and applied for job shadowing opportunities.

Yaseen (12.6) developed a piece of code that could display an access log for Sky. He commented "At the end of the week, I presented to colleagues my work. I learned about the real work environment and work ethics that I could apply in my careers."

Haneen (12.5) worked in an Iraqi Community Association and found the experience rewarding. Haneen "chose this job placement to learn more about my home country and to gain experiences for my future career. The placement involved researching opportunities for the elderly, and event planning."

STEM

Key Stage 3 Stem Competition

We are all very aware how important the development of vaccines is to science and human life.

Well done to **Payal (8I)**, **Sophia (8L)** and **Emmanuel (8I)** for achieving first place in the STEM Hub Summer Key Stage 3 Competition for their research project looking at the tetanus toxoid vaccine, which was developed in 1924 and has helped save countless lives.

Our Sixth Formers created a STEM HUB Summer newsletter. [Click](#) for more updates.

Chemistry Masterclass



On Thursday June 23, Year 10 students attended a chemistry masterclass at Highgate School. They worked with students from other schools to create a flood prevention system.

Francesca (10K) reported that "the experience was not only fun, but also allowed students to learn a lot about environment issues, as well as build new relationships and develop valuable team work skills."

LUNCHTIME MUSIC FOR STUDENTS

On Wednesday 29 June we held our final Lunchtime Music Event of this academic year. Once again, a huge range of talent was on display, from a beautiful piano solo played by a Year 7 student to a funky jazz flute number performed by a Year 10 GCSE Musician. The performance ended with another member of the GCSE class who played guitar and sang "The House of the Rising Sun" to rapturous applause. The event drew an enthusiastic audience of over 70.

We look forward to sharing the musical achievements of more of our students when our Lunchtime Music events return in the spring next year.

YEAR 8 FUN DAY

On Thursday 14 July, Year 8 took part in a Fun Day to celebrate their achievements and effort throughout the academic year. Students competed in round-robin house competitions, including rounders, volleyball and ultimate frisbee. Our Sixth Form students who helped to run the day, also provided face painting and other fun activities.

In a tightly run contest, Pegasus won their first ever house event for the school, finishing just by half a point ahead of Phoenix. Special thanks to our Sixth Form students, **Timur (8H)**, our fantastic PE staff, and our brilliant tutor team who helped organise the event and look after students throughout the whole day.



An enjoyable day was had by all, a fantastic way to celebrate a year of achievement.

UKMT HAMILTON OLYMPIAD 2022



Xingchen (10K) sat the UKMT Hamilton Olympiad 2022 which was held in March. As a result of his fantastic effort Xingchen managed to score a mark of 27 and therefore received a certificate of Merit.

The Hamilton Olympiad is a follow-on round from the Intermediate Maths Challenge and only 600 students nationally are invited to take part each year. It is a two-hour challenge consisting of six problems requiring full written solutions. The highest scoring participants each receive certificates of a Merit or Distinction. The 2022 thresholds were a score of 13+ for a Merit and 28+ for a Distinction.

Xingchen was delighted to receive his award, and is motivated and determined to get a Distinction next year.

We would like to congratulate Xingchen on his award. He consistently demonstrates the values of a Draytonian, and we have every confidence that his determination and ambition to succeed will result in future success. A huge thank you to the Maths team for running the competition at school.



SIXTH FORM

Emerging Music Talent



In the summer of 2021, student **Erin (12.2)** won the annual Alice Gross Memorial Songwriting competition held by Ealing Music Service with her song "You've Changed". A singer-songwriter who has performed original compositions in school and local events since she arrived in Year 7, we were delighted to hear that Erin's talent had been recognised on a wider platform. As part of her prize, Erin recorded her song professionally, and it is now available to stream on Spotify. She had the opportunity to perform a half hour set at the Hanwell Hootie in May, along with her band made up of Drayton Manor students in Years 11 to 13. Erin and her band are going from strength to strength. They recently reached the final round of auditions to play at the Royal Albert Hall as part of the Future Makers event. We are sure the future holds many more exciting opportunities for Erin and her band and look forward to hearing what they play next!

UCAS Day



To help Year 12 students prepare for university applications, we hosted a UCAS Day for students and parents on Wednesday 29 July. 16 guest speakers from leading universities across the South of England came to speak to students. Students were able to learn about the UCAS process, gain tips for writing their personal statement and learn more about university life.

During the day, they attended four workshops of their choice. These workshops included subject specialist sessions, such as Finance and Accounting, Sport Science and Law. There were also non subject specific workshops such as Applying to Oxbridge, Independent Study Skills, and Apprenticeships.

We were delighted to be joined by two Drayton Manor alumni. Leo studies at the University of Oxford, and Priyanka attends New York University at the Abu Dhabi campus. She spoke about study abroad and the fantastic extra-curricular activities she takes part in. The day finished with a session on student life from Royal Holloway, University of London and a Q&A session.

We would like to thank the following speakers - **Ms C O'Mahony** from the University of Exeter; **Ms B Nucinkis, Dr D Cowie, Dr M Ribary, Professor S Bade, Mrs J Adams, Ms M Stephens** from Royal Holloway, University of London; **Mr M Full** from University College London; **Mr J Thomas** from University Campus of Football Business, **Mr S Wathan** from Year Out Group, **Ms Annice Abanda** from Ask Apprenticeships, and our Drayton Manor alumni **Leo and Priyanka**.

This is a powerful learning experience that will prepare these students even better for the demands of their university careers. At the end of the day we hosted a follow up session for Year 12 Parents to help them be able to successfully support their child at home.

St Mary's University Trip



On Thursday 13 July, Year 12 students experienced a taste of Sports Science at St Mary's University, Twickenham. Students were welcomed for a campus tour, led by a current university student. They saw the sports facilities, and took part in two lab experiments, where they tested their tutor's pre and post exercise lactic acid measures. After lunch they had a nutrition session where

they learned to make some pre and post exercise snacks. The banana flapjacks were a popular creation.

Imperial College London Physics Summer School

Many of our Year 12 students are looking forward to university life. We were delighted that 6 students were able to attend a 4-week summer school organised Imperial College London.

The academic focus was on physics. Students were introduced to scientific computing with Python as experienced an in-depth university lecture on the topic of simple harmonic motion.

Students quickly learned that university study is a world away from school. As **Neil (12.1)** said, "Investigating areas of physics and mathematics beyond the A Level specification was intriguing and engaging, though somewhat challenging".

OTHER HOUSE NEWS

Ealing Soup Kitchen and Food Bank Visits



As demonstrated in Drayton Manor's value of Civic Virtue, we aim to be a positive and supportive force in the local community.

This year our House Captains have been involved in community outreach by forging links with local charities. Our House Captains visited the Soup Kitchen and Food Bank in Ealing, to meet volunteers there, and to see how these charities operate. The pandemic and current cost of living crisis have meant these services are more in demand than ever and these charities work tirelessly to support those in need.

At the Soup Kitchen, students were shown the nutritious food that is provided, as well as other services that were on offer, such as warm showers, free clothes and blankets, toiletries and sanitary products, and even a barbers.



At Ealing Food Bank, students were surprised to learn the bank feeds over 900 clients each week and turns over tonnes of food every month. During the visit House Captains helped to prepare food bags for those families in need.

In the autumn term, each House will collect food donations to donate to the food bank in the run up to winter.

To learn more about these services and how you can donate or volunteer, please contact

- Soup Kitchen - www.ealingsoupkitchen.org/
- Food Bank - <https://ealing.foodbank.org.uk/>

SPORTS

We are grateful to return to restriction free sporting activities. Both in school and in competitive fixtures, students have participated with dedication and gusto. We are grateful to all the staff who have given their time to support our clubs and teams.

Athletics

For the eleventh time in 13 years, we once again retained the Wilkinson Sword - the Ealing Borough Trophy for the best overall school in Athletics.

For their exceptional performance, 21 of our athletes qualified to represent Ealing in the Middlesex Schools Athletics Championship. A big congratulations to **Naimah (8F)**, **Elizabeth (8H)**, and **Katharine (11K)** for winning gold in the 1500m, javelin and high jump events respectively. Well done to all the competitors who took part!

Rounders



Teams from Years 7-10 competed in the Borough Rounders Leagues and Tournaments this year, completing a total of 17 league matches and 16 tournament matches. Students have worked hard during club training and achieved some excellent results.

The Year 7 team had a strong performance in the tournament, winning their pool and qualifying for the semi-final. They beat William Perkin to face fierce rivals Twyford in the final, but sadly they came away with second place.

The Year 8 team played well in their tournament but were narrowly beaten coming second place.

The Year 9 and 10 team won 1 out of their 4 league matches, and the Year 9 team were semi-finalists in the Borough Tournament.

Cricket



The Under 13 team was undefeated in the league and qualified for the semi-final. The Under 15 team played several strong opponents in the league and did not win any matches.

Handball

We have some budding handball stars in our GCSE PE group!

Rana (11H) and **Ashiya (11K)** were selected as part of the Under 16 team for the West London Eagles. The team qualified for the national final and travelled to Nottingham to face Shropshire, where they won 25:16, taking home the gold medals. Congratulations to Rana and Ashiya!

SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER!

Thank you for your support to the school and students during the year. We look forward to seeing students back in September and hosting a variety of activities. Please find the arrangements for start of Autumn Term in the letter [here](#).

We wish you an enjoyable summer break!

