



The Cliftonian



CLIFTON
COLLEGE

Together,
we are Clifton

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Thoughts from the year

The History of the World in 100 Objects was a series broadcast on Radio 4 over a 20-week period back in 2010.

It was written and presented by the Director of the British Museum, Neil MacGregor, who selected 100 objects from the museum's total collection of over eight million items. He then used these objects to chart human history from a two-million-year-old stone axe from Tanzania to a Chinese manufactured solar-powered lamp from 2010.

For the leavers, your time at Clifton does fall somewhat short of two millennia, even if during periods of recent lockdown it may not have felt like it. I think there are only seven of you who have done the longest possible stint of the full 15 years, but I invite you all to consider what objects you would choose to cover your personal history of your time at

the College. Hopefully it would not be exclusively hand sanitizer and face coverings. For some, perhaps, your script for *Carrie's War*, your first production in the Upper School back when you were in the Third Form, perhaps an Oscar for your House Play or the cup for House Drama for *Fisherman's Friends* last year. Perhaps your medal for being part of the girls' hockey team that beat Marlborough and went to the National Finals - what a superb day that was. Perhaps the prize for best House Art that one of you received in Chapel back in the Fourth Form. One of you may have kept the prize for winning the Stanley Steadman essay competition last year. For some it might be souvenirs from the various trips you have been on: in the Fifth Form to CERN or the classics trip to Italy, where I can see some of you smiling for the photographs in that year's Cliftonian magazine. For the girls, you may have kept your pink t-shirt from the celebration of 30 years of co-education that the College marked when you were in the Fourth Form. Perhaps it might be your sport socks (probably with someone else's name tag on them) or your kit from that great game against Bromsgrove back in the U16s where the final penalty secured the unbeaten season and saw Mr Harris immortalised on Twitter, leaping into the air and waving his arms frantically to signal success. Perhaps for all of you it might be your tie, be that House, Praep, Head Master, or the blue tie for sport. Perhaps you will always keep your Holland's tie because back in the Fourth Form you were one of those who started the new House and helped choose its colours. Perhaps, like me, your collection includes photographs: first day in the Upper School or a group photo your HoM gave you after a House event, or the Terriers Ball, or from your Fifth Form prom.

These objects are, of course, all just things, but like the objects from the museum, it is not the item itself but the stories and the experience behind them that make them valuable to you and part of your history and the history you now share with your peers and with the school. These experiences are perhaps the hidden part of your education. In lessons over the past 14 years you will have studied an amazing range of facts, perhaps even remembered a few of them. Hopefully, and more importantly, you have been encouraged to a love of learning for learning's sake and not just for public exams or CAGs or TAGs or whatever is dreamt up for next year. For you all, the next three or four years will be spent continuing to study or train in an area that interests you most. But when all this studying is over, there is another part of your education that will shape your future long after you have forgotten how to work out the circumference of an ellipse, balance a redox equation, translate into Latin 'would that I had been loved by' or conjugate something in the past historic. This other education is about learning how to work together and to support one another in the security of an atmosphere of mutual self-respect.

At this leavers' event last year, we talked about tackling prejudice and racism in society following the tragic death of George Floyd. This year, another tragic death, that of Sarah Everard, has invited all of society to face up to sexism, sexual harassment and sexual assault. You have heard powerful words from many voices, including those of your peers calling for an end to such attitudes and it is now up to each and every one of you to draw on that education and to champion equality in all its forms as you leave this College.



I hope then that in years to come, your Clifton object may be the rainbow laces that were first worn in the College to mark Pride Day in 2019. And we can all hope at that point in the future that they will feel like they belong in a museum because this struggle, along with other struggles of injustice, has been won.

Finally, I want to say a personal thank you. For me, you are a rather special year because you are the first year group that I have seen through as Head. I became Head back in 2016 as you entered the Third Form. Indeed, the seven lifers among you also had your first day in the Nursery as I arrived in Clifton to teach, back in September 2006.

Thank you all for being such wonderful company, for showing such resilience through these challenging times, and for teaching me so much more than I have taught you. I wish each and every one of you the very best for the future.

Dr Tim Greene
Head of College

“It is now up to each and every one of you to draw on that education and to champion equality in all its forms.”



Heads of School Speeches

Five years ago I came to this school as a young child with no experience of life, people or, honestly, many things in the world around me, but all of that was about to change.

Although I have only been at Clifton for five years, it feels like I have a lifetime's worth of memories.

Upon joining School House as a young Year 9 student who had never done so much as a night at a boarding school without feeling homesick, I thought that this was surely to be the scariest thing I had done up until then. The prospect of joining a House where I would have to learn to live mostly on my own was utterly terrifying, yet there was also a sense of something new and, what was to be in the future, homely about the place.

And so School House became my home away from home. Starting in a room of six boys is potentially the best way one can learn to make compromises with other people, be that about sharing food or what time everyone would wake up in the morning. However, most of the time it was not so much compromise as it was learning to deal with others. Nevertheless, this system was the best way to get to know the people who I would essentially be living with for the next five years, perhaps in some cases getting to know them a little TOO well.



My experiences from School House would be unattainable anywhere else: from massive events like House Song, cramming everyone onto the stairs and trying to get them all to sing the same note, to the smallest events, like the House Darts team getting its own fanfare. The spirit of the House was there in everything you would do and in everyone in the House: the pupils, the tutors and especially Mr Hughes; I don't know how you managed to run the House for 15 years, but I'm glad to have had my full time under your reign. As much as the House helped to mould me into the person I am today, the Houses aren't the only thing in the College. Perhaps the most jarring difference from a prep school to Clifton is the sheer size of the campus. I don't think I've ever had to walk as far between lessons - English always seemed to be timetabled after maths. I'm honestly not sure how I didn't get lost at least five times a day in the first few weeks. Once I'd become used to the sheer size of the place, it was time to get used to the new workload. Getting set three preps an evening after being at school until 6 p.m. seemed like an impossible task, little did I know what was to happen in years to come as my life went from barely getting any work, to trying to balance three days of sport, 10 different music commitments, play rehearsals and everything in between. If time management wasn't

something I started with, it's certainly something I'll be leaving with.

However, no matter how hectic things would get, there was always somewhere to find time to do the things you wanted to do. Even something as simple as watching cricket on the Close in summer while chatting with some friends is part of what makes Clifton so special. One of those places for me was the rowing club, a tiny little building hidden on the banks of the Avon. From the outside it may not have looked like much, but many memories were made there. From club regattas to gym sessions that made the athletics sessions feel like a casual stroll, there was something for everyone, and while I may not have signed up for the 5:30 a.m. starts, I wouldn't have had it any other way; it was often a welcome escape from the chaos of Clifton life. Rowing was one of many things that I was able to try due to the vast number of things that Clifton offers; there always seems to be some sort of occasion. And that's where I would like to thank the library and all of its staff: my home away from School House, full of silent chaos. A place where I've spent hours sitting down studying for countless tests, but spent even more hours in more events than one can name. It was perhaps where I spent most of my time besides sleeping in School House; I don't know how I'll cope if the next library I go to doesn't have live owls in it.

But one day it all changed: 26th March, 2020: the great plague, and with it, the first of many lockdowns to come. An abrupt evacuation was followed by the introduction of the not quite state-of-the-art video calling technology, 85 different timetable changes and a frantic rush to scan every single sheet of paper to make it available online. It soon became clear which teachers were more technologically adept and which might have struggled to find their household's WiFi router. It was a time like no other, and a time which I hope no others, teachers and pupils alike, have to experience again. Just over one year on and things have started returning to normal but this is not without its caveats. Masks are still required in buildings, we all have to face the same way in BSK and we now can't rock up to school in pyjamas every day. At least now we don't have to worry about our teachers constantly lagging, isn't that right, Miss Hawkins? (I wish to add, for legal reasons, this is a joke).

But through all the trials we've faced, we've managed to make it out for better or for worse. And for this I would like to say thank you to all of the teaching staff, those who taught me or not, for doing everything you could to make this year as good as possible. And to my parents for supporting me through it all. Though you may not have understood everything that was happening, you were always there and for that I am extremely grateful. A thank you especially to all of Senior Management: Dr Greene, Miss Tebay, Mr Simmons, Mrs Jeffery, Mr Mills and everyone in between for helping pull off the impossible in organising the school with every vague piece of government information. And finally, a thanks to you, my peers. We've had a hell of an experience but we got through it together and wherever we go from here, this will be an experience we will never forget. To us, the year who faced the pandemic, and survived.

Briden Whitbread
(SH)

“Although I have only been at Clifton for five years, it feels like I have a lifetime's worth of memories.”



Heads of School Speeches

Clifton College teaches us so much, but sadly, speechwriting is not on the curriculum and I am not best known for my English skills, as Mrs Walsh might attest.

But here I am, so let's get started. It only seems right, as a lifer, to begin with a Latin phrase. Carpe diem. Seize the day. That has often seemed like lesson one at the start of yet another busy day, being encouraged to squeeze as much in as possible. After spending my entire education to this point at Clifton, one of the most important things I have learned is about self-determination. I don't really mean standing on your own two feet, although that is part of it, but really that you can choose how to live your own life. In a school famous for its cricketing history, you can choose to attack each day on

the front foot, and in the words of Sir Henry Newbolt, "Play up! play up! and play the game!". Taking that literally, I've played plenty over the years, from table tennis, real tennis, and rackets, to water polo, netball, and let's not forget the 7:30 a.m. tennis sessions - thanks, Mrs Wagstaff.

By choosing to participate, I have had the chance to play in the National Schools Tennis Finals in glamorous Bolton, to play rackets at the famous Queen's Club in London, and on one occasion during a school tennis trip to La Manga, we kicked a bearded fellow off the paddle tennis court. It was the

“My third and final motto is ‘smile and the world smiles with you’.”

Liverpool FC manager, Jürgen Klopp, who responded with his customary charm. These are all great memories for me, acquired not because I was a great sportswoman, winning trophies, but just because I responded to the call to play. Along the way I have also acquired a staggering haul of Clifton College branded sports clothing – who wants Adidas or Nike when you can have the school crest across every hoodie that you own? Join in, and see where it leads you.

Hot on its heels is lesson number two, which is not just to seize each day, but to seize it with energy, and positivity. You only get out what you are prepared to put in. That may sound like a tired old phrase, but it has great meaning for me in the context of my Clifton life, where I have been taught to try my best and to make the most of every situation. Yes, when the England rugby team is training on the Close, I'll ask Chris Robshaw and Jamie George for a quick photo; yes, I'll join the choir and perhaps end up singing at Bath Abbey and the Festival Hall on the South Bank; yes, I'll be the shooter for the girls' netball team that recently beat the boys. Yes, I'll give a speech at Commem to all my peers, who may or may not actually be listening.

I'm positive that if you give it your all, go for it, and make an investment of your time and energy in the opportunities that Clifton provides, then you can enjoy some rich experiences that might just stay with you for a lifetime. Even during lockdown, great things were possible. Of course school life was different during this past academic year as we all had to adjust to the Covid-19 pandemic and study from home, but there were still individual choices to be made. By switching on your camera, participating, answering questions, and doing your utmost to be fully engaged in front of your screen, that seemed the best way to get something out of what were not always the most stimulating of days. Were it not for lockdown I might never have taken up running, had the chance to sing along to some 80s tunes with Mr Robson in his garden shed, or met the weekly challenges set by the Navy and Mr Wagstaff.

One other challenge during this time was thinking of others who might be finding the challenges of home learning and isolation more difficult, and remembering to be kind, particularly to younger pupils. The House system works very well to ensure there is always plenty of encouragement and that our individual drive to

improve and excel does not make us selfish. Not everyone has a bouncy personality, not everyone is outgoing and sociable, or sporty, or musical, or academic, but we do all have good qualities and we have a responsibility to ourselves to make the most of what we have. As the Hallward's House motto says, and I won't attempt the Latin here, believe in yourself and the world is yours. My own interpretation of that is to do your best, and see where it leads you.

My third and final motto is 'smile and the world smiles with you'. You know, I really do think it works, but whether it actually does or not, I'll keep on trying. Of course no amount of

joining in, seizing the day, and smiling means anything without the goals, structure, guidance, encouragement, care, and discipline provided so expertly by the teaching staff. All of my teachers deserve my thanks for their skill and patience, and the same is true for all of the pastoral and support staff who really maintain the school's character. My special thanks must go to Miss Tebay, who I think I've seen every day since lockdown ended, as my maths teacher, my tutor, and, of course, in her role as the powerhouse Deputy Head. Miss Tebay has really put her heart and soul into so many aspects of the day-to-day operations of Clifton, as well as checking that girls maintain a suitable skirt length. I must also give a specific mention to Mrs Kenyon for being a tremendous Housemistress and to Dr Greene for being a fabulous headmaster. Thanks must also go to my parents, especially as I have been at the school for 15 years. I'll let you do the maths!

I will miss my world of congers, praeps, Chapel, Pens, soul band, CCF, BSK, callover, and Commem, but I'll find a new vocabulary and hopefully a new vocation in the medical profession. Saying yes to all of the Clifton College activities on offer has prepared me well for whatever comes next. Bring it on.

Flora McHattie
(HH)



Heads of School Speeches

I thought I'd unpack both myself and my Clifton experience through one of the world's most awkward ice breakers: my three dinner party guests.

Like many of you, I'm sure, I too hate these small-talk ice breakers, but having had enough time to think of my answers, I thought it would offer an insight into me and my eight years at Clifton.

My first dinner party guest would be Richard III. For those of you who for some odd reason didn't pick history for A Level or don't know much about Tudor England, Richard III was the 'evil uncle' who supposedly locked up his nephews in the Tower of London in order to seize the throne for himself. The reason I'd have him at my party is that this is the ultimate unsolved historical mystery and so, I would use this opportunity to act as Hastings from Line of Duty, or the Clifton version anyway - the Marshal - to interrogate Richard on what really happened. When I arrived at Clifton in Year 6, my historical knowledge was limited to the gold rush and other events Australia considers of vital importance such as how many games the Wallabies have won, and yet, leaving Clifton now, I have found a passion for the subject, and for that I want to thank Mr Tait and Mr Mills especially. I have always been inquisitive, especially when it comes to school rules: why can't I wear a light grey jumper? Why



do I have to stand and watch the lunch queue for an hour a week? Or one of my favourite questions, what would your specialist subject be on a quiz show? Whilst I'm sure Clifton's attempt to welcome asking questions does not include these types of mindless ones, I would like to think that my constant questioning has been something that has been

embraced here, rather than deemed irritating, but I can imagine that others may think differently.

Next, I would have Amy Winehouse, a nod to another major part of my time at school: music. Clifton has given me every opportunity to do music, and even a small amount of very mediocre acting, events that



have provided me with some of my best Clifton memories: from bursting out into laughter on stage in a 'serious' acting performance, such as the funeral scene in *Carrie's War*, to watching the fallout from the infamous Fourth Form House Dance routine whilst on the stage as the soul band performed above. I feel incredibly lucky to have had so many amazing experiences involving a true passion. Amy Winehouse relates directly to Soul Band and there have been many events where *Valerie* has been performed and loved by all those there, almost as much as my neighbours enjoyed Frankie's rendition of it on New Year's Eve. Soul Band genuinely has shaped the person I am today, giving me the confidence to stand up and perform in front of lots of people, and for that I'd like to thank those teachers who often don't get a mention in these speeches: Mr Miles, who was the first teacher to encourage me to perform in a Year 6 pop group, and Mr Davis and Mr Thomas who work tirelessly behind the scenes of every event to bring things together.

This leads me to thank the other people around school who work behind the scenes but are such an essential part of the school. Especially this year, the support

staff have had to work so hard to make sure the school ran and I think I speak on behalf of everyone when I say thank you for everything you have done. I would also like to thank all the teachers, as whilst this year has been challenging for all of us, the teachers have had to go above and beyond any job description or expectation in order to keep us all learning.

My third and final guest is no, not a sports person, as admittedly that hasn't been my area of expertise, but someone much slower, I guess: David Attenborough. Admittedly, this may seem to be an odd addition to the vibe of the party, with a potential medieval murderer and a singer with a drug and alcohol problem, but I guess that reflects some eclectic part of my personality. Whilst I did drop geography in Year 9, something many of you would probably be able to guess given my horrendous map reading skills, the environment has always been something about which I care deeply, and no matter what subjects you study, should be something you all care about too. Through the House system, Clifton implores us to care for others; I feel that, having been shoved together with 16 girls in a study that really is too small for us all, I have developed such a strong

sense of care and duty towards them and this has forged an invaluable friendship between all of us. And so, to the West Town girls; thank you all for being such a big part of my school life these past few years and for all the happy memories shared together.

Even to those teachers who don't teach me directly but are still a part of my Clifton life, such as Miss Graveney and everyone else in West Town, you have been such a help. Miss Tebay, though we may not have always agreed on the length of my skirt or trousers, you have instilled an attitude in Clifton as a school

and in its pupils to say 'yes' to things and to try to find a way to make things work, and for that your absence will be greatly felt. Finally, thank you to my parents for providing me with the opportunity to come to Clifton; it would very literally not be possible without you. And, most importantly, thank you to my friends and classmates who have really made my school experience what it has been. I feel so lucky to have met all of you and I hope after this we can all celebrate properly and stay in touch.

Flora Parkinson
(WT)

“I feel incredibly lucky to have had so many amazing experiences involving a true passion.”

An abstract painting featuring a complex composition of overlapping, rounded geometric shapes in a rich palette of teal, green, red, brown, and white. The style is reminiscent of mid-century modern or cubist influences, with a focus on bold colors and dynamic forms. The painting is set against a white background, which is partially framed by a vertical orange bar on the left side of the page.

Art

In spite of the challenges that this year has brought, it is clear that art is alive and well at Clifton. Here are some of the highlights of a busy and productive year. Well done to all our artists for their contributions.

House Art

The annual House Art adjudication took place on the night of Sunday, 29th November in the Tribe Building. Our adjudicator was Phil Muñoz who is a well-known photo realist painter. Phil has exhibited his paintings at the National Portrait Gallery, as well as some galleries in New York. He is represented by the Albemarle Gallery, which is a very exclusive commercial art gallery on Bond Street in London.



We also awarded the following prizes, which did not count towards the House Art trophy. The prize for best House Art Rep went to Tilly Kramer of West Town and the prize for the best overall display was awarded to Hallward's House. We also organised a 'Clifton in Covid' photography competition and the Block I winner for that prize was awarded for a joint effort to members of Hallward's House. The Block II winner was Tamsin Seabrook of Hallward's House. The best House group photograph was won by Bobby Puddicombe of School House.

The David Cooksey Memorial Drawing Award

This year, a prestigious new trophy for drawing was inaugurated in memory of David Cooksey OC (WaH 1983), who sadly passed away last year. David was passionate about drawing, and his brother, Peter, generously donated a high-quality trophy, which will be awarded at the end of year prize-giving assemblies every June. This means that the recipients will most likely be Lower Sixth students or below, as the Upper Sixth will have already received prizes at Commem in May. The trophy will be called the David Cooksey Memorial Drawing Award and it will be engraved

with the name of the winner and reside in the Head Master's Study alongside many other prestigious school trophies. The inscription on the cup, quoting Henri Matisse, "creativity takes courage", is elegant and apt and the Art Department is delighted to be able to recognise a specific skill in this way. We are sure that there will be many worthy winners in the years ahead. This year, the cup was awarded to Brian Kim of Watson's House – well done to Brian!

Photography

During the lockdowns, the Photography Department ran some successful and popular competitions as well as weekly activities online. The students looked at technical and compositional examples and then put these newly discovered skills into practice, implementing them into set themes each week. The A Level students produced an interesting and exciting collection of images for their personal projects, demonstrating how well they had coped with the challenges of restrictions and the creative thinking and approach that they had to take. There were a mixture of themes ranging from 'family', 'horror', 'truth and the decisive moment', 'colour in the landscape' and 'identity', to name a few.

Allan Wilkie
Head of Art

House Art Prizes

3rd Form Boy

Alfie Moloney (MH)

3rd Form Girl

Emily Hall (WT)

4th Form Drawing

Greer Barnes (WT)

4th Form Painting

Megan Cook (HLH)

4th Form Sculpture

Eleanor Patrick (HLH)

5th Form Drawing

Emma Guerman Guinzburg (OH)

5th Form Painting

Emma Guerman Guinzburg (OH)

5th Form Sculpture

Camilla Roderick (HH)

Lower School Photography

Ben Herbert (ET)

Lower 6th Drawing

Emma Lamy (HH)

Lower 6th Painting

Emily Burchfield (WT)

Lower 6th Sculpture

Alisa Silko (WT)

Lower 6th Photography

Olivia Hunter (HH)

Upper 6th Drawing

Marie Konstanzer (HH)

Upper 6th Painting

Marie Konstanzer (HH)

Upper 6th Sculpture

Holly Powell (WT)

Upper 6th Photography

Stephanie Armour (WT)

Phil was very impressed with the Clifton exhibits and he commented that he wished he could have awarded more than one prize for some of the categories, but in the end he made his decisions and chose the winners (as shown in the column on the far right).

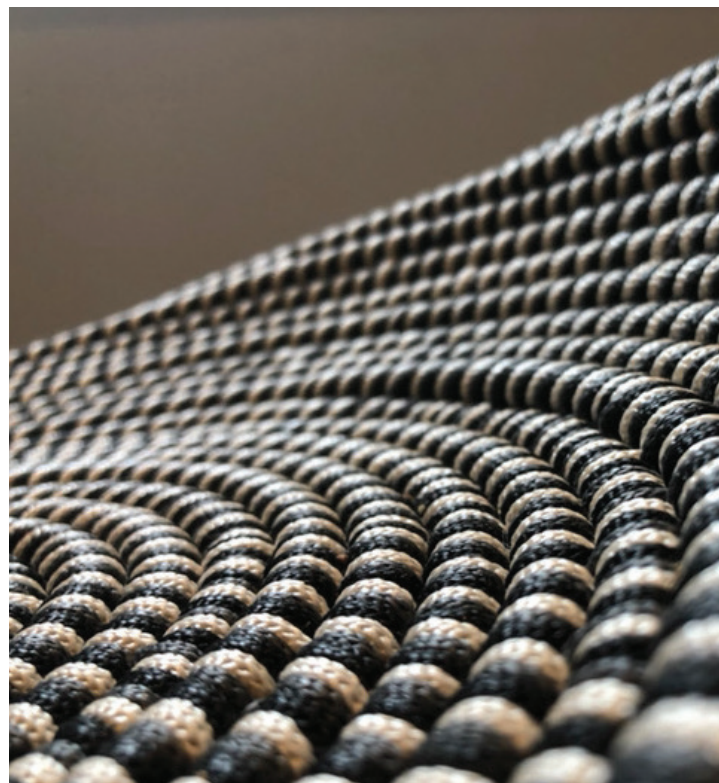
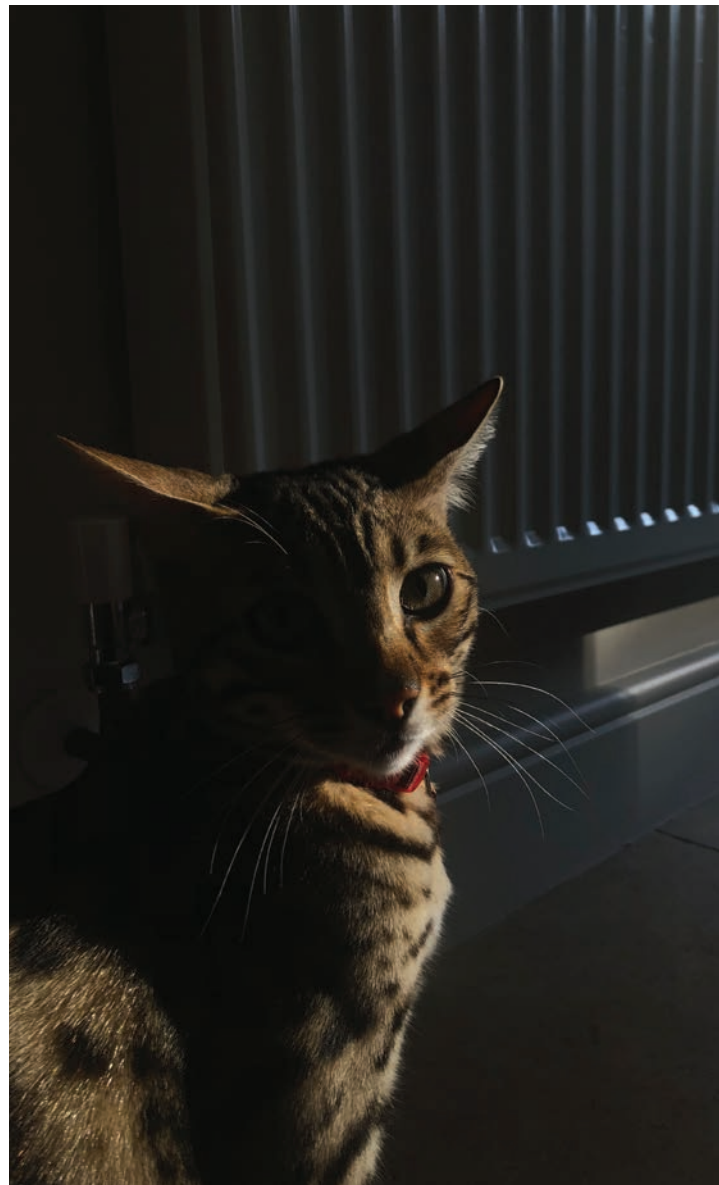
The House Art Trophy is a bronze statuette of a famous OC artist and critic called Roger Fry and it is awarded to the House whose members have won the most individual prizes. This year the House Art Trophy was awarded to West Town - very well done!

Art showcase 2020/2021

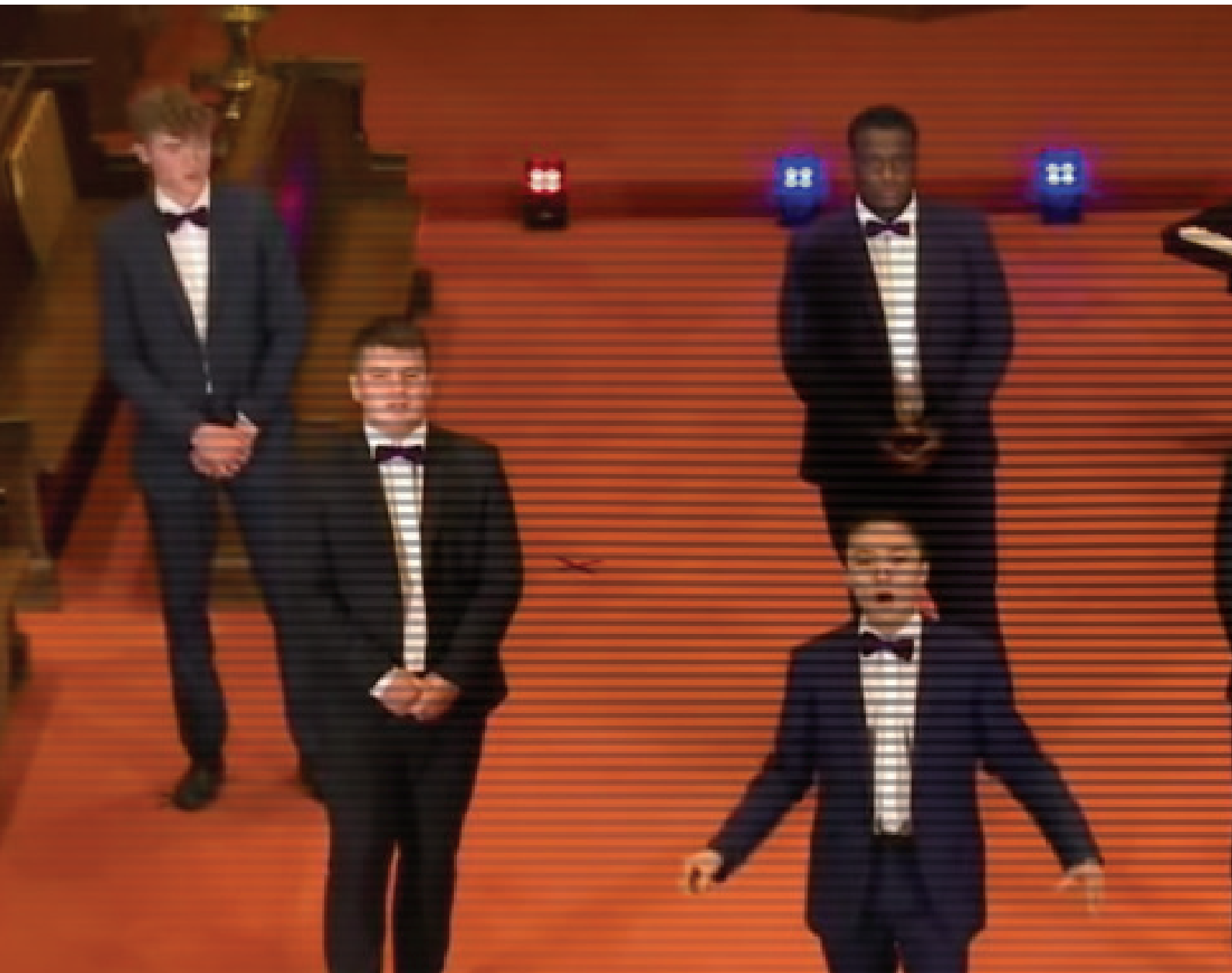




Art showcase 2020/2021







If a picture is worth a thousand words, what's the value of a video?

In this strangest of years a great deal of music making has been limited by one restriction or another; the time spent at home during the lockdown of January to March was probably the lowest point, but having a large choir when members need to be two metres apart (three, if facing each other!) was not a straightforward matter. Putting

together a large orchestra proved impossible for the entire year, and we were unable to have our annual musical for the first time in over a decade; unison House Song was inevitably another Covid casualty. But a silver lining has been that the College has engaged more with video recording and live streaming than ever before. While the first summer lockdown of 2020 saw a rush of edited together home recordings (lockdown orchestras, choirs and the like), Michaelmas 2020 saw a whole series of events streamed on YouTube. As a result, these events could be watched from the other side of

the Close, or mainland Europe, China or Japan. Anywhere with internet access, in fact. So, for the first time, we are including in this article two QR codes which can be scanned with a phone, taking you directly to videos of students performing. And in the 'build back better' plan, while we have hugely missed having real audiences at events and cannot wait to have them back, we will continue to share things through the technology available. A brief review of a few key events follows, but I hope you are able to watch and enjoy some music too!



Music

House Partsong Competition

Our first foray into online streaming proved a huge success, with students throughout the College buying heavily into the idea. While the members of a House could not all sing together, we went ahead with the Partsong element of House Song, with each House forming an a cappella group of between six and 12 students. They sang distanced from each other in the centre of Chapel, interspersed with introductions from the presentation team of Director of Music Dan Robson and singers Alex Moore and Emily

Harrison, as well as occasional post performance interviews with singers!

In another departure from the norm, the winner was decided by vote rather than a single adjudicator, with all students able to choose their top three performances. After a quick trip round all the Houses on Zoom to gather results (think Eurovision!), Wiseman's were declared the winners. Well done to them and to everybody else who took part. The standard of performance was superb and it was great to see such high-quality singing happening as part of a live music event at a time when it was proving so difficult to put normal events on.



Michaelmas 2020



Kadoorie Cup



Winter Concert, Music from the Redgrave and Christmas Carol Service

Following the success of the Partsong competition, we pressed on with streaming three further big concerts towards the end of term, as well as the Remembrance Service. In many respects these events were similar to how they might take place normally, just without any audience present and with all performers distanced, in keeping with regulations. This gave hardworking students opportunities to perform, along with an insight into the world of TV production! The Winter Concert showcased chamber music such as a string quartet, piano trio and wind quintet, and smaller ensembles including the

string orchestra and a variety of other groups in repertoire from Vivaldi and Haydn to *The Most Wonderful Time of the Year*.

Music from the Redgrave gave us pop, rock, jazz, soul and electro music, brilliantly performed by the Soul Bands, Jazz Workshop and other bands formed of talented youngsters. We even moved on to having student presenters, with Flora McHattie and Flora Parkinson proving extremely natural in front of the camera!

For the Carol Service we were able to enjoy a choir of 50, which took up a great deal of the Chapel and sung many of our favourites including Clifton special *The Dorset Carol* and Lauridsen's beautifully atmospheric *O Magnum Mysterium*.





Kadoorie Cup

After a Lent Term spent largely in lockdown, we really enjoyed streaming the Kadoorie Cup competition in May. In keeping with Covid restrictions, the event was attended by only the performers themselves and a limited number of teachers, but it has received almost 1000 YouTube views from parents, staff and other students at the time of writing.

We were treated to fantastic performances from right across the 13-18 age spectrum, with repertoire from Bach to Billie Eilish and most things in between. As well as many super singers, virtuosic

violinists and wonderful wind players, there were several fine performances on the Harrison & Harrison organ. Adjudicator Dr David Bednall praised all the students for the work they had done to maintain and develop their musicianship during lockdown, and was most impressed with the very high overall standard. Particularly well done to Sophie Chung and Flo Prole who won the Junior Instrumental and Vocal categories, and to Victor Dudley and Eliza Wright who came top in the Senior competitions.

It is easy to point to these events as highlights, but the small successes have been crucial too. Lessons have continued in

person, where possible, and on Zoom if not; groups have found ways to keep rehearsing and students have kept playing and singing, and have enjoyed the benefits of doing so. Music itself is famously good for mental health, but the social element of music making is vital too, and it has been wonderful that this has carried on against the odds, when much other music (both amateur and professional) has ground to a halt. But we are certainly looking forward to a more normal year next year!

Daniel Robson
Director of Music

“We were treated to fantastic performances from right across the 13-18 age spectrum, with repertoire from Bach to Billie Eilish and most things in between.”

Journal



Sixteen months after the last live school drama performances in the Redgrave (House Play Festival 2020), live school theatre was back on the programme in June 2021.

With rehearsals needing to start as soon as schools returned to classrooms in March, it was decided that the normal Year 9, 10 and 12 production would be too risky, that we would instead work on three separate one-act plays in order to maintain the year group bubbles. This ambitious project was taken on by Mr Saunders, who worked with three very talented casts towards the stripped back performances where the focus was most certainly on the acting. All of the students should be congratulated for the passion, effort, energy and commitment they showed from the first rehearsal right through to the

Photo: Stewart McPherson, Photography & Design



Photo: Stewart McPherson, Photography & Design



Photo: Stewart McPherson, Photography & Design

performance nights. These productions show that even after a little while away, theatre is still very much alive and kicking at Clifton College.

Our live audience was joined by viewers from across the UK, mainland Europe, South America, Hong Kong and Japan over two evenings in what was Clifton College's first live streamed theatre performance work. We hope to build on these productions and welcome audiences back to the Redgrave Theatre both in person and digitally in the Michaelmas Term 2021 with the Senior Musical.

Chatroom

The Year 12 cast rose to the challenge of Edna Walsh's chilling, darkly comic play, which explores manipulation, cyberbullying and adolescent insecurity. Tom Copeland played Jim, a lonely, vulnerable teen who feels abandoned by his father and despised by his mother, and is looking for someone to listen to him and validate his feelings. Tom's carefully considered mannerisms really portrayed the character's insecurities, and his long monologues utterly gripped the audience. Freya Haddon and Malachy O'Callaghan - played

Eva and William, teens who feign sympathy but have a malicious streak. The six actors skilfully portrayed their characters, and the energy in their more collaborative moments was well achieved. The simple staging effectively communicated that these characters were interacting in online chatrooms. There were moments of awkward comedy, with the audience unsure whether to laugh, with the darker, edgier moments challenging the nature of what people find appropriate and where the 'line' is when interacting online. This was an impressive performance of a challenging text.

The Musicians

The Musicians, by Patrick Marber, tells the story of a group of children in a school orchestra who travel to Russia to perform at the European Festival of Youth, only to find that their instruments have been impounded by Customs. The cast of 16 Year 9 students really rose to the challenge of this ensemble driven text, using the space with consideration and carefully navigating the pace of the scenes. The role of Alex, the Russian cleaner who helps to save the day, was played superbly by Anika Tildesley, who confidently air-guitared (well, broom-guitared) her way through *Pinball Wizard* and really played on the comedy in her exchanges with the conductor. These moments, played with Bea Willis, were well timed and fully exploited to maximise the response from the audience. Special mention should also go to Poppy Janke, playing the role of Second Flute, whose epic meltdown raised the energy and intensity of the climactic scene. The play culminated in a wonderfully odd moment where the orchestra were miming playing their instruments along to the recorded music, exactly as was scripted. After an intense term and an unsettled year, this piece was the light-hearted comedy we all needed to see.

DNA

The final performance of the three one-act plays was *DNA* by Dennis Kelly, performed by Year 10 students. Again, this was a challenging text, strewn with fragments of sentences and repetition, which really pushed the actors involved both in terms of learning their lines and their delivery in performance. The play tells the story of a group of teenagers who dare another, called Addie, to do increasingly dangerous things. It culminates with the group thinking their actions have killed her, and




Photo: Stewart McPherson, Photography & Design

they embark upon an ambitious cover-up, which works, only for Addie to reappear a week later. Megan Cook delivered several substantial monologues in the role of Leah at an incredibly quick pace, playing against Felix Willis' Phil, who ate continuously and didn't respond to her in the slightest, creating some lovely moments of comedy. Grace Spring-Martin's fragmented and repetition-filled monologue was skilfully performed to communicate her character's disbelief at her role in Addie's supposed death. The simple staging of two park benches was effective in maximising interactions between actors, and also allowing for smaller groups to form in order to communicate friendships and allegiances. With some moments of comedy running alongside the darker themes, this was a challenging text that the Year 10 students did extremely well to bring to life.

Rhian Orzel and David Saunders



Photo: Stewart McPherson, Photography & Design



“After an intense term and an unsettled year, this piece was the light-hearted comedy we all needed to see.”

Arts Evening





Two years after the last live Arts Evening, we were able to open our gate to a small invited audience of parents of performers, and show some live drama, dance and music.

Whilst rain had threatened to push the event under the cover of the cloisters, from mid-afternoon the sky cleared and the sun came out to shine on the stages and the bunting. On the larger stage, group performances included Drama Club duologues and Year 12 physical theatre sequences exploring the theme of 'My Mother Said I Never Should'. A small (and socially distanced) crowd appreciated these touching pieces, which explored problematic relationships in families. Over on the monologue stage, Malachy O'Callaghan's *Hospital Food* was touching in its exploration of a teenager undergoing cancer treatment; Poppy Crowther's reading of *Brand New Ancients* was eloquent and poetic; and Rowan Read's uncanny performance of Garry from Noel Coward's *Present Laughter* was utterly convincing and funny in equal measure.

Both students and parents alike enjoyed the cones of chips and ice creams, whilst perusing the Charities Committee's Nearly-New Uniform sale and the fantastic and varied art display. The latter comprised some of the best of our students' work, comprising drawings, oil paintings, traditional and digital photographs, and ceramics in a range of styles and genres, including narrative, portraiture, genre, landscape and still life. The Creative Writing Group positioned themselves under a Magnolia tree to showcase their best original writing. The audience enjoyed poetry readings inspired by Clifton College and by nature, thanks to Llew Evans and Anya Soldatova respectively; Megan Cook's heartbreaking prose about love and loss; the opening chapter of Dina Nemoliaeva's gripping dystopian thriller; and some much needed comedy writing from Tara Madan and Joseph White.

Year 9 and 10 dancers performed on School House Lawn to *Landslide* by Robyn Sherwell, with their contemporary lyrical piece that focuses on release technique, and the jazz musicians utilised a mini-marquee on the lawn outside the Crypt to showcase their excellent ensemble work and solos. The Brass Ensemble were the final performance before the evening moved into the Chapel, and their music from the more popular genre of theme tunes was well received, despite the increasing wind, which meant

that they had to play whilst pinning their music stands down with their feet to prevent them from blowing away. A multi-talented lot indeed!

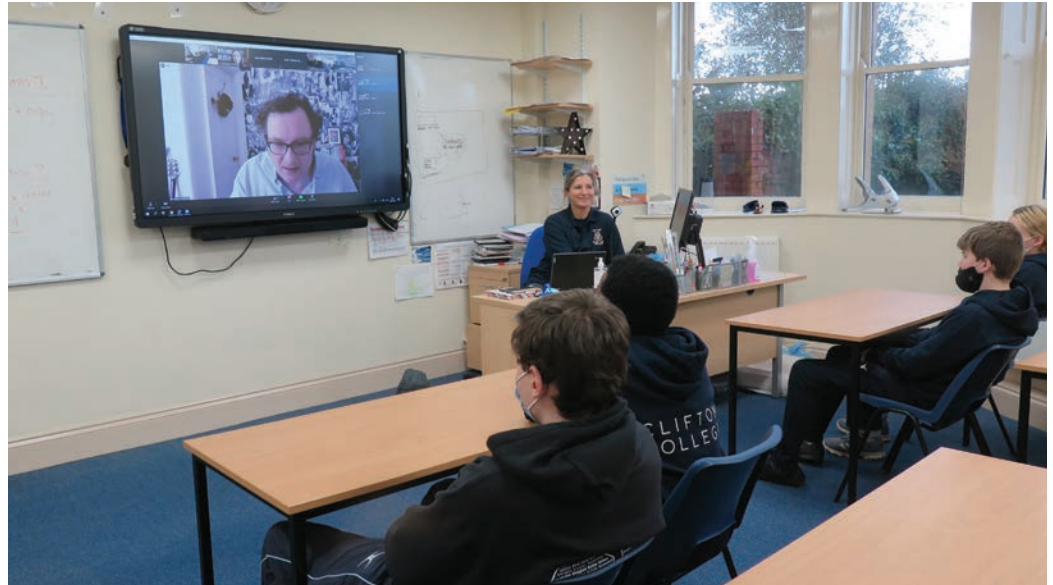
Inside the Chapel, another modestly-sized and appropriately distanced audience was treated to a wonderful programme of music from some of the College's smaller ensembles. These included the Guitar Ensemble with a Latin-inspired *Sambatina* by Gammie and a cello ensemble special arrangement of Dylan's *Make You Feel My Love*. The String Ensemble were on fine form with a stunning tone, evident particularly in the violins. They gave us a moving performance of Elgar's *Serenade* and Eliza Wright showed real flair in the first movement of Haydn's *Cello Concerto in C*. Other highlights included the Junior String Quartet of Sophie Chung, Henry Gittings, Justin Chan and Georgie Lewis who dazzled in their rendition of part of Schubert's *Death and the Maiden*.

Just before the final item, Mr Robson took some time to thank Miss Tebay for her unwavering encouragement and support for Music and Drama over her time at Clifton, and Mrs Orzel presented her with a rose bush from the Departments as a thank you.

Rhian Orzel, Daniel Robson and Allan Wilkie

Library





Here are some of the highlights of a busy year of events and competitions in the Percival Library, which included a more creative, and often more virtual, approach to spreading the word that reading and writing are for everyone.

Author Visits

We embraced the possibility of showcasing visiting speakers from all over the world in a virtual visit programme that saw guests zoom in from Birmingham, UK to Boston, MA. The academic year began with a visit for Year 9 and 10 from best-selling author **Matt Killeen**, who gave a hugely informative talk on the real life teenage freedom fighters who inspired his gripping World War II thriller, *Orphan Monster Spy*. In November, stunt driver and author **Ben Collins AKA**

the Stig zoomed in to discuss *Aston Martin: Made in Britain*, his novelisation of the iconic brand, featuring none other than the Old Cliftonian, W. O. Bentley. The History Society, Creative Writing Group and assorted sports car enthusiasts gathered virtually to ask Ben about bringing historical figures to life, his work as a stunt driver for Batman and Bond and, of course, his role as the man in the white suit. The event was expertly hosted by the dream team that is Llew Evans and Louis Afford Lessof.

In January, award-winning poet and author **Dean Atta** spoke to the Sixth Form about his coming-of-age verse novel, *The Black Flamingo*. Dean's honesty, wisdom and humour really shone through as he discussed the vital role of writing in helping us to understand ourselves and the world around us. He spoke passionately about the joy of seeing LGBTQ+ characters in popular culture and the wider proliferation of fictional identities portrayed on screen and on the page, which helps us, as a society, to celebrate our differences. We were also delighted to be able to take part in two fantastic World Book Week webinars with children's book superstars **Robert Muchamore** and **Kwame Alexander**. Next up was a virtual visit from literary legend **Anthony McGowan** who treated Year 9 and 10 to readings

from his YA books, including his Carnegie Medal winning novella, *Lark*. He posed the question, 'Is truth an aesthetic quality?' and told two stories, only one of which was true, encouraging students to think about which made the better story and why. Anthony also wowed the audience with an impromptu harmonica and guitar solo, an appearance from Monty the dog and his stand-in icing sugar Carnegie Medal (delivery of the real one, which is made of gold, was delayed due to the pandemic).

In the Summer Term, Year 10 students were whisked off to a virtual Awards Ceremony for The Bristol Teen Book Award, with guest appearances from shortlisted authors **Sue Cheung, Savita Kalhan, Amy Beashel, Louisa Reid** and **Yaba Badoe** (see p. 46 for details). The Creative Writing Group enjoyed a special virtual workshop with best-selling author **Polly Ho-Yen** on 4th May at which the writers were guided through a series of activities, including doodling as a means of generating ideas. We ended the academic year in style with a much anticipated in-person visit from poets **Saili Katebe, Kat Lyons**, and **Danny Pandolfi** for a day of live performances and poetry workshops for Year 9.

Events & Competitions

Black History Month X National Poetry Day

With National Poetry Day falling on 1st October in 2020, we decided to combine the annual poetry festivities with the celebration of Black History Month. The Percival Poetry Party of previous years was moved to English classrooms where, instead of live performances in the library, a collection of inspiring and thought-provoking spoken word performance videos were watched and discussed during lessons. Every member of Year 10 was provided with a 'Poetry Party Pack' containing a bookmark and postcard featuring a selection of Black British poets, an activity focusing on identity and the power of our names, and a pocket-sized packet of Party Rings!



Spelling Bee

Arguably Clifton College's most prestigious prize, the annual Inter-House Spelling Bee saw spectacular spellers fly through the qualifying round and into the American-style final. This year, two contestants zoomed in, one all the way from South Korea! An un-bee-lievably tense bee saw reigning champion Anya Soldatova (WoH) taste the sweet nectar of success in the Block I competition while Izzy Bevan (HLH) was similarly buzzing after *swarming* to victory to claim the Block II prize.



“Arguably Clifton College’s most prestigious prize, the annual Inter-House Spelling Bee saw spectacular spellers fly through the qualifying round.”

Shoktoberfest X

The annual spooktacular moved from the library to the Redgrave Theatre for its tenth year, with a socially distanced Shoktoberfest screening of the supernatural comedy classic, *Ghostbusters*. Undead usherettes led students into an atmospherically lit theatre to watch as Stants, Spengler, Zeddemore and Venkman set about vanquishing the servants of Gozer the Gozerian. Goodie bags were a final (trick or) treat for the Year 9s as they headed home for a restful night's sleep: they ain't afraid of no ghosts!

Harry Potter Day

Harry Potter Day 2021 called for a virtually magical array of events and activities. Staff members from across the Upper School came together to create a video rendition of the chapter 'Diagon Alley' from *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*. Clips were shown during each lesson, providing a chronological story throughout the day. Miss Clarke also provided us with an excellent reading of Chapter One, 'The Boy Who Lived', in Latin! Tutor groups were challenged to complete a virtual Potter-themed escape room, helping a delayed student get to the Hogwarts Express in time. Our winning tutor group was Mr Williams' Year 9 group from East Town, who received a parliament of owl cookies!

World Book Week

Competitions and quizzes took centre stage for our first ever virtual World Book Week. The Percival Library Instagram (@ccpercivallibrary - follow us!) featured a series of book characters 'Lost in Literature'. Students and staff logged literary sightings throughout the week, noting which character

they had spotted and where. One of the highlights of the week was the annual teachers vs students World Book Day Literature Quiz, this year hosted from Boston, MA by Clifton teaching alumnus and WBD quiz legend, Will Corrie. Student finalists Hallward's House (Sonia D'Mello, Livvy Plummeridge, Elsa Wilkie and Isabel Williams) put in a strong performance but it wasn't quite enough to beat reigning champions, the teachers' team (Mr Callander, Mr Harris, Ms Hawkins and Mrs John). A special thank you must go to our quiz adjudicator, Benson Zhou, for his dedication to explaining the rules and expert control of the buzzers/zoom chat.



Events & Competitions

World Poetry Day

We celebrated World Poetry Day by compiling a selection of poems performed by feminist and womxn poets. Students in Years 9 and 10 had special Percival Poetry Packs, which consisted of books, bookmarks and sweets, delivered to their English classrooms, the perfect accompaniment to contemplate the words of Amanda Gorman, Mary Jean Chan, Hollie McNish and Kae Tempest.

The Great Clifton Read Off

Over 350 books were read as part of our annual competition for Year 9, totalling more than 100,000 pages, an incredible achievement. Huge congratulations to top readers Saul Chiren, Alice Harrington-Musson and Ishbel Bird and to Team Cuesta for winning the class prize.



Mental Health Awareness Week

The theme for this year's Mental Health Awareness Week was nature, and what better way to embrace the theme than with half an hour away from the College accompanied by a few four-legged friends? A selection of students, staff and their dogs headed up to the Downs on a sunny Wednesday afternoon, taking a break from their busy Clifton schedules. We also held our third Percival Library Read-In where students booked themselves a library booth and were provided with hot chocolate, sweet snacks and a blanket whilst they enjoyed 45 minutes of escapism in the form of reading. Alongside our main events, we provided students and staff with a selection of resources to use throughout the week including meditation videos, a freewriting exercise and an extract from *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*.

Stanley Steadman Essay Prize

Congratulations to Elsa Wilkie who has won the Stanley Steadman Essay Prize for her beautifully written appreciation of *Oliver Twist* by Charles Dickens. The judges admired her essay's incisiveness, wit and warmth. Runners up Maddie

Farmer and Ayomide Ogunbajo were praised for their eloquent, heartwarming and enthusiastic defence of their chosen texts in the viva voce. Maddie wrote on Hanya Yanagihara's profoundly moving epic, *A Little Life*, and Ayomide chose the gripping West African-inspired fantasy, *Children of Blood and Bone* by Tomi Adeyemi.



“Percival Poetry Packs, which consisted of books, bookmarks and sweets, were delivered to classrooms.”

Events & Competitions

Percival Poetrilogy

A trio of poets from *Raise the Bar* visited Clifton on 30th June for a whole day of poetry appreciation, writing and performance. Students started the day with performances from award-winning spoken word artists Sali Katebe, Kat Lyons and Danny Pandolfi, before taking part in a series of poet-led workshops on self-expression, writing and performance. We were delighted that so many students chose to take to the Redgrave Theatre stage to perform their own work in the spoken word slam at the end of the day.

Leah Shaw, Lauren Walker and Charlotte Withey



“We were delighted that so many students chose to take to the Redgrave Theatre stage.”



Photo: @youll_find_me_by_the_sea

Flash Fiction

Annie Shen (WoH) won the 2021 Flash Fiction short story competition. Her writing was inspired by this photograph of a bobble-hatted swimmer. The competition was judged by acclaimed poet, writer and performer, Antosh Wojcik.

Yuan 园

After I was dead, following my will, my friends poured my bone ash in the lake near the forest in the spring of the year after. I used to live in that forest before I turned seven, and before the war began. In the form of a spirit, I opened my eyes, which don't exist anymore.

It was my secret place when I was young. I named the lake 'Yuan'; I used to swim with the fishes and sing with the birds, and they all died before I left the place. We are all part of nature, and the wind read us tales from millions of years ago, as I laid on the floor, closed my eyes, hearing my heart beating at a slow pace.

Fantasy Fiction

Even after we are dead, we are still part of Yuan.

I don't remember when it was, as time seems to be endless in Yuan. I, no... we saw a girl walking towards Yuan. She wore a furry hat, and walked into the water. The fishes swam to her before I could; they surrounded her and seemed to be very happy.

"Oh! Look at the fishes!" She said, "And look at the birds. They are playing with me!"

In fact, we all are. I was flowing around and was happy to meet our new friend. The wind brought us to her, and she seems to understand our story. She laid on the ground, closed her eyes, and started breathing slowly. Humans and nature are in an enclosed system on Earth; we become each other in equilibrium. Humans are just products derived from nature, just like how we created other artificial intelligences.

"How come I never knew this place before?" She said to us.

"I'm going to name you Yuan."

The wind continued to blow. But I felt like something heavy started to pull me down. I tried to breathe, but I could not. I tried to hold onto the trees, my friends, but I slipped. An abyss started to suck me into the infinity of darkness...

I opened my eyes, and found myself standing in the middle of a lake.

My furry hat slipped into the water.

Judge's Comments

You have exceeded the bounds of your inspiration photograph and crafted an exceptional piece of literature. This piece is written with both calm and consideration for an intense yet enlightening subject, with a deeply philosophical lens that is as accessible as it is poignant. We are thrust into the spiritual realm of the matter from the very first line, which is delivered with such confidence and precision that both world and narrator are established immediately. I am immersed from the get-go and the piece twists and turns in time and memory with exceptional care.

I love this notion of naming a lake and how that provides a sanctuary for souls - indeed, 'Even after we are dead, we are part of Yuan.' Such a spiritually affecting line that will remain with me for a long while - the poetry of this resonates beyond the read. There is such attentiveness to this idea of the cycle too; the girl visiting also arriving at the idea of 'Yuan' is such a meditated concept that feels in keeping with your themes. The final, resonant image is what finally blew me away. The image of narrator standing in the middle of the lake. I find myself having to step away from reading in order to catch my breath. A triumph!

Antosh Wojcik

"You have exceeded the bounds of your inspiration photograph and crafted an exceptional piece of literature."

Chapel



When the Chapel was designed, a Collegiate style of seating was chosen.

Collegiate seating allows the congregation to face each other as a community, symbolising the unity of those gathering together for worship. For obvious reasons, the Chapel has not been used as intended this year. Instead, the College has gathered for services streamed via Zoom directly into classrooms and homes. To minimise the virus spread, the singing of hymns has been absent from every

service and there have been no mass gatherings to start or end our terms together. Although the experience of Chapel has been different, the willingness of pupils and staff to listen to each other and reflect on messages that have been shared from the Chapel lectern has remained unaltered.

Some of these sermons have sought to bring encouragement into a year that has been full of uncertainty. Others have challenged us to examine ourselves for signs of prejudice or intolerance that have no rightful place in our school community today. The College's core values of Integrity, Spirit and Resilience are as challenging



to live by now as they were when the school was founded and are just as relevant as they have always been. Chapel is just one of the places in our school where these values can be explored.

My hope is that when we gather together to learn, to challenge ourselves and commit afresh to caring for each other, we connect at some level with the Spirit and presence of God. Whether a Tuesday morning service, a Confirmation, Remembrance Sunday or a pre-recorded Christmas Carol Service, each service can remind us that we are part of something that is bigger than our own individual life and help us to be grateful for each other.

I am fortunate to be supported by a committed group of staff and parents who meet together weekly to pray for the life of the school, lead Bible study groups and share in the spiritual care of the College.

Hopefully the new academic year will allow us to gather together again in the Chapel building, look each other in the eye and sing songs of thanksgiving as a community.

If there is ever anything that I can do to support you or your family, please don't hesitate to let me know.

The Rev Simon Chapman
College Chaplain

“The willingness of pupils and staff to listen to each other and reflect on messages that have been shared from the Chapel lectern has remained.”

Synağos Journal





The Jewish Life programme at Clifton College is a synagogue within a school, a religious society for Jewish pupils, and a programme of prayer, learning and celebration.

Above all though, it is a community and the concept and practice of community have been the hardest hit by the restrictions of the pandemic. Without physical gatherings in our beautiful Polack Centre Synagogue and without the friendship and fellowship of defining oneself as a Polackian, what was left for our school's Jewish community?

Amazingly, it was connection, by new and innovative means, that kept us going this year. From blended in-person/online Hebrew lessons to Purim parcels sent in the post to Jewish pupils around the world; and from Synagogue services streamed on interactive video platforms to gatherings of pupils who were in the country in cavernous rooms

to allow for social distancing. We even created a new Chanukah tradition - socially distanced doughnuts!

Yet the cycle of the Jewish year continued and the same festivals came and went. We may have been unable to visit local synagogues but we were still able to make some use of our own tiny synagogue to celebrate the High Holy Days of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Our Sukkah could not contain us all at a suitable distance but we were able to construct it within a large hall to become the centrepiece of our Sukkot celebrations. We were unable to invite dozens of guests to our Chanukah Party, but we celebrated and lit candles and enjoyed a more sedate Chanukah Dinner instead. Tu Bishvat did not involve any communal tree planting and Purim took place online, but we still marked and experienced and enjoyed this Jewish year like no other.

Moreover, despite all the restrictions, we were still able to expand and develop our Jewish Life programme. We welcomed new Jewish pupils from overseas who spent half the year as distance learners and still became part of Clifton's Jewish community. And we introduced for the first time

Modern Hebrew as a language choice for Year 7 pupils, with a view to gradually expanding this programme up to GCSE level. Two intrepid pupils opted to learn Hebrew as one of their two MFL choices and, starting as absolute beginners, they made incredible progress, learning to read and write in a different alphabet and hold a substantial Hebrew conversation.

Knowing that we have been able to keep our community going through this difficult period fills me with such optimism for the future and all it might hold for Jewish pupils at Clifton College. The community is both diverse and cohesive, bringing together pupils from families with very different levels of observance and from Jewish communities in several different countries. This diversity is its greatest strength and will continue to inspire and nourish future generations of Polackians.

Rabbi Anna Gerrard
Jewish Chaplain



Trips

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Bronze Award

The Bronze Duke of Edinburgh pupils successfully passed their expedition section, walking the famous Ridgeway over two days. On their routes, the pupils navigated the rolling chalk downland and explored the many archaeological treasures, including Neolithic long barrows, Bronze Age round barrows, Iron Age forts and the famous White Horse cut into the chalk. They also walked

to Dragon Hill, believed to be where Saint George killed the beastly creature. The grass on the top of the hill has been worn away, and legend has it that it no longer grows where the dragon's blood seeped into the ground.

Gold Award

During half term, three teams of Gold Duke of Edinburgh students completed their practice and qualifying expedition in the Black Mountains. During their four-day qualifying expedition, the students navigated over 80km and climbed 3000m of ascent, summiting peaks

including Pen Allt-mawr (719m), Pen Twyn Glas (646m), Mynydd Llysiu (663m), Twmpa (690m) and Hay Bluff (677m). The 21 students all did fantastically well. Congratulations on passing your Gold Expedition!

Jody Sumner

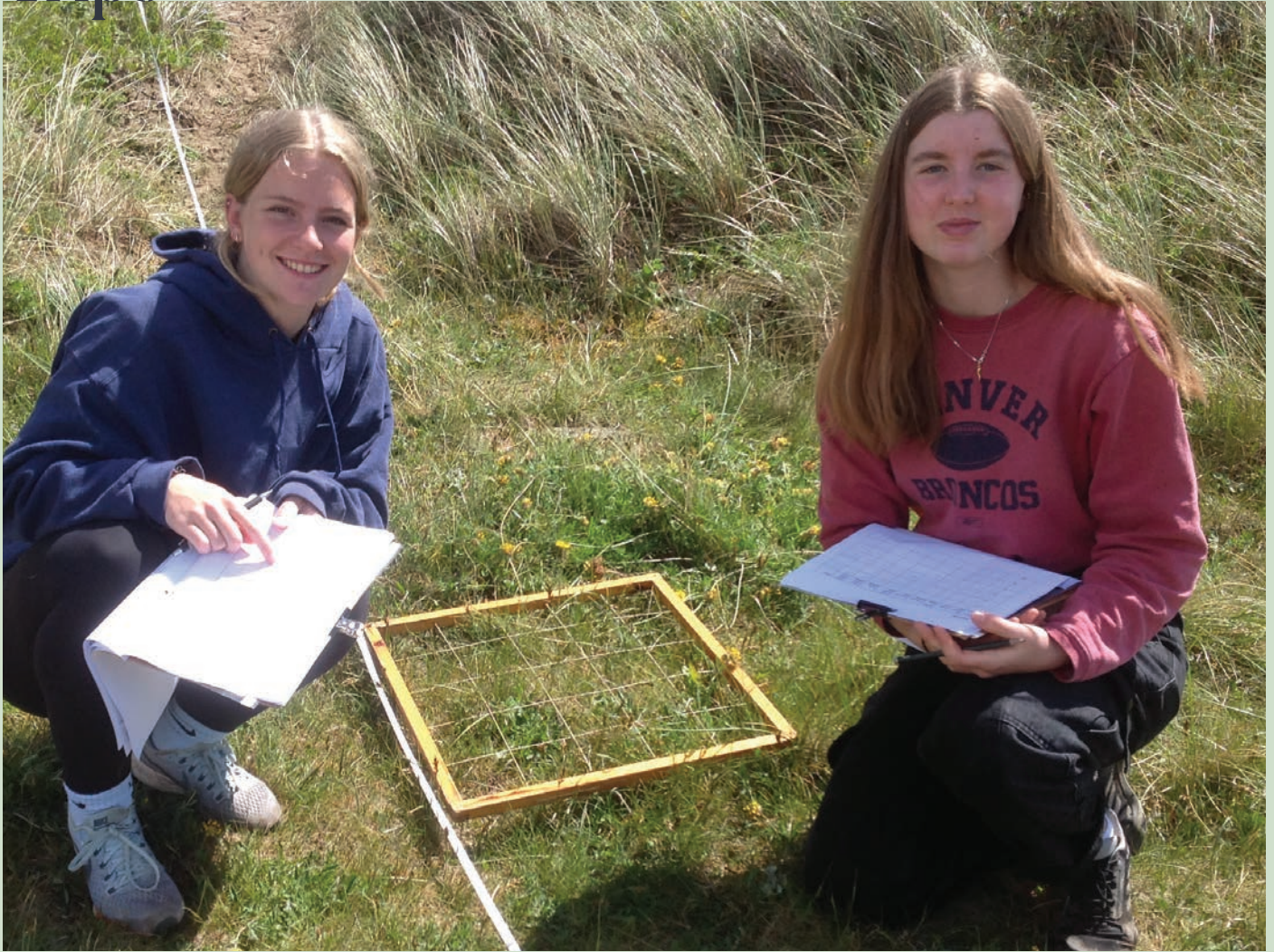
Outdoor Education Coordinator

Trips & Activities



“The grass on the top of the hill has been worn away, and legend has it that it no longer grows where the dragon’s blood seeped into the ground.”

Trips



Biology Succession Field Trip

On 24th May, 34 intrepid Lower Sixth biologists undertook our annual succession field trip to Kenfig Nature Reserve in South Wales. They conducted a transect of the sand dunes to monitor the process of succession. Quadrats were placed every two metres from the high water mark up to 30 metres to monitor the percentage cover of various

different species, whilst also measuring the topography of the landscape. Many skills were honed, such as teamwork, collecting reliable and valid data and learning how a clinometer works, together with the mathematics required to calculate height change of the dunes. The pupils were on excellent form despite some drizzly rain, and remained positive, enthusiastic and productive throughout the day.

Mal Grohmann
Head of Biology



“Lower Sixth biologists undertook our annual succession field trip to Kenfig Nature Reserve in South Wales.”

Third Form Geography Trip to the Eden Project

It was third time lucky for this year's Eden Project trip, with the previous two attempts thwarted by lockdowns! The pupils all had an opportunity to explore the site in full bloom in the glorious sunshine. They also all attended the 'Jungle Connections' workshop, which focused on making connections between the plants and products found in tropical rainforests and our own lives. It built on the ideas of sustainability and consumer power that we have introduced in work on plastic pollution during the Summer Term.



Fourth Form Geography Field Trip to the River Holford

A week later than planned, but with much better weather, 75 Fourth Form geographers travelled to the Quantock Hills. They spent their day collecting river channel data and calculating the water's velocity in preparation for their physical geography fieldwork questions in the IGCSE. In the past we have had pupils attend wearing their goggles, but this year we were particularly impressed with the inflatable kayak!

Sarah Rath
Head of Geography



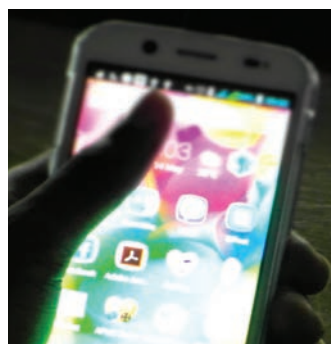
“Third time lucky for this year’s Eden Project trip, with the previous two attempts thwarted by lockdowns!”

Activities

Bristol Teen Book Award

Now in its third year, the Bristol Teen Book Award was established to celebrate diversity in Young Adult literature. Secondary schools across Bristol shadow the award and young readers vote for the winner. Our very own Miss Withey was part of the librarians' judging panel this year. On 5th May, top readers in Year 10 were invited to a virtual awards ceremony with workshops and talks from the shortlisted authors, fun literary games, and the much anticipated announcement of the winner. This year, Sue Cheung's culture clash Coventry comedy, *Chinglish*, took the top prize. Well done to Jude Young who was crowned Clifton College's top reader of the contest and to Jack Fowler who won the book review competition.

Leah Shaw



Sleep and Screen Time Study

On 2nd March, the Upper Sixth biologists participated in a Zoom conference run by three final year students from the University of Bristol Ambassador Scheme. This year involved pupils abandoning their electronic devices two hours before bedtime over a couple of days the previous week and reporting the effect of this against their sleep patterns.

The Zoom meeting started with introductions followed by a Q&A session on life at university, and academic motivation during lockdown. Participants were then introduced to the theory of circadian rhythm and natural sleep patterns involving melatonin and cortisol. Polysomnography, the study of brainwave, REM and muscle activity during sleep was also discussed in addition to blue light from screens affecting your biological clock and delaying sleep onset latency. Pupils were engaged through QR code questions and quizzes and were interested to find out that screen reduction improved their sleep efficiency overall, together with increased concentration in lessons, which can't be a bad thing! Encouraging this out of syllabus topic has helped to broaden young minds in our ever-changing electronic world.

Mal Grohmann
Head of Biology

“Top readers in Year 10 were invited to a virtual awards ceremony with workshops and talks from the shortlisted authors.”

“These results are excellent and it is great to see so many pupils getting involved.”



British Physics Olympiads

Sixth Form

In the Michaelmas Term, Clifton College entered 13 Sixth Form students for the British Physics Olympiad. The paper itself is designed to challenge a range of student knowledge, preparation and ability, allowing access for good students, whilst also aiming at stretching and challenging the top young physicists in the country in a national competition. This year 1,616 students from 270 schools participated from the UK, and a few schools overseas also joined, making a total of 3,700 scripts to mark.

Derek Ma achieved a Gold Award, Jack He a Bronze, and the following students obtained a Commendation: Alisher Zakirov, Ramsay Davis, Luke Laredo, Archie Calhaem, Tom Underhill, Jonny Cook, Eric Ding, Basile Valentin, Joe Taylor, Benson Zhou and Ryan Huang.

The Physics Department are very proud to have entered so many students this year for such a competition, and in particular to see Derek Ma awarded a Gold, putting him in the top 8% of the students taking part!

Year 11

At the end of the Lent Term, 17 of our Year 11 physicists took part in the Year 11 Intermediate British Physics Olympiad challenge. Pupils had to answer a set of taxing questions under timed conditions, and they did very well indeed! Of the 4,700 students who took part, 18% of them achieved a Gold Award; among them were: Jonathan Ambler, Sam Williams, Max Hanson, Alex Warren, Tom Rayson, Joseph Ancell, Dong Ha Hoang, Solomon Pitt and Charlie Davies. Those who obtained Silver were: Sam Puri, Cici Pan, Annie Shen, Steven Sha, Ruby Wu and Kei Ki Chau. A Bronze Award also went to Timur Yilmaz. These results are excellent and it is great to see so many pupils getting involved – well done to all those who took part!

Rebecca Luker



Life Sculpting Workshop with Lucianne Lassalle

Sixth Form and selected Year 11 students were treated to the unique experience of a day of sculpting, working from a live model with professional artist and sculptor, Lucianne Lassalle. Lucianne is a Bristol-based artist who makes sculptures on all scales from 15cm to two metres in height, usually based upon the human figure.

The students had a full day to work with Lucianne as she led them through a workshop to create their own body sculptures measuring in at approximately 70cm in height. The students learnt valuable observational skills as well as a keen understanding of the form and proportions of the body.

It was a thoroughly enjoyable and rewarding day and a fantastic chance for the students to get their hands dirty again following months of limited practical work due to the lockdowns.

Naomi Randall



“The students learnt valuable observational skills as well as a keen understanding of the form and proportions of the body.”

Activities



Maths: A Year In Numbers

Without a shadow of a doubt, for the Clifton College Maths Department there were two days in this year's school calendar that were the most eagerly and anxiously anticipated: Tuesday, 8th September and Monday, 8th March. On these dates pupils and staff returned to the school site after the first and third lockdowns respectively and we were reminded once again just how wonderful it is to teach, learn and interact with each other face-to-face rather than online. For the March reopening, the Maths Department was decorated with balloons, bunting and Mrs Evans' amazing display of geometry and fractals in the real world.

Although prolonged periods of online learning were not an enjoyable consequence of the pandemic, as a department we are very proud of how our pupils are coping with the challenges of studying maths remotely. We were so impressed with their engagement, their resilience and their ability to switch to a completely novel way of working so effectively. A very special thanks also goes to all of the teachers in the department for their innovation and enthusiasm in trying to make Zoom lessons fun and engaging.

While the usual calendar of mathematical events was disrupted this year, with all team competitions cancelled or postponed, our mathematicians still found a way to shine and showcase their exceptional skills.

Michaelmas Term saw the return of the annual UKMT Senior Maths Challenge in a brand new online format, in which 133 of our pupils from Years 10 to 13 took part. Derek Ma and Kihyun Song were joint best in school with impressive scores of 120/135, with noteworthy performances also put in by Jonathan Ambler, Becky Xu, Eric Ding, Qiqi You, Ramsay Davis, David Jiang, Stanley Tang and Sam Williams. Derek, Kihyun, Jonathan, Eric, Becky and Qiqi qualified to take part in the first round of the British Mathematical Olympiad and all received Merits or Distinctions for their performances. Eric and Derek were the top performers and were invited to take part in the second round of the prestigious competition. Derek's performance in BMO1 was

particularly impressive and he was awarded a silver medal and the coveted book prize.

In the Lent Term, as the school closed for the second time, the UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge moved entirely online and our pupils Zoomed in from all over the world to participate. A special mention goes to Sam Williams who was the best in school with an incredible score of 135 - full marks available. Jonathan Ambler, Qiqi You and Sarah Ku also did very well and qualified to take part in the Intermediate Maths Olympiad, which took place in March. Sam, Sarah and Jonathan did particularly well in this follow-on round, earning distinctions for their efforts.

Finally, our congratulations to Jonathan Ambler, who has been selected for the prestigious UKMT Virtual Summer School thanks to his exceptional performance in the Intermediate and Senior Maths Challenges this year and his amazing results in Olympiads in previous years. Only 120 students have been invited from the entire country and it is an incredible accomplishment to have been chosen to attend.

Anastassia Myers

“We were so impressed with their engagement, their resilience and their ability to switch to a completely novel way of working.”



Chess Champions

A combined Upper School and Prep team entered the Bristol Regional Schools Team Chess Battle early in the Summer Term, and won by a considerable margin:

- First Place** - Clifton College - 78 points
 - Second Place** - Taunton School - 50 points
 - Third Place** - Millfield School - 41 points
 - Fourth Place** - Bristol Grammar - 41 points
- (There were 11 teams in total).

All the players in our team played their part in the victory: Ming Zhao, Viktor Bakhotskii, Vladimir Sevenyuk, Ilya Yaroshevsky, Jerry Gao, Harry Huby and Adam Farouk. Ming was our highest-scoring player, followed by particularly notable performances by Viktor and Vladimir.

Graham Mallard



STEM Lecture on 'What it Takes to be an Engineer'

On 19th May, a number of our students learnt all about what it takes to be an engineer. We were visited by two impressive undergraduate engineering students who are at Southampton University specialising in aeronautics, Bradley Duffy and Ben Palmer.

They explained what the course entailed and also detailed their master's level project. They also talked about which A Level subjects and topics would support a degree in engineering and why. Pupils were fascinated by what they had to say and many stayed behind to ask questions. Bradley and Ben brought in a number of things to show our pupils, including a carbon fibre aerofoil, which they tested in an air tunnel!

Rebecca Luker

“Pupils were fascinated by what they had to say and many stayed behind to ask questions.”

Activities

A Unique Easter Challenge

At the end of the Lent Term, Mr Simmons challenged staff and students to submit the lowest UNIQUE number, with the lucky winner/maths genius receiving the corresponding number in Easter eggs. It soon became clear to Mr Simmons that the data was far too interesting to be treated flippantly, so here are the results and his in-depth analysis.

Firstly, some initial points:

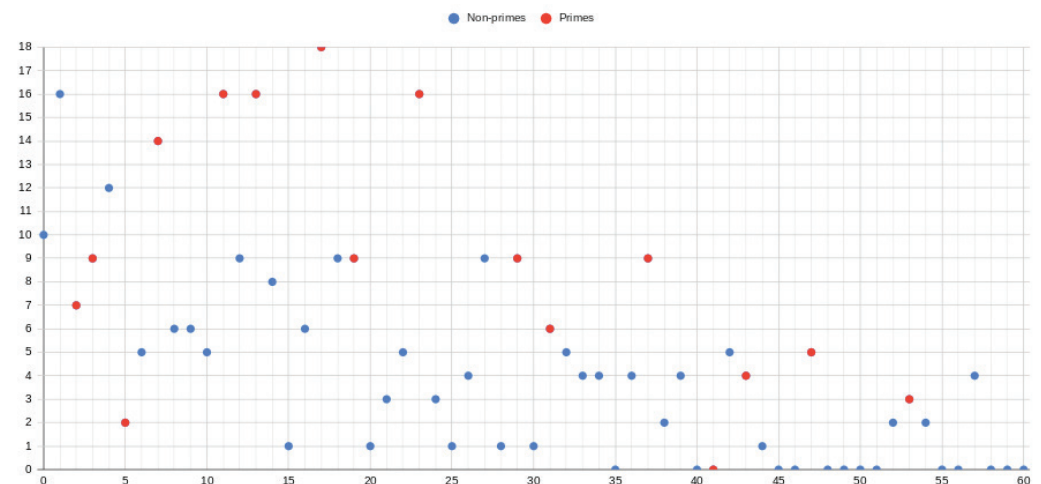
I only allowed whole numbers of Easter eggs, which scuppered six attempts, including Piers de Voil's desire to win 1×10^{-59} of an egg. Given that Mr Deacon tells me that there are probably only 7×10^{22} molecules in 100g of chocolate, this would not have been much of a win. Although he may have gained a larger amount of satisfaction had he won.

I safeguard against financial ruin in this exercise, by (i) relying on a winning number being a reasonable amount, and (ii) reducing the size of egg in case of large wins. Point (i) thankfully stopped the attempts of Dr Grohmann, Mr Harris, and Oli Hambley to bankrupt the school, all of whom decided they would like at least 1000000 eggs.

I did allow negative numbers. Sadly, no one chose any, which was a shame, as there was a well publicised shortage of Easter eggs in 2021, and I could have done with some.

Ten people chose zero eggs. Are these people the Easter equivalent of the Grinch, wanting to win no eggs - or are they all heroes of the people, ensuring that a positive number won? You decide.

Now for the good maths. The graph of the frequency of numbers chosen (up to 60) is shown above. Numbers right



down on the x-axis weren't chosen by anyone. Numbers one line up from that had a chance of winning. But it had to be the lowest of those to win. You will see that I have coloured the prime numbers. Why? Because it's a fascinating insight into human behaviour and perception of numbers, and how 'unusual' they are. Far more people choose odd, and more so, prime, numbers. Why? Because they are more 'unusual'. No one would ever choose them, would they?

The exception to the odd number rule is multiples of five. Why? No one chooses multiples of five. Too obvious. Most of us have five fingers on one hand. We count to five, and then 10, etc. It is, to me, truly amazing how frequently the red primes are chosen. It's also worth noting that 57 is quite popular relative to numbers near it. That's because it looks prime. It isn't. It's 3×19 . Five was in the lead for a fair while, having been chosen by Tilly Kramer very early on but scuppered two hours later by Hannah Hinkel.

So, congratulations to Poppy Mumford! You will be able to see from the graph how many eggs she won!

Thank you to the 347 people who took part in this competition. Last time I ran this, a cartel from Wiseman's House was successful in their tactic of covering all numbers up to a certain level and won 18 eggs. Unfortunately I won't run it again until you've all left, so you won't be able to cheat. Unless you want to commit several years' of school fees to staying on and having a go.

Gil Simmons

“It was North Town who emerged victorious and claimed the trophy again, despite only having three team members.”



General Knowledge Quiz

The Inter-House General Knowledge Quiz this year had to take a slightly different Covid-friendly format, with the first round being held on Zoom as a 25 question Kahoot!, to determine the strongest Houses that would enter the live final the following week. Hallward's House, North Town, School House and Wiseman's proved

to be the greatest all-rounders on a variety of questions, with Holland's House narrowly missing out on a place on the final question.

The following week, up to four volunteers from each House joined us in the Science School for a round of quick-fire questions using the buzzers kindly lent by the Physics Department. The final was full of fierce competition, enthusiasm and a lot of niche knowledge, but

it was North Town who emerged victorious and claimed the trophy again, despite only having three team members. Well done to all the individuals involved for participating and demonstrating the extensive trivia you have learnt over the years.

Grace Ball

Activities



Year 12 Leadership Days

In the closing days of the Summer Term, Year 12 pupils took part in three days of varied activities. While the purpose of these activities was for pupils to develop their skills of leadership, teamwork and communication, the overarching aim was for them to have fun in the wake of their end of year exams and at the end of a challenging term. On the morning of the first day they were set the challenge of putting together a recycled fashion show in the Redgrave Theatre. Mrs Scott had stockpiled vast quantities of recyclable material over the previous week from which groups of pupils were tasked with crafting an array of garments. Many of the outfits were remarkable in their creativity, and the catwalk show, accompanied by music and

voiceover, was a truly unique and frequently hilarious sight to behold. The afternoon saw pupils tasked by the College's Catering Manager with creating two new pizzas for the school menu in the Michaelmas Term. Day 2 was led by an external organisation called Inside Knowledge, who set the pupils the challenge of managing a potentially devastating national crisis. In groups, pupils were required to draw up an appropriate disaster-management strategy and present their solutions before a panel of 'experts'. The task required plenty of teamwork, effective delegation and the ability for pupils to think on their feet. Members of the public strolling down College Road at 10 a.m. on the third and final morning would have seen pairs of pupils lined up on the Close, seemingly throwing punches at each other. This was in fact the initial preparation for the action



movies that pupils spent the day filming under the instruction of Young Film Academy. Using iPads, the Year 12s were taught the basics of filmmaking, such as how to employ a range of different shots and how to edit their work. Their final masterpieces were screened in an Oscars ceremony later in the day in the Redgrave Theatre,

with the Head Master awarding the prize for the best overall film. Across the three days, pupils threw themselves into all of the activities with customary enthusiasm, resulting in plenty of learning, a fair few surprises and a great deal of laughter.

Nick Mills
Head of Sixth Form

Biology Olympiads

The UK Biology Challenge and Olympiads reward those students whose knowledge of the subject has been increased by reading books and magazines, watching natural history programmes, taking notice of the news media for items of biological interest, and who are generally aware of our natural flora and fauna.

The Biology Challenge Gold Award winners this year were Josh Hogwood (Year 9) and Joseph Collins, Taiki Faustino, Jack Fowler and Alexander Lind (Year 10). Stanley Tang achieved Gold (80.3 %) in the Intermediate Biology Olympiad (aimed at Lower Sixth pupils) and Naomi Chung reached the Bronze level. A big round of applause for all.

Mal Grohmann



Careers Fair

On 25th June, for the second year running, we held a hugely successful Virtual Careers Fair for the Lower Sixth. Having hoped that the event could have reverted to the tried and tested format of pre-Covid days, a last minute flurry of cases in this year group dictated that we move online again. However, I hope that those who attended would all agree that this was still an extremely beneficial and informative event.

We started the afternoon with a session run by James Isaacs, OC and parent, who talked about how to make a good impression before, during and after an interview. With catchy acronyms such as FICKLE (first impressions count, keep looking engaged) and MOT (moments of

truth), I am sure that his words of wisdom will be remembered for many a year. Then, the students were offered a choice of over 30 talks ranging from 'From the Redgrave to the Globe' to 'Working in the Space Sector', from which they had to choose three.

We are hugely grateful to all of the Old Cliftonians and parents who spared their Friday afternoon to give these talks, especially as presenting over Zoom is not many people's preferred style. The feedback from the event has been overwhelmingly positive from all involved and I hope it has given the Lower Sixth students some food for thought as they enter into their final year and start making those all-important career choices.

Emma Kenyon

“We are hugely grateful to all of the Old Cliftonians and parents who spared their Friday afternoon to give these talks.”

COLE



CCF Navy

It was with eager anticipation that the Navy section returned to parade in September.

After the online challenges and training of 2020, there was some relief to be back in the parade square. The new recruits eagerly took to the programme, albeit in the usual fashion of ill-fitting uniform. The NCOs stepped up to the mark and Flora McHattie led from the front as a super senior cadet. Her enthusiastic manner, coupled with a willingness to help and be involved, saw her set a great example for the younger cadets. It was clear, however, that with Field Days approaching in October, all had not returned to normal. Our planned trip for the Fifth and Sixth Form cadets to the Britannia Royal Naval College in Dartmouth for some afloat training, was unfortunately cancelled at the last minute due to all cadet residential assets being withdrawn by the MOD. Fortunately, the Fourth Form recruits were able to get on the water here in Bristol, where the ever-faithful Champ boats enabled them to all pass their RYA Powerboat 1 qualification. Thanks must go to Jonny Cook, Basile Valentin and Kaellen Balasingham as NCOs who helped to helm the boats and provide this opportunity for the younger cadets.

The Lent Term saw us in lockdown again, but this time training was suspended across the CCF due to a longer academic day online. We were fortunate, however, to return for

the final three Mondays of term and were able to give a proper send off to all the Upper Sixth NCOs. It was not the final year for them in the CCF, but their help and support throughout their time as cadets has been much valued. Their collective positive, have-a-go attitude was much looked up to by the younger cadets. Thanks go to Flora McHattie, Livvy Plummeridge, Olly Parish, Tom Robson, Victor Dudley and Tom Burbidge.

Summer Term arrived and training turned towards planning for our four-day camp at the end of June. This was, once again, a great success, with activities ranging from kayaking and mountain biking, to orienteering and first aid rescues. It has not been the year we expected, but certainly one in which we all learnt to cope with frequent change that often came at very short notice. This certainly could not have been possible without the officers who gave up their time to help. Their expertise and capacity to act as a team really helped to ensure that the training offered was of a high level at all times. Thanks, once again, must go to Martin Williams, Ben Bates, Vicki Jackson, Martin Richmond and Simon Chapman.

As we look forward to next year, there have been some exciting changes at CCF HQ, meaning there should be more opportunities to get afloat and visit naval establishments in the forthcoming year. Here's to making the most of the opportunities that we are given.

Lt R Beever
Officer i/c Navy Section



CCF Army

Summer Camp June 2021

The Cadet Perspective: Poppy Mumford

On Sunday morning, the Army Section gathered at 09:00 on the quad to start our trip. Once we had been issued our rifles, we set off on the coach to Watson's Field where we would be staying that night - Covid restrictions meant that we were unable to access our military exercise area. For the rest of the day we covered patrolling and then we went into the six section battle drills. We had our memories refreshed by Sjt Major Mitchell, recapping the drills and how to set a deliberate ambush. We put these drills into dry practice, improving all the time. We had some rest and then at 22:00 we set an ambush where we had to surprise and eliminate some enemies (AKA staff, once again). This was my favourite part of the two military days. It was fun to suddenly shoot blanks at someone after being still and silent for a while. After we sprung the ambush we had to reorg by running back through some fields in the dark and rain, which some may have considered a recipe for disaster, but I found it really fun.

Once back at the harbour site it was raining heavily so most people were quite wet, meaning that we had to ensure our bashers were sound before we went to sleep. The basher skills were tested overnight and clearly some cadets enjoyed greater success than others. Soon after we woke up, we discovered that all but a few of the shelters had either collected a big puddle of water or just completely failed and

the rain drenched the unlucky cadets' belongings. Valuable learning took place about the importance of building your basher correctly! We made breakfast and got ready for the day's activity. The complex drill we'd be doing that afternoon was explained to us. Afterwards, everyone indulged in a long break in which we cooked lunch. We then headed out on a fighting patrol; our objective was to take on three consecutive enemy positions, working as a platoon and systematically eliminating the enemy (Major Hughes). This patrol was extremely tiring! Amazingly, Major Hughes kept coming back to life and popping up in different locations, despite the fact that we had killed him several times with our weight of blank fire and superior infantry tactics.

The Staff Perspective: Jonathan Hughes

After our modified military phase, we deployed to a bush craft survival location in the middle of a wood south of Bath - another opportunity to challenge the cadets. After the failure of basher building earlier in the week, the cadets implemented changes and smashed it! Failure is not a problem as long as you learn from it and we were impressed with their resilience and ability to learn. Time and time again, cadets were tested, such as making fire in various ways, including by friction (fire bow) - well done to Bobby Puddicombe for achieving this in near record time! Cadets had sessions on water (about how to purify water and access it), safe knife handling and basic wood craft, and how to prepare game. The latter was possibly the most



challenging phase for some as wood pigeon was prepared for cooking without any tools, essentially just bare hands.

Over the course of the four day camp, cadets were challenged and taken out of their comfort zones. They had a lot of fun, and even when put in uncomfortable situations (physically or mentally), the cadets rose to the challenge and achieved success.

CCF RAF

Michaelmas Term

It was brilliant to see cadets back in school and engaging in CCF activities after a long period of lockdown and online learning. Whilst the Fourth Form got stuck into the history of flight and learnt useful skills such as sewing, boot polishing, drill and how to tie several knots, the Fifth Form studied jet engine theory and participated in different team-building exercises. Thankfully the field days went ahead and in early October the RAF section travelled up to BB, where they brushed up on their navigation work, and learnt a few self-defence moves (led by Briden Whitbread) and how to camouflage themselves. They were also shown how to build and light a fire (which ended in toasting marshmallows!). Cadets camped out under the stars using tarpaulins, ropes and foliage for shelter, and they enjoyed wading through their military ration packs for sustenance! The weather wasn't on our side but the cadets made the most of the experience and enjoyed being away with their peers.

Lent Term

Sadly, most of this term was spent in another lockdown and the decision was made not to move the RAF online. Towards the end of this period, however, students came back to school

and went through a tri-section rotation of activities where they got to have a go at ultimate frisbee, a gun run and PT! It was great to see pupils laughing, running around, and working with cadets in other sections.

Summer Term

Having had the Fifth Form and Upper Sixth leave the RAF section this term in preparation for their exams, it was time for our Lower Sixth NCOs to step up as role models for our Fourth Form. Led by Miranda Geeson, the NCOs prepared presentations and activities, from teaching the aerodynamics of flight, to facilitating an egg-parachute team challenge! Cadets also tried their hand at bouldering/climbing and made their own aerofoils, putting them to the test to see how much lift they could generate.

With our cohort greatly reduced in number for the summer field days due to Covid, the RAF section joined with the Navy. We travelled to the Wye Valley where we camped for three nights and engaged in mountain biking, orienteering, canoeing and some other team tasks! The cadets had a fantastic time together and enjoyed being outside, learning new skills and developing friendships.

**Flight Lieutenant
Rebecca Luker**
Head of RAF Section

“Cadets camped out under the stars using tarpaulins, ropes and foliage for shelter.”



Societies



Student Librarians

The student librarian team really excelled themselves in terms of creativity and adaptability this academic year. Highlights were the al fresco Pop-Up Percival, Clifton Bedtime Stories for the Pre-Prep and their hilarious ePlatform promo video. The former saw them select some of their favourite books, write pithy one-sentence reviews and set up a popular (and pandemic-proof) outdoor library. For the Bedtime Stories

project, they channelled CBeebies celebs, reading aloud a soothing selection of stories, complete with beautiful lunar opening credits designed by Jude Young. Their ePlatform promo video really lifted spirits and even received praise from Wheelers Books who provide this wonderful eBook and audiobook collection. Upper School students can get reading/listening by downloading the free app and signing in with their usual Clifton College IT login.



Psychology Society

This year saw us move to predominantly online provision of Psychology Society. In the Lent Term we opened up the Society to the whole school and saw a great take up across all year groups. The focus has been to encourage students to research and deliver a talk on a psychological area outside the curriculum in which they have an interest. We have had a large number of very interesting and engaging talks this year,

where the topics covered have included: Psychology and Warfare, The Psychology of Interrogations, Psychopaths, The Anatomy of Serial Killers, and The Psychology of Magic. Students have been enthusiastic about researching their chosen topic areas and all who have attended have learnt some very interesting facts, which has prompted good discussions and promoted further interest beyond the bounds of the curriculum.

Susannah Griffin

We bid a tearful farewell to incredible student librarian leavers Dina Nemoliaeva, Livvy Plummeridge, Isabel Williams and Briden Whitbread at a special end of term celebration complete with popcorn, non-alcoholic fizz, and the world premiere of the ePlatform promo video. We thank them for many years of dedicated service to the Percival Library.

Leah Shaw

“Their ePlatform promo video really lifted spirits and even received praise from Wheelers Books.”



Pride Society

The Pride Society has still been running strong all year. We welcomed several new members and did so many fun activities, despite the challenges of online learning. We started off the year in the best possible way with a screening of *She-Ra and the Princesses of Power* - a fun and inclusive cartoon show - to welcome our new members and settle back into things. We've had talks from our own members about topics that are interesting or important to them, including LGBTQIA+ representation in fiction, as well as several guest speakers like author and poet Dean Atta who read extracts from his book *The Black Flamingo* and our own Miss Atkinson, who talked about gender neutral pronouns in foreign languages.

Some of our major projects this year have been to make the school a more inclusive and

friendly place for everyone. We partnered with the EDIB Society and have had an article in each of their newsletters to raise awareness for LGBTQIA+ issues. We've talked to the PSHE department to make lessons more inclusive and informative for everyone. We also ran a pronoun workshop to help educate teachers on non-binary pronouns and help them become more comfortable using them.

And, of course, we prepared for Pride Week at the school. We sold rainbow laces for the charity Off the Record, had a trail of pride flag posters with edible rainbow prizes and a moving and informative Pride Chapel.

We've had so much fun as well as working hard all year and hope that the school will continue to become a more accepting and inclusive community for everyone.

Livvy, Pride Society





Environmental Action Group

In a world in which the future of the planet is uncertain, it is crucial to have a foothold in understanding what the consequences of the College's actions are in terms of impacting the environment. Groups such as the Environmental Action Group have become paramount in spreading awareness of issues, both locally and globally, through our international community. Our group aims to help Clifton become a school that has a positive impact on the environment, be it through discussions with other schools or action taken by pupils (such as the Climate March last year), any action big or small has an impact.

The group meets every Monday and discusses ways in which the school can make improvements to how it manages its environmental impact: simple things such as discussing water usage in Houses to larger scale issues like school lunches and sports buses.

As a group, we sent out a survey to the school to figure out where we stood in terms of carbon footprint amongst all pupils in the school, so that we would then be able to use this information to help combat carbon emissions and improve certain areas that were worse than others. The main way we improved this was through education. One way

we are trying to educate the school is through our resources document where students can go to help educate themselves on everything that is going on in the world today to do with the environment, whether that be Netflix documentaries or podcasts. Many of the students have also been working on posters that are going to be displayed in various areas around school. In this way, we are spreading even more awareness around the school through our own work, not just outside resources.

Our progress this year has been somewhat limited by the pandemic, but many improvements have been made

such as improved recycling systems. Next year as Covid becomes less of a problem, the group hopes to move onto bigger things. We have already planned a second-hand clothing sale, which will take place early in September 2021 and we hope that many people will be able to donate and buy clothes. The reason we have decided to do this is because we believe that fast fashion is detrimental to our environment and through the survey we saw that many Clifton pupils don't buy second-hand clothes very often. This sale is a fun way of getting people from all over the school involved in an environmentally friendly fashion sale. Pupils will be able to see the benefits for the environment and the economic benefits for themselves.

We look forward to further reducing the school's carbon footprint next year, and hope that you will support us in this aim.

The Environmental Action Group

Bonus Biology

Bonus Biology is a collection of biologists who have a thirst for knowledge and are interested in discussing biological concepts far beyond the scope of the A Level specification. In our group we have students with ambitions of becoming medics, vets, marine biologists, and pharmacologists, to name a few. We have been exploring ideas in current biological research, from insects that steal genes from plants, to synthetic beef burgers and jellyfish chips. Students were introduced to top university reading lists and materials, and invited to lectures by the University of Bristol and

Pfizer Centre of Excellence. We considered what sort of challenging questions they could be asked at undergraduate interviews, and how best to impress with their answers. In May, for Mental Health Awareness Week, students researched the theme of nature improving wellbeing from a biological perspective. Students prepared presentations to share their findings, and referenced their sources. I wish to congratulate the students on their efforts and contributions.

Helen Griffin

“We have been exploring ideas in current biological research, from insects that steal genes from plants, to synthetic beef burgers and jellyfish chips.”

Creative Writing Group

Another incredible year of creative writing during which we have warmly welcomed new aspiring authors and poets. The group has a wide range of creatives from future novelists to short story writers. I have been lucky enough to be a part of this group for five years and I've met so many different people who write in such a range of styles and genres. Each story, book, and poem has been an incredible experience and has inspired me and given me motivation to keep going with my own work. Listening to people from all around the world creating new worlds and stories for others to hear and enjoy has been a highlight for me each week during my school year. We all grew together as a group and, as we grew older, our work grew stronger and changed for the better. Creative Writing has always been a safe space; there is no judgment, only honest opinions and advice on how to improve certain



aspects of one's story. People get together to enjoy new books and share their opinions on what stood out to them in the stories read there.

Over the years we have also had the opportunity to meet different authors: Teri Terry, Dean Atta, Tom Pollock, Rebecca Antony and many others joined the group to talk about

their own work and help us to improve ours. I met so many accomplished creators whose words I will cherish forever as I continue my own journey of writing a novel. Creative Writing has always made me feel like there are people who are interested in what you have to say. They come to hear your story, to learn more about your world, about your characters.

Each of us is different; the stories are never repeated and that's what makes the time spent in the club exciting. You never know what you will hear next. But you know that hearing people's comments about your work will help you grow. And who knows, maybe we will all publish our own books one day. I would be honoured to read each one of them.

Dina Nemoliaeva (WoH)

Christian Forum

Christian Forum has taken a different form for this year. We have been online and in person at different times in the past year. Using Zoom for Christian Forum has enabled the use of online quizzes, recorded talks and Bible studies with passages displayed on the screen. It has been great to see, in different lockdowns, students of many different countries and locations joining in to consider the claims of the Christian faith. Returning to school in the Summer Term and enjoying the barbecue in person with recorded talks was a fun way to start the road to normality. We have looked at tough questions posed by the virus, parables and Bible

studies in Luke. Each week we have discussed ideas raised and shared thoughts on the topic. The only requirement to join in has been a willingness to think and discuss the Christian faith. We do hope to see new faces next year. Thanks are due to Lymington Rushmore Holidays for their excellent online resource support. We would also like to thank Alex Tebay for her many years of encouragement and interest since running the co-curriculum. She has attended Christian Forum twice in this Covid period online and has been very helpful in so many ways. The Christian Forum wishes her a happy retirement and looks forward to working with her successor.

Jay Gardner

“Listening to people from all around the world creating new worlds and stories for others to hear and enjoy has been a highlight for me.”

Digital Dining

The unexpected hit of Lockdown I - Digital Dining - returned for seconds this year and, once again the eager chefs provided us with endless, much-appreciated entertainment, innovation and 'crackling' puns.

Last year's indomitable Year 12 team returned as 'seasoned' players of the 'game' to take on Team New, who proved they were certainly worth their 'salt' as they battled for their 'steak' in the winners' (knickerbocker) glory. Once again, art imitated life, as supplies of useful and well-matched ingredients ran low and made room for the unlikely 'pearings' of tuna and ginger cake, and sushi and cherries.

As we could not commemorate key 'dates' - Valentine's Day, the inauguration of Joe Biden, Harry Potter Day - in real life, they became the cornerstone

of the challenges, and the students devised some truly astonishing menu suggestions from their eclectic, randomly-generated ingredients. Who could ever forget 'Make Lasagna Great Again' with a serving of 'Rhubarb Trumple and Cream', or the 'Impeached Soup' starter followed by the 'Banana Split of Ideologies'? The 'Rhubarb Crumbling of Democracy' was fortunately consigned to the peely bin.

As the nation shut its borders, we celebrated homegrown talent instead, and Fleetwood Mac and Cheese rose triumphant over Paul Macaroni. When the world celebrated all things Harry Potter, Nagini Linguini, with a side of Raven-slaw, and Severus Crepes to follow, certainly passed mustard (sic), although Salad-zar Slytherin certainly deserves its 'plaiice' in the recipe books. In all, we owe a huge thank you to our dedicated



virtual cooks, who brightened the dark days of Lockdown III with their imaginative meals and the puns that were surely the icing on the cake. Bring on Lockdown IV?!

Emily Hawkins



The Clifton Herald

This past year, we have been blessed with the most creative and hardworking team. I, alongside the other editors, Sophie Molesworth St-Aubyn and Benson Zhou, have not only had the pleasure of gathering the articles written by our student body, but we also had the chance to witness the vast

creativity, skills, and imagination that is shared within our team. We have made great progress this year, which I believe was the best part of it all.

Our academic year started off with a huge revamp of the Herald's website, now called Clifton Herald Online, allowing us to be able to connect and communicate our articles across

the College, making them more accessible. Doing so has encouraged students to engage and read more about topics, including Clifton Life, mental health, global issues, sports, entertainment, and much more.

Rather than strictly being a team that writes what we want to, we have also created a Google Form that has helped encourage

pupils to send us feedback and future article ideas. We have also come up with a system in which students are able to become guest writers, allowing them to write about anything that interests them, which also gives them the chance to have their articles appear on our website.

As we progressed through the chilly Lent Term and into the Summer Term, we started to compile an ePaper, containing some of our most insightful and best written articles from the year. This academic year has been a huge highlight for us, and it has been a massive privilege to work with such amazing writers, designers, and teachers, who have all played an incredible role in helping us grow and improve as a team. And for this, we are eternally grateful.

Samantha de Senna Fernandes (OH), Clifton Herald Editor-in-Chief



Craft and Textiles

The Craft and Textiles Group have worked on a few beautiful items this year. We meet weekly and most of the projects take two to three weeks. Pupils have gained lots of skills and demonstrated their unique creative abilities. They have been developing skills to support their Duke of Edinburgh Award or just come along to have fun. The projects have ranged from weaving using leftover yarn to creating intricate Macrame wall hangings. I'm keen to promote environmentally friendly craft and most of the projects are designed to meet this brief. The rag wreath uses scraps of unwanted or unusable fabric. With the pupils' creative flair and patience, it transformed into a beautiful seasonal door wreath.

Samantha Scott





Philosophy and Law Society

This has been another busy year despite the limitations of remote teaching for part of the year. We have enjoyed a new record of three mock trials, all run in-house - R v Jones (dangerous driving), R v Emerson (possession of bladed weapon) and, most colourfully, R v Grey (arson and insurance theft), undertaken live and on Zoom. These trials saw increasingly forensic methods used by our pupil barristers, and with vivid portrayals of witnesses who resiliently withstood increasingly powerful cross-examinations. A special mention to Matt Thompson

who provided a compelling one-off pupil presentation on the fascinating and often counter-intuitive issue of vicarious liability, and which linked with a seminar on the weird and wonderful world of employment law (did you know that Scottish Nationalism qualifies as a philosophical belief?!). Other online events, courtesy of BEP, included a talk by the illustrious Baroness Hale (former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court) and, on a more philosophical and highly pertinent front, a talk and Q&A with Professor Angie Hobbs on ethics and the pandemic. Much food for thought alongside plenty of opportunities for pupils to sharpen their wit! Well done all.

James Drinkwater

Hula Hoopers

This year saw the start of a new co-curricular club featuring a much loved childhood toy - the hula hoop! The girls who signed up for the club soon found out that hula hooping is not quite as easy as it looks, but they were always ready to encourage their fellow hoopers to keep going. Through much perseverance and plenty of giggles along the way, their efforts paid off and by the end they were all able to keep it spinning around their waists for an impressive amount of time. As well as being more difficult than it looks, hula hooping is also a decent work out. So if any of you are looking for a new way to keep fit and have fun, then why not pick up your old, dusty childhood hula hoop and give it a spin?!

Billie Edwards



“They were always ready to encourage their fellow hoopers to keep going.”





Charities

In a year that has seen charitable organisations struggle so profoundly, the work of the Charities Committee and the donations made by staff and students alike have never been so important.

Over £4250 has been raised during the course of this academic year, a sum of which we are incredibly proud.

After a prolonged period of isolation and online learning, the Michaelmas Term saw a busy resurgence to in-person fundraising. The Committee voted to support the Forest of Avon Trust and the Education Support Partnership and, following the murder of George Floyd and the demonstrations in Bristol over the summer of 2020, Show Racism the Red Card, the UK's leading anti-racism educational charity, which was chosen as our charity for the entire academic year. Our first event in support of this cause was a home clothes day on 16th October, with a suggested red theme.

As the term rolled into winter, we capitalised on breaktime sales of incredibly delicious hot chocolate and sweet treats, a more challenging process than usual due to Covid-safe food hygiene and cash-handling requirements! A firm favourite also returned this term, the doughnut sale, which was combined with our annual Christmas Jumper home clothes day. The Committee also spent the final weeks of term campaigning across the school to raise awareness for the work done by Caring in Bristol, a homelessness charity.

Online schooling had to return in the Lent Term, but the Committee persevered with fundraising and awareness activities. We held an international themed "Home Clothes" day, encouraging students to celebrate and express their cultures through their Zoom attire. Members of our Committee also recorded and shared a video interview with some fellow pupil EDIB (Equality, Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging) Committee representatives about the importance of supporting anti-racism charities. We were fortunate to return to school for the final two weeks of the Lent Term and we got back into our stride with an Easter chocolate sale, selling over £150 worth of chocolate. Our second event saw a wealth of enthusiasm as we hosted the Clifton College Virtual Pet Show, with Yanto (Miss Clark's dog) claiming his place as top dog.

The Summer Term saw us say farewell to our outgoing Committee members as we welcomed a new cohort of enthusiastic fundraisers. Alongside Show Racism the Red Card, we voted to support Something To Look Forward To, a charity dedicated to supporting the families of those affected by cancer. We kicked the busy term off with a summer-themed home clothes day, which happened to fall on a particularly grey and wet day. This term also saw us hold: a rainbow laces sale as part of the College's Pride Week; an ice cream and soft drink sale, which proved to be incredibly successful; and our second-hand uniform sale at the Arts Evening.

The Clifton community has shown an admirable commitment to charitable causes this year and we want to say a huge thank you to everyone who donated or got involved in any of our events.

The Charities Committee

Community



The Clifton in the Community programme had a strong start in Michaelmas 2020 with Sixth Form students volunteering at the Bristol North West Foodbank to help sort food into packages for those who need support.

Our long-established partnership with the Corner Club, based in the Cathedral Church of St Peter and St Paul in Clifton, became a penpal exchange and students were excited to receive handwritten letters from their correspondents. We hope to be able to resume our visits to the club next term to meet up in person! Over the course of the year and Lent lockdown, Mr Iwan Thomas, the Head of English, has continued to oversee an online programme with students at Orchard School and Cotham School, where Clifton College students act as academic mentors to younger students.



Enrichment

The Enrichment programme has expanded this year; with fewer volunteering placements to choose from, we have introduced some exciting and popular new activities such as Mathematical Problem Solving, where pupils have the opportunity to develop the mental muscles required to think through difficult problems in an enjoyable way and compete in national competitions, or Sign Language for beginners, where students follow a course to gain a qualification at the end.

Peer Support

Over the course of our last two years, a group of Sixth Form students have gathered every Monday for a peer support session. Here, every House has a representative who will attend these weekly meetings and contribute ideas on many school-wide issues. For example, we worked hard over multiple weeks building the school's anti-bullying policy to make it easier to read and more accessible to the students. In addition to our weekly meetings, we also talk to students in our Houses about typical issues which tend to arise in each year group, and offer a number of ways to combat these problems. As peer supporters, our job is not only to support our peers, as our name suggests, but to help listen to students and make what they say a reality.

Amelia Ashill (OH) and Sofia Walker (WT)

Food Bank

In the Michaelmas term, we went to volunteer in a Food Bank. We did a multitude of different things each week, all revolving around organising the food. We unpacked, categorised and weighed food to make it easier to distribute. Overall, we felt like we really made a difference, which is the main reason why we enjoyed it so much. We helped our community and people who are less fortunate than us and depend on these amazing organisations. It was particularly important to us to support people such as single mothers and struggling employees during such challenging times. We benefited so much from this experience, extending our understanding of people's situations and playing a small part in making lives better.

Melodie Bornes (HLH)

Writing for the Elderly

Writing for the Elderly during C in C was one of the most wholesome experiences and it became a highlight of my week and I ended up loving it. I was 'assigned' an elderly person to write to, and my assignee happened to be a lovely, kind, funny lady. Each week we would send a letter off, explaining what had happened in our week, trivia about ourselves, questions - just general chit chat. There was a choice to type out our letters or handwrite them. But there was something charming and nostalgic about handwriting them in multi-colours and drawing little pictures for our new penpals. The following week we would race to the classroom to see if we'd had a reply. For a few weeks I didn't get a reply, and just as I was losing hope, I got one! The letter explained how my penpal had lost her ability to write with age, so had to wait for her daughter to transcribe what she wanted to write back. This really made me reflect on how lucky I am, and the things I take for granted, to enjoy all that I have now. Despite no longer being able to write by herself, you could hear her voice and the enthusiasm she had for me to do well and wish me well, even though we'd never met. I remember how fondly she talked of her grandchildren and it reminded me of my grandparents, making me think about how I should enjoy their company while I still can. Overall,

it was a grounding experience, and we joked that coming and writing our letters was 'therapy'; it was a time to reflect, I guess. So while the idea was to provide some company for our penpals during lockdowns and isolation, in reality I think it helped as much for us too. So Christine, thank you.

Maddie Farmer (OH)

Academic Mentoring

The new appearance of a cross-school mentoring scheme on the C in C bucket list was most certainly a pleasant surprise, thanks to the Bristol Educational Partnership. It wasn't long before I had the dubious pleasure of discovering that my job was to tutor literacy. As you can perhaps imagine, as a non-native English speaker, this was concerning. However, I found that it is the very experience of learning English as a second language that made things like explaining an English tense much more straightforward. The sessions were very enjoyable and gave your mind a refresh from a famously busy Monday. I have always believed that teaching works in two directions: the person teaching learns something as well, and these sessions were no exception. To say the least, I have gained invaluable skills and much deeper understanding in tutoring, the process of learning and perhaps above all, English grammar.

Benson Zhou (WiH)

“There was something charming and nostalgic about handwriting them in multi-colours and drawing little pictures for our new penpals.”



Equality, Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging (EDIB)

I have thoroughly enjoyed launching EDIB at Clifton College this year. I see Clifton as a 'mini-world in a world' and all members of our community have embarked on this journey in a very positive and supportive way. It has been an extremely rewarding experience to launch EDIB initiatives and get all stakeholders involved. Firstly, a

committee with representatives from OCs, Council members, students and staff was formed in the Michaelmas Term. Our meetings have been real eye-openers and our projects have been really successful. For example, we took part in the Stepping Up Programme (Bristol City Council's groundbreaking and award-winning diversity leadership programme) and our students thoroughly enjoyed this experience as it allowed them to reflect on diversity issues and develop strategies for Clifton College.



“Our meetings have been real eye-openers and our projects have been really successful.”

I thoroughly enjoyed our weekly meetings with the EDIB Committee as our staff and students’ open-mindedness, empathy and willingness to educate themselves have been heartwarming. Our initiatives have included: educating our community about EDIB topics through the ‘Educate, Celebrate, Give voice’ videos and the staff/student EDIB reading groups; commemorating and/or celebrating key dates (e.g. Stephen Lawrence Day, International Women’s Day); meeting with parents regularly; and giving voice to all members of our community (‘We are here for you’ campaign).

I am confident that our vision to become a fully inclusive organisation will be achieved as I continue to deliver the EDIB mission with the support of the EDIB Committee:

- To educate our community about Equality, Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging
- To celebrate the contributions of marginalised groups to history and to our contemporary society
- To embrace and celebrate diversity
- To give voice to all members of our community, providing them with the tools to talk about EDIB in a mature and informed way
- To create a sense of belonging for all members of our community.

Géraldine Maringo
Head of EDIB



Pola (HH)

As a new international student in the Sixth Form, I had a chance to experience the process of adapting to the Clifton lifestyle. It wasn't always easy; the obstacles and challenges were sometimes hard to tackle. From the beginning, my drive came from the need to change the school, so that it would become more accessible for people like me.

I am very pleased with the changes that have already happened at Clifton. We have had many opportunities to share our experience and spread awareness about topics including, but not limited to, social injustice, prejudice and inequality. Moreover, the EDIB Committee is actively working on reshaping the school curriculum to adjust it to represent groups that are often marginalised. My main goal is to raise awareness about the privilege that we all have in going to a school like Clifton.



Tara (WT)

In this day and age, I feel privileged that I can confidently say that I am a black, uncloseted agender, biromantic without feeling ashamed or afraid. I joined EDIB because I think no one should have to hide their identities to protect themselves. I have been thrilled to be among both students and teachers who share my passion for making this school a better place. I have been able to express my views, have them challenged and get the chance to expand my horizons and understanding of this community.

As part of Clifton College's Pride community, I have the opportunity to work with and listen to the stories of fellow students who identify as part of the LGBTQIA+ spectrum and who have been victims of queerphobia. By joining the EDIB academic lead focus group I am now able pass on their suggestions to make our school more queer friendly. Many of these suggestions revolve around education in history and PSHE and I hope in the coming terms I can help to make our school a more inclusive place where everyone can feel they belong.



Tom (ST)

Being someone who has not faced much discrimination, I am not especially personally familiar with its detrimental effects. That said, I am by no means unaware of the adversity that many people face, something which is just unacceptable in today's society. For this reason, it is very important to discuss potential ways to ameliorate such issues. EDIB provides this opportunity.



Konrad (WaH)

While life at Clifton is marvellous, looking at it from my perspective, as a newcomer in Year 12, made me realise that there's a lot of work to be done in the school community to make it more welcoming and open for people coming in from outside. Having been allocated to a very international House, I

wanted Clifton to embrace and celebrate the international and diverse student body more to make international students feel more included and welcome in the school community. Joining EDIB seemed like the best way of discussing and implementing potential solutions to the problems of inclusivity at the College and ensuring that future generations of students will be left with a school that is as open and friendly as it can be, irrespective of their gender, race, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic status. Being in the EDIB Committee has proved to be a wonderful opportunity with multiple opportunities to educate myself, introduce real change (the gender neutral uniform coming hopefully next year!), and discuss the issues facing the College with a body of students passionate about bringing about change.



Sveva (WoH)

I want to be part of the change that is happening around us. I want to inspire people to start conversations and encourage everyone (including me) to reflect upon our own thinking patterns. The reason I love being a member of EDIB is because regardless of different nationalities, sexualities, interests, age or friendship groups, we still all gather together each week and strive for a common purpose. Although I have not personally encountered many of the issues discussed at EDIB meetings, I want to use all the privileges I have to uplift and help others who haven't had the same opportunities.



Sophia (OH)

I joined this committee because I want to be part of the change that EDIB wants to achieve. I want to understand and support other people as well as using my privileges to help them in the best way possible. I feel honoured to be a part of this community because even though it has existed for only a short time, we have already been able to discuss and encourage change around our school and inspire lots of people, including myself. Being able to have so many great opportunities engaged me more with the current issues we face, not only as a school but as a society and I have expanded my knowledge and passion to influence change.



Blaine (WoH)

Having been subject to some form of oppression all my life, it's easy to say that I would never want anyone, even my worst enemy, to be in the situations that I have had to endure because of my sex, gender identity, sexuality or ethnicity. EDIB is an opportunity to educate people so that they feel more comfortable expressing themselves, together with making the environment of expression safe and understanding. This year has been crazy but I've always looked forward to improving my and others' knowledge. Since I'm not a person of colour myself, I have found it very useful to listen to the EDIB talks regarding people of colour and become more familiar with their issues and how I can help. I feel like we've made a great start this year and I can't wait for everyone in this school who is questioning themselves or their identity to be able to feel safe when expressing themselves at Clifton. You are seen, you are heard, we are here for you.

Scarlett and Isabelle (HLH)

We originally applied for EDIB because we wanted to be able to make a change in both Clifton and the wider community. We decided the best way to do this was to first educate ourselves and then others around us. Not only did we want to extend our knowledge but we also felt a sense of duty as two people with white privilege to use this wisely and not just sit back and let others do the hard work. The conversations we have had during EDIB sessions have allowed us to open our eyes to many different perspectives, highlighting how far we still have to go to be able to live in a world where everyone feels they belong. We have learnt that not only are the conversations we have during our meetings important, but the discussions we have outside are also key.

“EDIB sessions have allowed us to open our eyes to many different perspectives.”



Jacob (WaH)

When I first came to this school, I underwent a bit of a culture shock. A lot of terms didn't make sense to me and I unknowingly offended a few people, due to my lack of literacy on homosexuality, Judaism, feminism, Islam and gender fluidity. I believed that joining the EDIB Committee would be a great way to educate myself more on these topics.

As a person of colour from a place where I never had to worry

about racial discrimination, every missed opportunity I had or difficult situation I went through had me asking the question, "Is it because of my colour?". It helped me realise that I'm not alone and there are a vast majority of like-minded people in the school who have the same thoughts as I do.

I have had the wonderful opportunity to take part in the deep dive sessions, which helped me feel like my voice was heard and that I could actually make a change. I participated in

a video to educate and inform people about the role of the EDIB Committee. I was also able to help pupils in my own boarding House who came to me with racial issues or discrimination they were going through.

The Committee is full of strong, empowered, passionate people who are dedicated to making EDIB an integral part of the Clifton community. The potential of this is truly amazing and, with excellent guidance from Mrs Maringo, the only way from here is UP.



Cici (WoH)

The EDIB Committee is crucial when it comes to addressing issues around diversity and inequality in the Clifton community. I am fully aware of the importance of education to bring about change and achieve a more peaceful and inclusive society.

We have discussed current affairs such as the Black Lives Matter movement, the death of George Floyd and other tragic events. With the combination of students and staff, it provides opportunities for us to express our opinions thoroughly from different perspectives, expand our knowledge around the topics and better understand difficulties faced.

The changes within the school can be clearly spotted, with the help of the Committee and events it held such as Stepping Up. Great changes can be achieved with these small steps.

“The Committee is full of strong, empowered, passionate people who are dedicated to making EDIB an integral part of the Clifton community.”



Michelle (HH)

More than a learning experience, it has been a crazy ride to see the things around us change. And of course we have educated ourselves so much through the journey and explored and identified many things in our daily lives of which we were unaware. A platform like EDIB is a safe one where people can share their true opinion without being judged, and have an opportunity to express themselves. No matter what the topic of the meeting was, we always left with some useful knowledge. EDIB has changed the way I think, my attitude to sensitive topics and resulted in a lot of personal growth.



Joe (ET)

EDIB for me is all about growth, whether that be personal or for Clifton as a school. At first, I saw EDIB as a way to be a part of something I was passionate about and to see real change. Although change for the school is just around the corner, I have already experienced a large amount of personal growth through this committee. Having to acknowledge my own bias and prejudice was a hard thing to do, but once done it truly showed me how systematic the discrimination is within this country. EDIB has also allowed me to start to understand and relate to the problems that a lot of my close friends have to endure due to their skin colour or sexuality.



Sam (OH)

I believe that everyone deserves a chance to express themselves comfortably in their own skin. Diversity is such a beautiful thing. It's something worth embracing and celebrating as everyone is different and unique. It's what makes us who we are, and though there are many social injustices that come with that, we must battle things in unison at Clifton. My contributions to EDIB have been through participating in weekly meetings and initiatives, like Stepping Up Deep Dive, which has helped me gain more perspective and insight from inspirational speakers. I have written for the EDIB newsletter about my self-help book and my experience of public speaking in local schools around Macau,

as well as making an EDIB introduction video for Oakeley's House. I have also recently been given the pleasure of becoming an EDIB Student Reading Group leader.

I have learnt that being honest and open, to both fellow students and teachers is already a step forward in making progress. Being proactive in terms of change and having the mindset of a learner is one of the most important things in life, and so, I would like to say a massive thank you to Mrs Maringo for teaching us that and for helping the Clifton student body feel a sense of belonging. For me, EDIB has been a great way to feel heard, but most importantly, understood. I think this is what matters most.



Camilla (HH)

I joined EDIB not only to express my own opinions and values, but to better understand the feelings and opinions of others. I believe this is so important and EDIB allows us all to glimpse the other side of the coin and put ourselves in the position of others. I have enjoyed the EDIB meetings and discussions and feel like I now have better understanding and empathy.

Sports



Rugby

Though lockdown brought a unique challenge for all our pupils - could this be a chance to improve areas of rugby and conditioning upon which we had not spent much time focusing? - the situation in which we found ourselves gave those independently driven athletes time to shine, and those who struggle to self-motivate an opportunity to learn and develop a new skill. However, like most of us, without the matchday feel of a fixture or the competition of walking out on the Close against visiting schools, even the most independent minded may have felt a lack of motivation. Therefore, competition was needed: the chance to win, the chance to be the best against our local fixtures and those we rarely met on the field of battle! Welcome to the Inter-schools Lockdown Challenge!, a skills challenge set each week between schools from Yorkshire to Dorset, from Kent to Gloucestershire. Opponents talked of in the JCR but geographically unobtainable now became a reality in our new online existence. The opportunity for our pupils to show off their skills against the likes of Sedbergh, Dulwich, Millfield and Sherborne really got the competitive spirit going.

First up, Clifton's challenge, the 'rugby ball through the legs' challenge, with rugby pundit Dave Flatman kindly demonstrating. The uptake was massive, with winners for year groups and overall. Millfield won this round but not far away



was Moberly's Ellis Davies with a superb effort. Next up was Cheltenham's challenge, shown off by England wing Jonny May, keepy uppies...with a rugby ball! This time Clifton and North Town's Andy Small won at a canter with an unbelievable 77. The challenges went on over the weeks with England Rugby coaches and women's captains providing challenges for many lucky pupils who wanted to improve their skills and pit themselves against their peers at other schools.

Away from the skills challenges there was the chance for our pupils to work collaboratively on fitness challenges. The most collaborative of these brought



“Away from the skills challenges there was the chance for our pupils to work collaboratively on fitness challenges.”

Rugby



together the disciplines of rowing, cycling and running. However, just that on its own does sound pretty dull. So we decided we needed to break up the monotony of the stay at home orders. A day trip to see the sights in Paris sounded very enticing. However, with most unable to drive due to age and no driving tests allowed, by foot, bike and pedal we set off. Ten runners set off from a virtual Big Ben at 9 a.m. They each had to cover a tenth of the distance to Dover, and here they would hand over to our keen rowers who would cover 5km each - on Ergos - to reach the beaches of Northern France. Given that the date of this challenge fell on the weekend of Remembrance Sunday, visually imagining the landing on these beaches gave a strange sense of achievement. After a brief pause, the cyclists took us home to Paris, past the war cemetery of Tyne Cot. As the cyclist passed under our virtual Eiffel Tower, a real sense of togetherness was felt by all who took part. We were a school again, competing with a common goal. London to

Paris done, and all in under a cumulative 24 hours - what a day trip!

Though lockdown lifted for the start of the academic year, without the fixtures nothing can quite match a Saturday afternoon on the Close. However, House Rugby in a new format provided some great opportunities for pupils not only to show their physical prowess but, more importantly, their skills and integrity. Rugby X was the game lifted from Rugby League. A touch on the ball was the only way to halt the ensuing attacker, but honesty by the defender was key. Did he touch the ball? It took a while to get the rules and the honesty needed. However, the introduction of Mr Wagstaff as TMO, albeit with an iPad, gave the players something to think about when making a false call. The tournament built up in a series of round-robins over four weeks, then to a semi-final and lastly the grand final in the last week of term between the current champs, School House, and the new kids on the block,



Wiseman's. The game remained in the balance in the first half, but the second half proved too much for the old guard and Wiseman's deservedly pulled away to claim their first House Rugby title in a generation. Well done to all involved and especially Housemaster Mr José Janke, the Special One, for all his efforts behind the scenes and his belief and encouragement in the House to succeed in this event.

After such euphoria, and an expectation for the Lent Term that rugby would resume, the disappointment of another lockdown led us once again, and this time as a school, to take on the Summit Challenge: cycle or run as many vertical metres as you can. With each metre gained, eventually a summit on the globe was reached. Ben Nevis to Mount Elbrus, Kilimanjaro to Everest, Mont Blanc to that one in Australia that only Mr Callander could pronounce. As the weeks went on, the summits were ticked off. Dr Patrick took the lead from the start and was the only one to reach Everest. However, in the cycling, Ollie Rayner and Alistair Fletcher battled so hard against each other that their ascents took them out of this world to the highest peaks in our solar system, scaling Mount Olympus on Mars. Amazing feats by all and they looked great receiving their pink and white polka dot 'king of the mountains' hats. Well done to all involved.

In the Summer Term, the boys could finally look forward to pulling on the Clifton shirt and representing their year group for the first time. As the sun came out and temperatures rose, so rugby awoke again. At Clifton RFC, our U15 and U16 sides took on Millfield in a great spectacle of rugby, with our sides both coming out victorious. All the supporters loved seeing the boys back out playing the game on a balmy summer's evening. Away at Millfield, the seniors' result went to Millfield but, again, a fun crowd roared the boys on and much enjoyment was had. A week later, our U14s finally took to the field for the first time ever, and a pretty successful first hit out it was. All the boys played very well, winning the very first South West UR7s competition.

Finally, in the last week before half term, the seniors played their final match as a group, and the Upper Sixth for Clifton. A wonderfully spirited match saw our first match against Hartpury College. This was a big step



up for some, but was a great team to challenge ourselves against in this last match. The U16s also travelled the halfway location of Broadstreet RFC to play unfamiliar opposition in the form of Sedbergh and Whitgift. The three way competition proved a very tough run out for our boys and showed us the benchmark to which we must rise. The matches were very close and highly competitive and all agreed that this final run out as a year group was a perfect challenge upon which to end.

As the year ends, we look forward to normality (fingers crossed!) returning next term and the buzz and anticipation returning to the Close on Saturday afternoons. We thank all our Upper Sixth who have done so much for rugby at Clifton and look ahead to next year when those boots will be filled by the next generation of excited, passionate Clifton College rugby players.

Matt Salter
Director of Rugby



“The boys could finally look forward to pulling on the Clifton shirt and representing their year group.”

Hockey

Throughout the Michaelmas Term, the girls trained phenomenally well. On a weekly basis, there was always the prospect of a potential match down the line to maintain focus, motivation and competitiveness within each squad. We were very fortunate to get a few matches in amongst the chaos of a Covid-restricted term. Dominant wins against Marlborough, Taunton and Monkton at 1st XI, U16A and U14A provided the valuable matches to assess the girls' progress made during training. The girls' competitive edge was maintained through weighted mini matches and full-pitch squad games at the weekend with prizes for the winning sides. It was hoped that in the Lent Term national competitions may have happened but this was not to be. I cannot fault the effort levels, enthusiasm and positivity of all the pupils and staff. A lot of hard work has been put in on the pitch over a difficult year.

Y1 Futures Championships

The girls' 1st XI played in the Y1 Futures Cup throughout the Summer Term. This tournament provided a great opportunity to play a few matches following a season halted by Covid. The team consisted of players ranging from Years 8 to 13. In their first match, they played a talented Bristol University side. Clifton battled hard, with goals in the first half coming from Nuala Lixton, Tilly Edwards and Mia Rawlins. Unfortunately, fatigue set in and proved costly, allowing two goals in the last quarter, drawing 3-3.

Next up was a strong Millfield 1st XI side. Clifton started well, with Polly Pyke scoring a goal from a shuffle to lead 1-0. The game was end to end throughout, with Greer Barnes called into action on numerous occasions. Clifton looked like they would

hold off for a memorable win but unfortunately Millfield scored in the last four minutes of the game to finish 1-1. This was a phenomenal performance from the team, which was predominantly made up of Year 10s on the night.

In their third game, Clifton drew 2-2 against an experienced Taunton Vale side. A very slow start found Clifton 2-0 down at half time. However, a spirited second half with goals from Tilly Edwards and Scarlett Pearce-Lynch showed the gritty Clifton spirit that had been developing throughout the year.

The final group game proved to be the performance of the year against a Bath Bucs side loaded with youth internationals and seasoned premier league players. Despite going 2-0 down in the first half, the girls managed to claw their way back into the game with a shuffle scored by Mia Rawlins. Then, with three minutes on the clock, Clemmie Houlden, who was outstanding throughout, managed to win a shuffle, which she finished to bring the game to 2-2. With 60 seconds on the clock, Mia Rawlins ran the length of the pitch to then be fouled by the goalkeeper and won a penalty stroke. Clemmie Houlden held her nerve to win 3-2. It was a phenomenal underdog performance and one that will be remembered for many years to come.



Unfortunately, due to exams, we missed a few key personnel in the semi-final, losing 2-1 and 5-3 in the 3/4th place playoff. However, on reflection, to play that well with a variety of players from all age groups is something of which the girls should be very proud. There are exciting times ahead for Clifton hockey.

Stuart Loughrey
Director of Hockey

Boys' Hockey

Unfortunately, the boys' hockey term was reduced dramatically to two weeks of training due to the third lockdown. However, it was great to see so many pupils catching up on lost time, playing for their clubs throughout the Summer Term, most notably those playing for Clifton Robinsons who are, at the time of writing, on the cusp of reaching the National Finals.

“The girls’ competitive edge was maintained through weighted mini matches and full-pitch squad games at the weekend with prizes for the winning sides.”

Cricket

What a strange year for cricket.

It was back in June 2020 that the ECB announced that competitive club cricket could restart, though this was to be with very strict Covid guidance in place. Many Clifton pupils enjoyed a summer of cricket, but probably a season like no other before it. This meant that when the school returned in September, realistically, the only sport that could take place competitively and safely was cricket. So, for September, cricket became the focus of boys' sport. Block fixtures took place on Saturdays and, in a congested three week period, the 1st XI managed to cram in 10 competitive fixtures. This included playing Gloucestershire and Glamorgan Academy sides, the MCC and, on a Friday evening, a strong Old Cliftonian side. It was great for the pupils to experience some cricket, having lost the entire Summer Term in 2020.

The winter cricket programme took place virtually as normal. There were restricted numbers in indoor net sessions and social distancing still applied. But, for the most part, the school's cricketers got a healthy diet of cricket throughout the winter, in the hope that from April cricket could take place as normal.

Cricket did take place throughout the summer of 2021, but it still did not feel normal. In fact, many schools took the decision not to play any competitive cricket matches.

For the first time, the College entered the national under 17 competition, and it was a little disappointing that we were not able to progress past the quarter-final stage. At the time of writing, the under 16 squad are into the South West final against Sherborne.

The under 15 squad have also reached the South West finals and will compete against Bradfield today. The first 11 had a good season, winning nine of 13 games.

The girls' cricket side has done extremely well, the highpoint being a convincing win over Millfield, and they will now travel to North London for the national under 15 girls' finals in September (see p.89). Many thanks to Sarah Johnson who has worked tirelessly with the squad.

One positive that has come from the Covid pandemic is that we are intending to play some cricket in September. This is something that schools have talked about for some time and, with last September being such a success, I feel it is important to give it another go, albeit on a smaller scale.

Cricket remains in a very strong position at Clifton. There have been notable successes in all age groups and the quality of the cricket being played continues to impress. Most of the senior cricket is now live streamed, which has been fantastic when there have been restrictions placed on spectators. I hope that we will look back on this difficult time with cricket playing an important part in positively affecting the mental health of our pupils. Fingers crossed that we can now look forward to the possibility of a cricket tour early in 2022 and that the upcoming season will be largely unaffected. My thanks to all the staff who have contributed their knowledge and expertise to delivering a cricket programme at Clifton of which we can be very proud.

John Bobby
Director of Cricket



1st XI

It has been a very successful season for the 1st XI cricket squad. Before we get into the fabulous season we have had this year, a special thanks is required for Mr Bobby and Mr Williams as they have been able to provide a cricket season during times that made this task ever more challenging.

We started our season with a T20 Friendly against Cardiff Metropolitan University, where the team came flying out of lockdown, batting first and posting 212-4 from their 20 overs, with Ben Kellaway scoring 91 from 51 balls. Well done, Ben.

Our first Saturday fixture brought the side down to earth with a bump, as a very strong and well drilled Millfield side beat us by seven wickets, having bowled us out for 91. However, the XI showed great resilience as they came up against Taunton School in the opening fixture of the National T20 Competition, where a good team performance led to a more than convincing 75 run win, Will Naish being the star bowler, with figures of 4-27 from his four overs.

“Cricket remains in a very strong position at Clifton. There have been notable successes in all age groups and the quality of the cricket being played continues to impress.”

Cricket

We played Malvern College in a reduced 45 over game on the plateau, due to the Close being water-logged. The team came out on top in this fixture, with a six wicket win against a side who then went on to be T20 National Champions. A key mention for Shay Sainsbury who scored 73* from 68 balls in the chase, which proved to be the difference between the two sides.

The following week saw the 1st XI face Wellington School in the T20 competition, who are a very competitive side. Clifton batted first, posting what proved to be a very good score of 147 (Ollie Meadows, 86). Then came a very impressive display in the field, rolling Wellington for 46, with Ben Kellaway achieving figures of four overs 3-3 and a very tidy fielding performance. Unfortunately the Saturday fixture against King's College, Taunton was then cancelled following on from this win.

Up next was Sherborne where we lost the toss and were put into bat. Joe Phillips (63) and Ollie Meadows (82) worked hard through a tricky passage to produce a first wicket partnership of 158. This was then followed up by some very good ball striking from Will Naish (34 from 18) and Shay Sainsbury (32 from 15), and the team posted 232 from their 40 overs. In reply, Sherborne only managed 109 all out, Will Windows taking three wickets and the birth of Sam Brooks' viral catch behind the stumps!

We were again soundly beaten by Millfield in the T20 competition, losing by 10 wickets. June saw a very successful series of fixtures without a loss, with a four wicket win against SGS to finish the T20 campaign and another convincing victory against Cheltenham College with a 10 wicket win (Joe Phillips, 69*, Ben Kellaway, 5-26).



A quick mention to the Under 17 team, who are competing in the National Competition, and who successfully beat strong favourites King's College, Taunton by two wickets. Shay Sainsbury proved the difference again with a phenomenal 126 from 86 balls, hitting 15 fours and two sixes; it is a very rare occasion to beat King's and, therefore, shows the high quality of this innings from Shay.

Unfortunately, the back end of the season was hit with Covid isolation. Four of the squad who played in the victory against King's College tested positive for Covid and the entire squad (and Mr Bobby) spent the mandatory 10 days in quarantine. This meant that fixtures against Bromsgrove, Wellington School and the traditional two-day game against Rugby School had to be cancelled, meaning the end of the term's cricket was rather ruined. Very frustrating for those, like me, who were playing their final cricket



matches at Clifton. After a difficult period, there was only the game against the MCC in the final week of the term and the atmosphere was strangely 'flat' as the XI were convincingly beaten.

The 1st XI ended up winning nine of their 13 matches, a very successful season for a squad who showed their potential and will look to build on this next year. With only three of the side leaving, one would hope that there will be continued success in 2022. Thanks again to Mr Bobby and Mr Williams on behalf of the 1st XI squad.

Ollie Meadows
Captain of Cricket 2021



2nd XI

Even amidst a season truncated by inclement weather, the 2nd XI delivered some excellent individual and team performances. Having started the season with narrow defeats against Millfield and, in a final-ball thriller, Malvern, more dominant performances were seen in convincing victories over Taunton, Wellington and Sherborne.

Sami Hamid's fine century against Taunton was a highlight of the season and formed part of an unbroken first wicket stand of 195 with Joe Phillips. Meanwhile, Ash Lakhani and Ahmed Syed's century partnership on a tricky wicket at Sherborne set a platform for a resounding win. Joe Davies' fluent 58 in a losing cause at Malvern demonstrated clean hitting and positive intent.

Katie Dolman starred with the ball, leading the wickets chart, ably supported by fellow seamer Ethan Moss and captain Charlie Allan. Aaron Davies brought control and wickets in the middle overs with his off spin.

Will Nicholl

3rd XI

It is most likely that the majority of you have heard Mr Loughrey's name in conjunction with high performance hockey, including international honours. However, it may come as a surprise to you to find out that he, in fact, gives Andy Flower a run for his money when it comes to exquisite cricket team management. If I were you, Mr Williams, I'd watch out for your job!

With this in mind, it is no coincidence that the 3rd XI were rallied into fine form in preparation for the opening game against Millfield, which showed some great potential for the season to come, with a strong first innings total as a result of stable batting. That said, calculated hitting from the Millfield units saw them knock off the total with ease and lose a number of balls while doing so. What doesn't kill you makes you stronger, isn't that what they say? Clearly, this is true because the second game saw a convincing win over Malvern. It goes to show that you don't need fancy dress hats to be good at cricket, a fact they couldn't seem to understand.

“The thirds were victorious and could return home proud.”

Our luck was short-lived, with the two next games being cancelled on account of rain. However, it did save two long trips away and gave our Sixth Form contingent two free Saturday afternoons, much to their delight. After these rain soaked weekends, some more cricket was eventually played down in the depths of Somerset against Sherborne. Without a pond in sight, our top order still managed to find ducks from all angles, with three of our top four falling without scoring. This led to us being 7-4 and in a state of crisis. But when things get tough, the brave prevail. The Gladiator Joe stepped up, scoring a sublime 50, which was concluded by a reverse sweep off their most dangerous fast bowler, which brought up the half ton. With the wicket not much drier than the sodden Close, our bowlers, led by Ned Blench and Will Stoodley,

capitalised with tidy, controlled bowling. This calculated attack led to a lacklustre run chase from Sherborne, concluding in a blinding wicket from the one and only skipper, Max Hanson, on debut. The thirds were victorious and could return home proud.

After half term, the honourable thirds were back in action after a refreshing break. However, before the bus had even departed for Cheltenham, contention was high regarding selection, the most controversial headline being Ellis Davies' withdrawal from the side in light of a 1st XI call up. This led to an official press statement being released:

Dear brothers,

Last time I left you, I told you it would be the last time. I told you I wouldn't leave my brothers even if an IPL team came calling.

Cricket

I'm therefore sorry to announce that I've accepted the call up to bat 11 and not bowl for the 1st XI tomorrow.

Go well, chaps.

In addition to the absence of our captain, we were left without a coach with Mr Loughrey unavailable due to hockey commitments, thus shedding doubt on the fixture. After an hour-long bus ride to Cheltenham, we arrived enthusiastic for the task ahead. Having lost the toss, we were sent into the field. This could only spur us on as we drafted plans to outwit their batsmen and set fields. We started by undertaking calculated bowling from our quick Alex Warren and nifty variations from Zach Leonard. This strong start was then continued by our first change, which included a valuable three for by Ned McKinlay. There was also a wonderful full length grab by Zach Leonard at catching cover to dismiss their fourth batsman. A preemptive catch was also taken at backward point by Max off a reverse sweep. This meant that we only had to chase 110 off 25 overs. Despite Joe being dismissed cheaply, Zaki made a wonderful 60*, which steadied the rocking 3rd team ship. Harrison Tate went swimming in the beautiful pond of golden ducks, allowing Tom to score a cheeky 33*, which secured the third game with 15 overs. A class eight-wicket victory from the boys.

The third team ceiling is infinite. When you have conquered so many South West public schools, where can you go from there? What is the final frontier? There is a simple answer to this complicated question...to conquer the Close. The thirds arranged an exhibition declaration match against, none other than, the staff XI. This staff team would include international sportsmen,

professional rugby players and Mr Harris' ribs. Having won the toss, the thirds decided to field. Mr Loughrey and Mr Salter came out, and subsequently got out, due to class bowling. The staff team were completely outwitted by the attack, which saw many batsmen dismissed cheaply. A fine 49* from Mr Wagstaff meant that a very defendable total was posed. A mention must also go to Mr Nicholl for his thoughtful captaincy as he signalled declaration while Mr Wagstaff was on such a score. The 3rd XI, led by Max from the front, were characteristically slow to start the innings with a lack of long-term stability in the top order thanks to Mr Catchpole's safe hands. The stage was set for a dramatic and emphatic staff win, much to the embarrassment of the thirds. Enter Sonny and Sammy, a very valuable partnership between the two batsmen meant that the pressure was released, for a moment. Some huge hitting from Zach also steadied the ship. However, at the end of the day, a less than par bowling innings saw us with too much to chase, and the staff managed to win. Hopefully next year the story will be different. We would like to thank Mr Williams again for helping us to organise this inaugural Staff vs 3rd XI match on this hallowed turf.

What is a team without its coach? In the case of the 3rd XI, absolutely nothing. On behalf of the whole squad, we would like to thank Mr Loughrey and Mr Salter for their work throughout the season and we hope they have enjoyed it as much as we have. Bring on next year!

Go well, Max's Army

"Boys, what we do in life echoes in eternity"

Tom Murray, Max Hanson and Ellis Davies



U17A

With a strong group of cricketers in both Years 11 and 12, Clifton entered the National under 17, 35 over competition for the first time. The first game was played on the Close against Queen's, Taunton. Clifton batted aggressively and put together an impressive total of 299 for five, Joe Phillips scoring an impressive 110, and Jack Goodwin scoring 50 of 30 balls, certainly a dominant display with the bat. Queen's offered little resistance and were comprehensively bowled out for just 77 with Windows and Goodwin being the pick of the bowlers.

The second round of the competition saw Clifton making the lengthy journey to Winchester College. Once again, Clifton were able to bat first and a total of 233 always looked like it would be a winning score. Winchester's reply stuttered from an early point when both openers ran themselves out, the innings never really recovering and Winchester bowled out for 129.

After a lengthy break in fixtures, largely due to the weather, the South West decider took place at Clifton in mid-June, the opposition being King's College, Taunton. This undoubtedly became the match of the season. On what looked to be an excellent batting surface, King's won the toss and elected to bat first, amassing a total of 229 for six. With Clifton struggling at 93 for four, Shay Sainsbury produced an innings that will live long in the memory of those who witnessed it. He was eventually out at the end of the penultimate over for 126, leaving Clifton in need of five from the final over. Sam Brooks held his nerve and Clifton crossed the line with two balls to spare.

The quarter-final meant a trip to St Edward's School in Oxford and it would be fair to say that the side will be hugely disappointed for not taking the opportunity to progress further in this competition, losing by 16 runs.

Running an under 17 Side has been hugely positive and it is certainly a competition that Clifton will continue to enter in the future.

John Bobby

U16A

It was a late decision from the ECB to run the cancelled U15 National competition as an U16 competition in 2021. This competition is for all schools who win their County U14 competition in the previous season.

It took an age to get the first game played as weather affected the early part of the competition. Eventually, a comfortable win over Ysgol Glantaf at St Fagans Cricket Club meant that we could play Cheltenham College as part of the block fixture on a Saturday. Clifton batted first and put together what looked to be a good total of 233-6, with major contributions being made by Ahmed Syed (70) and Aaron Davies (72). Cheltenham never really threatened Clifton's total, falling short by 33 runs. The U16 SW final is due to be played at Clifton against Sherborne in September.

John Bobby

U15A

The team's results have been excellent this season. They played 12, won 10 and lost two. On tour to Oxford, they played four, won one and lost three. There have been many highlights, in particular very hard won victories over King's Taunton, Marlborough and Kingswood, who the U15A beat in the final of the Lord's Taverners Trophy. As pleasing as the results have been, there is also much to celebrate in the individual improvement achieved by all of the team over the season; spirit, determination, enthusiasm, and loyalty to the cause never flagged.

The example set by Jonny Sadler (captain) and Will Faulkner (vice-captain) has also been very high. Jonny has had a fantastic season with bat, gloves and his fielding placings, bowling changes and encouragement to his teammates. Will has bowled quick in a lot of spells and has

“Shay Sainsbury produced an innings that will live long in the memory of those who witnessed it.”

had batsmen hopping around the crease. He is a tidy fielder with a strong arm and a fine batsman. Fin Fielder has been devastating with the bat on many occasions, with his quick hands and hard hitting, scoring two hundreds. His fielding and catching in the deep have also been first class. Arran Sen and Elliott Watkins have been game changers as well. Arran's bowling against Cheltenham and Royal Grammar Worcester turned the match and he has batted well

all season. Elliott's catching and fielding has been electric and outstanding. He's been a brilliant point fielder and his batting has won us games. Archie Symonds and George Millett stand a very good chance of being excellent batsmen and they have scored vital runs for the team, whilst Felix Willis, Finn Ellis and Oli Hambley have all made huge and valuable contributions to our season.

Reggie Williams



Cricket



U15B

The U15B cricket side has enjoyed a good season in terms of performance throughout the term. We have bowled some magic balls, hit some great shots and taken some fine catches. At times, consistency of performance has been an issue related to complacency in our attitude to cricket basics. Over the term, this issue has been addressed by some fine captaincy and better application to training and matches. Emily Murray and Greer Barnes joining the group has been a great initiative and I sense that all have benefitted from this arrangement.

We have beaten Cheltenham away for the first time in many years, with a superb display, come close to beating Millfield

away, and have given sides like King's, Taunton and Malvern cricketing lessons. The only school side who were much better than us was Marlborough, who played near their best whilst we were way below par. Against RGS Worcester in the final game of the term, we were beaten by a side who applied themselves better than we did on the day.

Batting-wise, Taiki Faustino, Greer Barnes, Ben Byas, Ethan Strong, Alex Lind, Emily Murray, and Max Gillings have all played some fine innings. The one target for each would be to develop a more rounded style of batting, of knowing which balls to attack and defend with improving footwork. Bowling from Papa Obeng has been quick and aggressive. Andy Small, Elliot Marsh, Oli Russell

and Ben Byas have bowled some super spells. Greer Barnes and Emily Murray have been excellent bowlers with consistency, and any absence from them has been notable for this reason. Oscar Green has been a fine keeper, improving week on week.

The fielding, which has summarised this group, has been a little up and down but when in the mood we have been athletic, aggressive and lively. Superb catches from Ben Byas, Oscar Green, Elliot Marsh and others will live long in the memory. I hope this group will keep playing and remember the highs more than the lows.

Jay Gardner

U15C

Whilst the season was not full of victories and cricket played with a straight bat, the boys have all enjoyed themselves and made our approach to training good fun. Many of the team have lots of potential and if they can find a little more discipline then, at the right level, they could learn to really enjoy their cricket. At times, the concentration was a little lacking, which maybe meant the boys didn't always play their best cricket, but a tie against the U14A girls' cricket team from Malvern must have been the match of the season. It was played in a wonderful manner fitting of cricket itself and Clifton College! Well done to all who played.

Nick Luker



U14A

Beginning the season with a disappointing mixture of three defeats and two cancellations, the U14A team displayed admirable resilience and a consistent desire to improve in all facets of the game. Following a three run defeat against city rivals Bristol Grammar School in the County Cup Semi-Final, the group came together at training and demonstrated a renewed focus under the leadership of co-captains Bea Willis and Zaman Shafi.

The side's first win of the season was achieved against Sherborne, as we travelled away for the fixture and finished the match ahead by 56 runs. Jamie Brooks was player of the match with a brilliant individual performance. He scored 33 runs to stabilise the innings after an early batting collapse, and then went on to take an impressive five-wicket haul.

The end of the season saw the U14As claim two further convincing victories, beating Cheltenham College by seven wickets and RGS Worcester by nine wickets. The latter match rounded off the season and will be remembered for the remarkable opening partnership between Teddy Hallett and Zain Syed who both scored 50s. A particular mention must go to Zaman Shafi who was unwavering with the gloves all season, claiming three stumpings and a catch in a single match.

Well done to the entire team on a very enjoyable season of cricket. There is an astonishing breadth of talent within this year group and they will be an exciting side to watch as they continue to develop and gel as a team.

Charlie Callander

U14B

With little to no cricket having been played in the summer of 2020, many of the Third Form hadn't played a match in two years. In early training sessions, a strong bond was quickly forged and their team spirit grew week-on-week. Frustrated by a term of rain and Covid-cancelled matches, the U14Bs made the most of this season, with excellent commitment and contributions from all players. However, among the impressive cricketing efforts, sledging efforts sometimes outperformed batting and bowling performances...

Next year, as the U15B team, they should be targeting victories against Millfield School and Marlborough College (their only losses this summer). Notable mentions and batting highlights of the seasons go to: Adam Davison for his captaincy and carrying his bat against Cheltenham College while scoring 68*, and to Ollie Taylor for carrying his bat against RGS Worcester and scoring a formidable 110*.

Among the challenging matches and testing conditions of this term, the team showed great sportsmanship and camaraderie throughout the season. Their approach and attitude to training made them a real pleasure to coach. Well done, and thanks.

Patrick Jones

U14C

The U14Cs showed great promise in training and were it not for a challenging term as determined by missed fixtures (owing to a global pandemic!), I believe that this promise would have been realised on a number of counts. As it was, the mighty Cs came face-to-face with some cricketing powerhouses whose school cricket ran as deep as our own and were unfortunate not to log a 'W' for the season.

However, the SOCS results only tell half of the story! The other half lay in the enthusiasm, dedication and all round affability and determination shown consistently by the team to improve (and enjoy!) their cricket. We observed some wonderful knocks, Josh Hogwood showing a savvy and considered batsman's craft before a damaged rib truncated his season; some wonderful bowling from the whole attack, be it Nick Calascione's flight and guile, Edmund Hogg's skiddily effective medium pace or Edd Hartley's 'trick up the sleeve' second-change bowling.

Katie and Fergus as leadership team showed nous, maturity and encouragement, at times perfectly dovetailing the good cop/bad cop approach (I will not say which was which!) to great effect. Excellent contributions from Paul Finlay (boy can bat! Great knock for the Bs too), Joe White (when he believes he delivers!), Mason Ellis (number 6 extraordinaire), Alfie Kerry (n'er one to exemplify team spirit better), Ian Gazi (team spirit and the rising talent), Alex Ayers (great contribution with the Duke), Archie Allan (all rounder - but stop hoodwinking me in practice, please!), Francis Allen (Gloveman and the friendliest sledger ever), Callum Davies (all round morale booster!), Billy Rowe (changed to the tennis train), and a glut of B-teamers desperate to be part of one of the nicest teams one could hope to coach.

Each of the team I would encourage to continue with their cricket throughout the school because it was a pleasure taking you this year and each of you has shown great progress and potential.

Dom Harris

“It was played in a wonderful manner fitting of cricket itself and Clifton College!”

Girls' Cricket

U18A

The girls' U18 cricket team entered the new 100 Cup, with a first match draw against Bristol Grammar School. We were blessed with fabulous weather and New Field looked splendid in the full sunshine. We opted to bat first and Katie Dolman and Bea Willis were the opening pair. There was some fine batting on display, with Katie securing a number of boundaries to help her achieve her total of 35, and with Bea scoring 19 and Greer Barnes scoring 14, all helping to achieve their total of 165. Some extremely impressive bowling prevailed with Katie and Greer opening, Greer dismissing their number 2 batter for no runs. This clinical bowling, combined with dominating batting, convincingly took them through to the next round of the competition.

In the second round, the girls faced a home draw against Truro - despite the assurances of the weather forecast, the girls were sadly only able to play the first innings. Clifton batted first with Katie Dolman scoring 25. She was accompanied at the crease with solid performances by Bea Willis and Emily Murray before Greer Barnes and Grace Harwood notched up some important runs in the closing overs. With the outfield being so wet, boundaries were more challenging to achieve so the girls ran well and capitalised purposefully on difficult fielding conditions. An encouraging 91 was scored and then the heavens opened, meaning that we had to abandon the game. With the game needing to be decided that day, we opted for a bowl off, never an easy ask - huge congratulations to Bea Willis and Katie Dolman for taking the overs, however, the girls narrowly lost out by one wicket, a frustrating end to the competition!



U15A

Little did we know that the exciting first match of the season away to Marlborough would be our only friendly match of the season, with many schools pulling out due to Covid or rain stopping play. However, a cracking match prevailed, and it was great to welcome some new players in Year 9 (Bea Willis, Josie Wong and Katie Rayner, along with Megan Cook in Year 10) to the team. Jemima Thefaut kept wicket brilliantly for her debut game as keeper. Special thanks to Nina Nissim and Tilly Edwards for stepping in at the last minute, with Nina taking an exceptional catch. Marlborough scored 99, with wickets from Georgie Simpson, Megan Cook, Bea Willis, Josie Wong, Grace

Harwood and Greer Barnes. After an early wicket, a steady and important partnership developed between Emily and Josie, enabling the team to settle, whilst putting some solid valuable runs on the board. At the midway point, knowing we needed to up the run rate, Greer and Grace capitalised on many quick singles, making Marlborough's total a real possibility to reach. With many wickets left to spare, running between the wickets was not for the faint-hearted. With many sacrificial wickets in order to reach the total and with four runs to win off the last ball, it was a tall order: two scored and the girls lost by one run. A cracking team performance, with very much a focus on participation; everyone who

wanted to bowl was able to do so. This was a great first game, and a good warm up for the U15 National Schools' Cup first round tournament.

Clifton hosted the first round of the Cup, inviting the three teams in their pool to play at Beggar Bush. There was plenty of cricket to be played in the T20 competition. The girls began against Wycliffe College, only their second match as a team and they played with conviction, resulting in a convincing win. The second match against Denmark Road looked to be more of a challenge, but an early wicket by Grace Harwood (one of two for her), followed by some impressive bowling from Taylor Hodgson, who took four, proved to be their swift downfall. Emily

Murray and Bea Willis achieved the opposition's score of 78 without loss. The final match of the day sealed the girls' passage into the next round, with Bea Willis scoring 59 not out, the girls totalled 149-4. With some more tight bowling and active fielding, Cheltenham Ladies' College scored 62-9.



The girls played St Helen and St Katherine's in the last 16 in blazing hot sunshine on the plateau. We opted to bat first; strong performances from Josie Wong (32), Bea Willis (63) and Greer Barnes (22) helped Clifton achieve a mighty 158. What followed was an impressive bowling display, notably Bea Willis taking four wickets and Bella Herring taking two to dismiss them for 68.

So to Millfield in the next round. We knew that we had beaten some tough opposition to get to this point so we were hopeful for an exciting game and it did not disappoint! Millfield opted to field first and Emily Murray and Bea Willis opened the batting, a steady start with several boundaries found by both. After a great catch, Greer Barnes replaced Emily Murray and another strong partnership ensued. Bea Willis was eventually bowled for 56 and Grace Harwood and Greer Barnes continued not out for 26 and 26 respectively. The girls scored a magnificent 169. A quite remarkable bowling display followed, with the more junior members of the team stepping up and putting in phenomenal performances. Taylor Hodgson bowled exceptionally with five wickets falling in her overs. Sophie Murray and Greer Barnes both bowled tight spells and wicket keeper Grace Harwood took a wonderful catch at full stretch. The final wicket saw Katie Rayner bowling out the last batter with the total on 107 with three overs to spare.

After the summer break, we headed off to Merchant Taylors' School for the National Schools Sports Finals Day. The weather was glorious and the talent and skill on display from all teams was impressive. The day began by playing Shrewsbury School in the semi final; batting first, we managed to score 182 with some impressive batting partnerships which saw Bea Willis scoring 80 not out and Greer Barnes 57 not out, ending up with a total of 186. We knew that we would have to match this fabulous start with some tight bowling and committed fielding and this is exactly what prevailed. Notable highlights from the second innings were Sophie Murray's three wickets for 16 and three impressive

caught and bowled balls by Grace Harwood, Katie Rayner and Georgie Simpson. There were some real feats of brilliance in the field with some skilful catches by Josie Wong and Bea Willis, with the girls dismissing Shrewsbury for 110 all out. The girls secured their place in the afternoon final against Ipswich School. Having lost the toss, we batted first. Ipswich displayed some clinical bowling from their opening bowlers, dismissing us one by one. Unfortunately we just could not find our flow, but Bea Willis managed to score 28 runs, helping us to a total of 72. It was a tall order, and we knew that our bowling and fielding needed to be seamless (no pun intended!). There was some strong batting from

the Ipswich openers, finding boundaries and taking their opportunities to run. Sophie Murray and Taylor Hodgson gave us rejuvenated hope after they dismissed their opening batter and second and third in quick succession. However, we found ourselves running out of wriggle room and we just did not have enough runs on the board to pull the score back. The team should feel hugely proud of their achievements as this was history in the making: the first time the girls' team have competed in a national competition in cricket, and the first cricket team ever in Clifton's history to secure second in the country since national cricket competitions began. So now, the adventure begins!

Sarah Johnson



Football



The year started off promisingly with the usual Development Football programme running throughout the Michaelmas Term. There were fewer game-limiting restrictions placed on football than many other sports, meaning that training sessions and matches were able to be conducted in a fairly similar manner to a regular year. This was certainly well received by students who trained hard and approached training matches competitively, making the most of the opportunity to further develop their football skills and to put them into practice during internal matches.

Several matches against other schools had been arranged for the second half of the Michaelmas Term but these were all called off due to the November lockdown. However, there was one match in October against Taunton which was able to go ahead, with the Clifton College Development 1st and 2nd XIs in action. Unfortunately,

on the eve of the fixture, a Covid outbreak in one of the boarding Houses led to nine players across the two teams being unable to play. It would be rather presumptuous to assume that this would have changed the outcome of the fixtures, but it certainly weakened both squads and didn't help our chances of victory. Despite the last-minute Covid-related chaos, we still managed to field two teams and the boys played with real heart and determination against two strong, well-drilled Taunton teams. The Development 1st XI lost 5-1 to an impressive Taunton 1st XI, though the scoreline suggests a more one-sided affair than was the case. After an evenly-matched first half, it was 2-1 to Taunton at half time, but Taunton upped their game in the second half, scoring a flurry of late goals to seal a convincing win. In the other fixture, the Clifton Development 2nd XI lost 4-1 to Taunton's 2nd XI, with Harrison Tate scoring Clifton's



only goal, although he would have had two more were it not for the offside flag.

After what had been a more active than usual term of football, anticipation was high coming into the Lent Term, which was packed full of external fixtures. As we all know though, it turned out to

be a complete non-event with regards to team sport, with none of the planned fixtures able to go ahead due to the lockdown, which lasted for much of the term.

Thankfully, the Summer Term afforded the opportunity to restart Rec Football, which was popular with students as it allowed them to have a more casual kickaround and stretch their legs on the pitch after several months in which this hadn't been possible. The highlight of the term was definitely the Boarders vs Day students exhibition match. Each team had a manager/captain who put together the strongest squad they could muster. The game went ahead on a sunny Thursday near the end of term. It certainly was a game of two halves; the Day XI stormed into a 4-1 lead at half time as their midfield caused havoc in the middle of the pitch, with Chris Packer largely spearheading the charge and some clinical finishing from Isaac Campbell-Wu. The goal of the half was from Demo Otuyalo, who managed to get in between two defenders and show great athleticism to thump a diving header into the back of the net from six yards.

In the second half, the Boarders XI rejigged their formation and this paid off as they were able to gain more influence in midfield, scoring two goals to make it 4-3. A glorious comeback seemed on the cards and wild celebrations ensued when a late equaliser was scored, but these were, unfortunately for the boarders' team, short-lived as the flag was up for offside. 4-3 was the final result in an enthralling, highly competitive match between two very strong squads. A positive and encouraging end to what had been a disappointing year for football and both teams should be commended for their tenacity, perseverance and sportsmanship.

Despite the limitations caused by the pandemic, the boys applied themselves admirably throughout the year and can now hopefully look forward to a more 'normal' year of football and a return to a busy schedule of external fixtures.

Liam Bull



“Despite the limitations caused by the pandemic, the boys applied themselves admirably throughout the year.”

Netball

During the Michaelmas Term, our 1st Netball team trained extremely hard every week to develop their team cohesiveness after what seemed like a long break from netball, due to Covid.

Early on in the term, we saw the appointment of our two outstanding and well deserving co-captains, Steph Armour and Tanisha Johnson. Both have been exceptional role models for their younger peers and teammates throughout their time at Clifton. Their commitment, skill and positive attitude never wavered and it was a delight to watch them in action. Steph was also awarded the girls' Year 13 Clifton College Sports Prize. This award recognises the best all-rounder of the year group. There is no doubt, with Steph's sporting contributions and playing in the first netball and hockey teams, that she has been an invaluable asset to Clifton College's sports programme. Congratulations, Steph!

Though, during the Lent Term, netball fixtures were unable to take place due to restrictions and remote learning, the College was still able to celebrate netball success. Scarlett Pearce-Lynch was named in the U17 Severn 7-Stars squad. This is an incredibly well deserved accolade, of which the College community is very proud - well done, Scarlett!

When it came to the Summer Term, it was clear that our girls were itching to play.



Unfortunately, due to restrictions, we could not manage any external fixtures. So, instead, the girls were able to play three final games against the newly formed Clifton College Boys' 1st IV netball team. In the first match, the girls demonstrated that although they hadn't played much as a team over the last 18 months, they still had the skills and natural ability to win with ease, and won by nine points. The second match saw the boys win by one in the dying seconds of the game, in an absolute thriller. This win was largely due to Jerry Fang's goal shooting dominance and Shay Sainsbury's defensive efforts. However, in the final match of the summer series, when the sun was shining and the crowds gathered on the Close to watch, our girls rallied to out-perform the boys and win by seven points.

This game was a fantastic way to say goodbye, with all seven netball leavers on the court in the final quarter: Tanisha Johnson, Steph Armour, Maddie Ley-Morgan, Aimee Stolworthy, Flora McHattie, Scarlett Pearce-Lynch and Olivia Ruigrok. These girls have contributed so much to netball at Clifton; it will be hard to replace them and they will be greatly missed. Along with saying goodbye to these



marvellous players, we also said farewell to our first team coach, Mrs Phillipa Hicks. Mrs Hicks is leaving Clifton after two years, to work for England Netball, a well deserved appointment. Her expertise, kind nature and her comprehensive drills will be immensely hard to replace. We thank Mrs Hicks for her efforts and dedication to sport at Clifton.

Here's hoping the next academic year is much kinder to the netballers and that we can continue our dominance on the court. We look forward to county netball, the U17 World School Games tournament and proper Saturday block fixtures

Claire McCormack

Sailing

It has been an unusual and, at times, frustrating year for the sailing squad at Clifton.

The year started with the arrival of four new RS Feva dinghies, which, being smaller than our older Fireflies, have allowed younger pupils to experience the sport. This has led to the creation of a junior sailing squad, a committed group of eight pupils in Years 9 and 10 who have been training hard all year with the aim of competing in national regattas. This acquisition has also allowed sailing to take place for Year 8 pupils in the Prep School.

The highlights for the junior squad were the RS Feva National Inland Championships and the British Schools Dinghy Racing Association's National Finals, which both took place in the Summer Term. At the Inland Championships, Olivia Horwood and Shiloh Chan were the top placed Clifton boat, finishing in 28th position overall, with two races finishing in the top 20 - a promising result for sailors taking part in their first National Championships. At the BSDRA

National Finals, the team of Emily Inch, Maddy Hamies, Millie Palmer and Hector McKinlay had their first taste of team racing against the best young teams in the country. The highlight of the regatta was a great win against eventual runners up Rutland Sailing Club, with Clifton going on to finish in eighth place. Again, this was a good result for a young and inexperienced team.

The senior sailors continue to enjoy their time on the water and, despite missing many of the usual regattas and fixtures of the year, have worked hard in training whenever possible. Competitions did finally restart in the Summer Term, and the squad were busy making up for lost time, with events most weekends. This started with a fourth place at the BSDRA Western Region Championship, which meant that the team qualified for the National Finals at the start of the summer holidays. Next up was the Wilton Shield, an annual fixture against local rivals Sherborne. Standout performances from Oscar Nunes and Albert Gillmore allowed the 1st team to secure a convincing 4-1 win. The 2nd team narrowly lost their fixture, resulting in a winner-takes-all one on one match race (the equivalent



of a penalty shootout!). Unfortunately, this went to Sherborne's way and so they kept the shield this year. The 1st team then participated in Bristol University's regatta at Chew Valley, which gave the sailors an opportunity to race against older and more experienced teams. With very windy conditions added to the mix, it was certainly a challenging regatta that pushed all sailors to their limits and provided a valuable learning experience. The next test was the BSDRA Thames Valley Regatta, where Clifton had some good wins against Magdalen College School and Sevenoaks to finish in a respectable sixth place.

The year culminated with the BSDRA National Finals at the start of the summer holidays. Due to Covid travel restrictions and other commitments, many of the normal 1st team sailors

were unable to take part in the regatta, meaning that several younger sailors took their place and had their first taste of a National Championship level competition. Sonny Taylor, in particular, rose to the occasion and had some promising performances, including a strong win against Ryde School. The young Clifton team struggled against the top teams in the country, and finished in 18th position overall, but with encouraging signs for the future.

With so many events being cancelled, and with sailing not able to take place over the winter, it has been a frustrating year in many ways for the sailing squad. However, it has been great to see the pupils' enthusiasm and enjoyment for getting out on the water despite the ever-changing circumstances. Thank you to all the members of staff who give up their time to help give the pupils this opportunity, particularly to Mr Richmond, Mr Lewis and Ms Duffy, who have spent many a wet and windy afternoon out on Chew Valley Lake. Here's to a fresh start, and hopefully a more normal racing season next year.

Jim Rosser



Tennis



What a fabulous Summer Term of tennis. Aply assisted by my team of dedicated staff, we managed to cater for 190+ Upper School pupils playing tennis every Games afternoon.

From the first team through to the development players, every pupil was encouraged to have fun, learn and progress. With block fixtures every Saturday afternoon, we saw the introduction of triangular competitions against two schools playing in a FAST4 format and even mixed fixtures where a boys' and girls' doubles took place, followed by a couple of mixed matches. All were played in a really competitive

spirit and it was so good to see tennis being played in a multitude of formats. Tennis is a sport which allows boys and girls to mix and train together equally and there simply is nothing better than seeing all 34 tennis courts being used, in full flow at BB and school on a sunny afternoon. A special mention goes to Mrs Hicks who gave everything she had to the development players to ensure that every pupil had the opportunity to play and even progress to a school team should they wish.

On Saturday, 15th May, our cancelled fixture made way for two ex-Davis Cup players to come to Clifton to deliver a doubles masterclass. Danny Sapsford (Manager at the Bright Ideas for Tennis charity) and James Auckland gave their all to enable the pupils to believe in themselves further and realise that tennis is to be played at high intensity whether you are hitting the ball or not! In the autumn, Clifton College will be attending a 24-hour tennis-

athon at the National Tennis Centre in Roehampton. We will have a two-hour slot to play amongst some other Davis and Fed Cup players.

Finally, thank you to all our tennis players this term, for their commitment, desire to win, resilience and dedication and to all the staff who made all of this happen so smoothly for the pupils.

Kerris Wagstaff
Director of Tennis

Senior Boys

Some really difficult decisions had to be made this summer with team choices. Though it was great to have so many competent and eager tennis players all wanting a place on a team, some players were obviously slightly disappointed not to be chosen for the first match of the season against Sherborne. However, with matches every weekend, nearly every senior played at least

“All matches were played in a really competitive spirit.”

one match. Overall, the boys had a good success rate, with Tom Rayson, Ollie Hunter, Seb Haddon and Harry Cox winning most matches they played using completely different playing styles. Sadly, in the National Glanville Cup, the boys came up against the Bath Uni academy players of Prior Park. Kyle Broadley, Halbie Wagstaff, Tom Rayson, Ollie Hunter and Harry Cox fell a bit short of the men they were playing despite Tom and Ollie winning their doubles.

Clifton fielded two boys' teams into the Avon Schools Senior Team event this year at which our boys' first team lost to the eventual winners, Beechen Cliff, in the semi-finals on a championship shootout. Tom Rayson, Ollie Hunter, Harry Cox, Matthew Simms, Max Hunter, Fraser Davis and Simon Koupparis all competed strongly for Clifton in the Avon Schools competition. It was an amazing summer of watching these boys commit and develop themselves, boys taking up the sport for the first time and, yet, they are naturals at it. To see the progress being made gives us so much hope for the future.

Charlie Graveney

U15 Boys

While schools across the country were still complaining about the rust that had accumulated in the shoulders of their tennis players after two years away from the court, Clifton's Under 15s came out swinging and annihilated the opposition. Ably led by Milo Lucas and assisted by Halbie Wagstaff, the A team ground out a first win against Sherborne, a team steeped in talent but ultimately no match. Wins followed against Bromsgrove, QEH and Beechen Cliff, with Toby Denner's ferocity at the net, Maksim Hakobyan's metronomic groundstrokes, and Archie Campbell's mind-boggling spin helping to sweep them aside.

While a loss against Marlborough left a sour taste, the team, including the passionate Mikayel Hakobyan, left with their heads held high after sticking to their principles of honesty, integrity and sportsmanship. All will be exciting players in the Seniors in the next year or two.

Stephen Cross

U14 Boys

After a long intermission, the U14 boys were itching to get onto the tennis courts in order to start carving their Upper School tennis careers. There were some competitive fixtures played against Sherborne, Bromsgrove, Marlborough and QEH but, even when the going got tough, the enthusiasm and determination of the players never waned. The U14 teams consisted of: Junsei Yasuda, Henry Wilikinson, Alex Phelps, Arthur Haines, Toby Young, Freddie Richmond, Luca and Zach Arver, Ben Russ, Felix Gittins, Artem Reyson, Edmund Harding, Billy Rowe and Milo Lankester. It has been a pleasure to watch this young and keen generation of tennis players develop over the past term; I look forward to seeing them progress further as they work their way up the Upper School team sheets.

Max Ernest-Jones

Senior Girls

It was an honour to see so many girls wanting to play tennis this summer; Clifton could have easily fielded five teams. Our captains, Katya Saint and Noa Gispán, led the way in so many of the fixtures, but the outstanding moment was when playing a triangular against Cheltenham Ladies' and QEH. The bus was due to leave very shortly and yet their match had yet to begin against QEH. In 15 minutes, Katya and Noa beat their poor opposition 4-0, 4-0 without taking the time to



breathe! Other outstanding moments were Sophie Manson and Jessie Auty being called up to the seconds and winning every match, dropping about three games, and Giulia Cimmino and Georgia Culley finishing runners up in the Avon School Senior Team event. A brilliant fixture in the Aberdare Cup saw Katya, Giulia, Noa and Georgia take on the Bath Uni Academy players from Prior Park. Being so close to causing a big upset, the girls fought their way into multiple tie-breaks, but, sadly, they were just pipped to the post by girls who play competitively every week of their lives.

A really special mention has to go to Ella Koupparis who as a Year 13 attended every Games session and played in every school match asked of her without any hesitation despite examinations taking place. A fabulous summer of tennis - thank you for all your hard work, girls.

Kerris Wagstaff

Tennis



U15 Girls

After waiting two years to represent the school in tennis, our U15 girls' team did not disappoint in their first outing on the Clifton College tennis courts. The strength and depth of talent in this year group was displayed in their very first match, a resounding victory for the A, B and C team against Sherborne, setting the tone for a successful first few weeks. Captained by Fleur Wagstaff, the As went on to compound this victory with successive wins against Bromsgrove, Cheltenham, and Taunton, despite some challenging weather conditions! Unfortunately the winning streak was brought to an end by a merciless team from Cheltenham Ladies' College, but all teams were magnanimous in defeat and showed great determination and integrity throughout. The B team had equal success against Bromsgrove and Taunton, but sadly two Cheltenham-based teams proved too strong for this group. Poppy Forestier-Walker and Milly Thomas were certainly a formidable B team

pair in these fixtures. Sadly, the C team had fewer matches this term, but I am very grateful to the large number of girls who all volunteered to represent the C team at some point with real enthusiasm. The term concluded with an excellent finale against Prior Park. This was an exceptionally tough match against opposition playing at a very high level. Despite losing the fixture overall, the sight of the whole team (and parents!) rallying around Fleur Wagstaff and Annie Nichols as they played some truly exciting and dramatic tennis was the real highlight of the term. Well done to all of you for a great season!

Rosie Coombs

U14 Girls

Despite such an unusual year, the U14 girls had numerous great fixtures, which were all played with wonderful enthusiasm. The A team was captained by the formidable pair of Megan Whately and Sophie Houghton, who were almost unbeatable in their matches. Overall, the A team only lost against a very strong

Cheltenham Ladies' side, and should be incredibly proud of their performance over the term. The B team also went from strength to strength. Captained by Fenella Burgess and Natalia Walker, they developed their volleys and match play as the term progressed. The B team's motivation was certainly reflected in their matches against other schools, achieving an impressive four wins out of the six they played. As for the C team, the constant enthusiasm of Ishbel Bird and Evie Edwards, as well as many other girls who were willing to step up at the last moment, led to all of them growing in confidence and making great progress. Despite them not having the most successful matches against other schools, it is evident that they certainly improved throughout the term. Overall, all of the girls show lots of promise and have made huge improvements and we look forward to seeing how they progress in future years.

Grace Ball

Mixed Seniors

Saturday, 12th June saw the first proper mixed match against Downside. The Seniors fielded eight girls' and boys' pairs and the match consisted of one boys' doubles and one girls' doubles followed by two mixed doubles. Again, the match was played as a FAST4, best of three sets. Across the board, Clifton stole the fixture convincingly, losing only three matches in 58. It was a real pleasure to see so many smiling faces and hearing lots of laughter and competitive 'Come ons!'

Kerris Wagstaff

The Road to Wimbledon

With a chance to play on the prestigious Wimbledon courts at hand, the Year 8 and 9 boys and girls entered the Road to Wimbledon competition. In the girls' school competition Sophie Houghton beat Megan Whately in the final but she did not proceed to the Avon Finals. The boys' competition saw Halbie Wagstaff (Year 8) beat many Year 9 boys on his way to meet Junsei Yasuda in the final. Junsei won the first two games but Halbie made an impressive comeback to win the next four games and take the match. He continued his Road to Wimbledon at Kings Tennis Club where he faced winners of school and club competitions. In a straight knock-out competition he successfully made it to the final. Here he faced a David Lloyd performance tennis training partner and close friend. This was an epic final; 4-2 down he won the first set 6-4. He then lost the second 6-3, having been level at 3-3. It then went down to a championship tiebreak in which Halbie was losing 4-1 but fought back to win 10-7!

Halbie represented Avon and played at Wimbledon for a whole week from 8th to 14th August. He played in both singles and doubles matches and had a great experience.

Andrew Wagstaff



Cross Country



Due to changes with other sports, we were able to commence cross country training in the Michaelmas Term this year, which we hoped would help students to have a head start in preparing for the fixtures in the Lent Term. Sadly, these fixtures were not to be, but the students will have benefitted from the increase in running fitness. The group enjoyed runs to various local areas including Ashton Court, Blaise Castle Estate and Leigh Woods in addition

to some interval and hill training, running distances of up to six miles. Students competed in a virtual relay race with some impressive times from Solly Scott and Jonathan Ambler. They also enjoyed a 'festive run' in Christmas fancy dress, creating some Strava art. I hope that students will continue to run at home and will join the Cross Country Strava Group to continue competing virtually!

Camilla Gold



Fencing

Fencing was able to resume in the Michaelmas Term and pupils quickly adapted to the new Covid guidance. New and returning fencers benefitted from smaller group sizes and more 1:1 time with the coaches. Sadly, we were unable to host any fixtures, but pupils were able to take part in the three weapon end of term competition, at which they tested their skills with the differing styles of foil, épée, and sabre.

Sammy Daubney

Rackets

With no matches going on due to the pandemic, Ollie Meadows did a sterling job in what was a difficult season, leading from the front. It was such a shame as Ollie would have been in the Foster Cup at Queens, which is the top 16 in the country at singles. Ollie Meadows, Noa Gispan, Katya Saint, Flora McHattie and Ella Koupparis are all leaving this year, but they have given so much to rackets over the past five years. They have all practised hard, bantered hard and played in school matches and at Queens on numerous occasions and had smiles on their faces most of the time when competing! I wish them all well in their new adventures.

We had cracking matches in all the year group bubbles, and it was good to see 15 yearlings coming in and working hard at their game. The Windows Trophy was won by Ollie Meadows in

the School Senior Tournament. The Inverdale Racket was won by Marcus Allan in the junior tournament and the Beale Board was won by Noa Gispan in the girls' tournament.

It was with great sadness that we learnt of the passing of our dear friend and longtime Chief Boaster and Chairman of the Club, Sam Beale. Sam was one of life's true givers. He contributed massively to all of our lives in the love of small ball sports. He has made an enormous contribution to the game of rackets as a whole, helping to keep people of all ages on court to form a love of the game. Many will have fond memories of attending Boosters Weekends, which are always great fun. Sam was a legend, a gentleman and a family man and he will be very much missed. We're thinking of Eleanor and all the Beale Family.

Reggie Williams



Rowing

After the disappointment of the Schools' Head being cancelled in 2020, there were high hopes to repeat this entry in 2021. The Michaelmas Term started well, and one positive of social distancing, well, for Clifton rowing at least, was that it meant we were able to offer a 'learn to row' course for all Third Formers over the course of the term. This was a superb opportunity for the Club to rebuild after a year off the water and there was some real potential spotted. Hopefully these students will be able to continue rowing as they will really add some strength and ability to the squad. Harry Isaacs and Briden Whitbread must be mentioned here as their unfailing support of the Club saw them help with the learn to row course. Here, they set super examples of what it takes to be an oarsman and their help was much valued. Unfortunately, no racing was permitted by British Rowing over this term, so as Christmas came about, we all clung on to the hope that we would be rowing in January. This hope was short-lived and we returned to online training in what must have been some of the most surreal training sessions delivered over Zoom; the coaches found themselves giving encouragement and instructions for body circuits to the now customary screen of blank video cameras, unsure as to whether anyone was actually doing any exercise, or simply turning on their cameras at the end, having simply splashed some water across their faces!

The Summer Term brought about a welcome return to the water. What a relief for all to be back. Despite a further call from British Rowing that there would be no real racing, this did not dampen spirits. Everyone seemed to just love being outside and on the water, able to exercise and be together. Some

racing took place at the Club between crews, and an informal Club scratch fours event was a great afternoon, even with some cupcakes and Pimm's (non-alcoholic, of course!). We say goodbye to our Upper Sixth leavers: Briden Whitbread, Theo Murphy, Vincent Freeman, Harry Isaacs, Henry Hankinson, Arthur Memmesheimer, Mia Nissim and Ella Howard-Robinson. It has been great to have you as part of the team and hopefully you will pick up an oar before too long.

What this year has shown us, is that sometimes just being together with like-minded people is something that we all need. The past year and a half has been so difficult in many ways for many people, but the fun and laughter that we all have had at the river has been superb. Being down at the Club has provided many with some relaxation and downtime that is so vital. Well done to everyone and thanks again to the tireless help and support of all the coaches. In particular, Andrew Marchesi, who often will go over and above what he's asked to do to provide a fun and enjoyable session for the squad. Hopefully this coming year he will at last get an eight down the Tideway. Without Sarah West, Simon Hewitt, Hannah Clarke and Nessie Walsh we simply would not be able to offer rowing - a big thank you from everyone for your help.

Here's to 2021/2. Despite the difficulties, we have all remained flexible and adaptable to the changes forced upon us. In many ways, this has helped the Club restart and find a new focus. There is so much talent at school, and now that more have had a chance to see it, we can make the next steps forward.

Rob Beaver



Rowing Blazers awarded to:

Sam Homer (NT)
Basile Valentin (NT)
Hector Wright (NT)
Hugo Young (ET)
Evie Calhaem (WoH)
Kaellen Balasingham (MH)
Angus Murray-Nobbs (MH)
Jonny Cook (NT)

Captain of Boats 21/22

Basile Valentin (NT)

Supporting Committee

Kaellen Balasingham (MH)
Evie Calhaem (WoH)
Angus Murray-Nobbs (MH)

“This was a superb opportunity for the Club to rebuild after a year off the water.”

Athletics

It was great to return to athletics again for the summer of 2021 after our Covid-induced hiatus of 2020. The athletes were keen to represent the College once more and had four fixtures planned for later in the term, after 17th May when whole school meets were allowed to resume.

The athletes trained hard during the first part of term and were able to experience many different disciplines whilst practising at Watson's Field in sunny conditions. Their first competition was the 10 school match at Millfield. Highlights included Austin Rowe showing his consistency and versatility to place highly in the 100m, 200m and shot put, as well as running in both the U15 and U17 4x100m relays! Rory Morgan and Clemmie Houlden sped

away from the competition to win their 800m races and even speedier was Babafemi Alokolaro, winning the 100 and 200m. Solly Scott shone in the 400m, winning the race and even attempting the 1500m just 20 minutes later. However, the highlights of the day were Josh Schrijver and Scarlett Pearce-Lynch setting impressive new school records: Josh with 50.19m in the discus, winning the event by over 11m; and Scarlett with an impressive 24.3m in the discus. There were many other very good performances and efforts and all athletes should be praised for giving their all and contributing to the team.

The students also took part in another team competition, the Nitro Athletics event at

Marlborough. This event is a new twist on athletics and included the 50m and 150m sprints, four-minute max relay, medley relay and elimination mile. Great fun was had by all who competed on the day and the students really enjoyed trying new events and competing as a team. All students took part in multiple events and some, particularly the senior girls, competed in six or seven events each, which was an incredible effort!

Our next fixture took us to the Marlborough open meeting where Rory Morgan and Austin Rowe again competed well to secure podium positions in their events. In the junior girls, Sonia Lam, Zeki Kam and Amber Puri competed well in their track events, as did Victoire Berjonneau and Eloise Evans

in the field, with the highlight being Victoire taking third in the high jump.

Babafemi Alokolaro stormed to another 100m victory and second place in the 200m, whilst Ollie Buckle was second in the discus and James Scott third in the 100m and fourth in the javelin.

Unfortunately, our final fixture was suspended due to Covid protocols, but the students have had an excellent year and have taken much enjoyment from their participation in athletics. Well done again and thank you to all students and staff involved in the athletics programme for their exceptional effort and commitment.

Matt Deacon

Golf

Our school golf team competed in the Independent National Schools Golf finals at Worsley Park in Manchester in the Summer Term. This is the first time our school team has ever reached this far in the competition. The team had wins over RGS Worcester, Monmouth and Bromsgrove to become area champions, thus qualifying for the finals. This was quite an amazing achievement for our very young team of golfers. The team consisted of Jerry Fang, Finn Ellis and Taylor Hodgson. They finished 14th out of 20 schools who made the finals, with Finn and Taylor being the only two competitors in the field under the age of 16! The team gained invaluable experience of being at a big event and this only bodes well for the future of Clifton golf as we continue to grow and improve.

Andy Rudge



Valete

Alex Tebay

Alex Tebay could not be more deserving of special recognition, having been so much a part of Clifton that it is very hard indeed for any of us to imagine the school without her as she retires after 31 years. Alex studied maths at Bristol before her first job at Tunbridge Wells Grammar School, followed by promotion to 2nd in Maths Department and Assistant HoM at Cranbrook where she took part in a job exchange with Pembroke School in Adelaide. In 1990 she returned to Bristol to teach at Clifton, which marked the beginning of a level of commitment to the College that it would be impossible to imagine being surpassed. Alex has coached tennis and netball every term along with the widest range of other sports and activities. She has been an exceptional tutor and the greatest advocate for the co-curriculum. She has attended every concert, most House competitions and every play. She introduced House Dance, House

Darts and she ran the first ever fashion show. One House event even saw her dressed as a nun sitting on Weston-super-Mare seafront armed with a walkie talkie. There are indeed few jobs she has not done. She was Housemistress of West Town for 11 years, Senior Mistress (a title I know she rightly absolutely loathed) then Assistant Head, Deputy Head Academic, covering for one Summer Term, and then Deputy Head Pastoral, Co-curriculum and Planning. But all these titles and all that she has done are only one part of it. What she has brought to the last 31 years is a love of Clifton and an absolute determination to uphold everything that this place stands for. She is the conscience of the school. I can reassure her now that in the future if at any point in any meeting we are tempted to think - perhaps we could just - you know - maybe on this occasion - then we will make sure we apply the ACT test: pause, reconsider and do the right thing.



On a personal note, I cannot thank her enough for all the support she has been to me since I became Head. I can absolutely guarantee that when I have had a hard day or things have not been great I will come out of the office to find one of Alex's handmade

cards with a wonderfully supportive message alongside a slice of homemade cake or a sausage roll or a few chocolate biscuits and my spirits lift and all seems possible again.

Tim Greene



Rosie Coombs

Rosie arrived in September 2017 with a wealth of experience (Rugby, then Dulwich), an operatic voice and a signed photo of Bettany Hughes. She was quick to establish herself as a dynamic classroom presence, the excitement of her lessons and her own stentorian tones filling the corridors of the Tribe Building. Her teaching has encompassed Latin, Greek and Classical Civilisation and spanned both the Upper School and the Pre, where she has taken a lead in delivering lessons across the whole of Year 7. She has led visits to Bath and Oxford, organised lectures and accompanied overseas trips. She has left an indelible mark on the Department and will be fondly remembered for her brio, her

frantic walk-run along Guthrie Road upon realising she's running five minutes behind, and her stubborn refusal to wear glasses in department meetings.

A dynamic classicist, full of youthful energy and vigour, her hobbies include knitting. She has made a huge all-round contribution to Clifton life, an enthusiastic coach of hockey, netball and tennis, a fine tutor in Worcester House and an excellent Senior Tutor. Her tenure as social secretary for the SCR was marked by enthusiastically calendared non-events and generously over-ordered vinum. She leaves to take up post as Head of Classics at the Dragon and we wish her all the best.

Will Nicholl



Photo: Lisa Marie Grigsby

Conor Whelan

Conor joined Clifton at the start of the Summer Term in 2020 as part of the maternity cover for Rhian Orzel. Immediately, Conor was thrust into remote teaching and quickly developed a rapport with the students, creating exciting and challenging lessons via the medium of Zoom. When we returned to school in September, Conor dove straight into the studio and classroom, delivering live and hybrid lessons that inspired, both in the Prep and Upper School. He contributed to the co-curriculum, with Year 9 Drama Club becoming a highlight of the week for students. He then made a huge contribution to the Platform production, working in collaboration with the students to create funny, inventive and thoughtful pieces as part of what was the College's first foray into performance for a digital audience.

With the return of Rhian Orzel in the Lent Term 2021, Conor has moved onto pastures new, teaching in the Bristol area where his talents are needed, but he is remembered by students and staff as someone who made a massive contribution in his short time here.

David Saunders



Helen Skatun

Helen joined Clifton College to teach History of Art in 2002, bringing with her a wealth of experience from having taught at many levels, including History of Architecture to the first ever cohort of Palestinian architecture students at a university on the occupied West Bank; History of Art at UWE and Bristol University; as well as being a tutor for some of the Open University courses. On her arrival, it soon became clear how much the school would benefit from her expertise. The History of Art course has evolved over the years and the current syllabus, which started four years ago, includes examples of non-European art, which is very much in line with the school's ethos to promote EDIB.

Helen also ran art appreciation courses for non-artists and she recently took her students to an Art History conference in Ascot where they were treated to talks by the eminent art historians Griselda Pollock and Andrew Graham-Dixon. Her calm and dignified presence will be missed within the Department, as will her wealth of subject knowledge and her ability to engender a passion for art in her students. Her support on school trips to London, Florence, Venice, Paris and New York was of great value and it was not only the students who learned from her when she accompanied our many gallery and exhibition visits! Helen was an extremely knowledgeable and conscientious asset to the Religious Studies and the History Departments, producing wonderful resources. She was

also a reassuring presence in departmental meetings. For the co-curriculum, Helen worked on the Third Form Terriers programme as well as Clifton in the Community. As a tutor in Worcester, Holland's and Hallward's, Helen consistently looked after the girls' welfare and she was hugely supportive to her year groups. She enjoyed her time at Clifton and has formed many lasting friendships.

Having recently become a grandmother I am sure Helen is looking forward to being able to spend more time with her family. We wish both her and her husband, Saadeh, a long and happy retirement.

Allan Wilkie

“It soon became clear how much the school would benefit from her expertise.”



Despite the challenges that come with such roles, Katie has also been a tutor in Hallward's, North Town and South Town! She has even been persuaded to do rec netball, rec tennis, rowing, study skills, Psychology Club and girls' running as her co-curricular activities - well done to Miss Tebay for expanding Katie's abilities to their very limits.

But where the College has benefited the most was when Katie focused from 2018 onwards solely on the educational psychologist role. There is no denying that she

has created a template to which all educational psychologists need to adhere. Katie's training for all staff has been invaluable when it comes to supporting the students at Clifton. Not just content with being an educational psychologist, Katie has also developed the role to include social, emotional and mental health support which has been vital for staff and students during the Covid period.

Staff like Katie are rare, and we were fortunate as a College to have had her work for us. Her departure to Singapore to become a school psychologist is an exciting time for her and her young family, but truly a sad day for us. The door will always be open for Katie as she has been an outstanding member of staff.

Noel Doran



Sam Aylward

Sam joined Clifton in September 2019, having moved to the South West from London with his wife, Hannah. His passion for physics and problem-solving was clear from the get-go!

Sam has played an important role in many different aspects of college life during his time at the school and, in particular, has facilitated the running of several clubs within the Music Department. As a talented musician, he has enjoyed this part of the co-curriculum, watching students progress and perform in evening concerts. Additionally, Sam has led weekly 'Stretchy Physics' sessions and the annual Olympiad papers in the Physics Department, encouraging a number of pupils to pursue physics as an A Level subject. Pastorally, Sam has been a tutor in both Moberly's House and East Town, where he's guided Sixth Form students through difficult decisions and UCAS applications.

Sam leaves us to go on to work in an independent school in Cardiff. We would like to take the opportunity to thank Sam for his hard work and dedication to Clifton, and wish him every success on his new venture.

Becca Luker



Kate MacLeod

Kate MacLeod has been a dedicated member of staff since joining the College five years ago. She is a teacher who puts her students first and always does her utmost to support them and make sure they are enjoying and progressing well in chemistry. Kate is a superb classroom practitioner who spends significant amounts of time planning, providing feedback and refining her lessons to make sure they are the best they can possibly be. In the Chemistry Department, Kate has been invaluable in terms of both her experience and her brilliant subject knowledge and she has shared with us all a wealth of different teaching approaches and strategies that have helped enrich our own lessons and learning experiences.

Kate will be missed immensely by her classes who all value her as a kind, fair and dedicated teacher. To the Chemistry Department she has been a professional, hardworking practitioner who is always ready to go above and beyond. Her impact on the social wellbeing of the Department and her readiness to construct excellent teaching resources have been invaluable, as well as her help in organising chemistry trips and mentoring PGCE students. Her warm, engaging personality endears her to everyone in the College and she will be greatly missed.

Matt Deacon

Katie Hamilton

Katie Hamilton arrived at Clifton College as a teacher of Learning Support and psychology on a warm September in 2012. Despite loving her time at Clifton, Katie knew that her true calling was too much to deny and she was accepted onto the Doctorate of Educational Psychology in September 2013, which she completed in 2016. Fond memories of life at Clifton were still too vivid for Katie and when the opportunity arose in 2016 to return to Clifton as the educational psychologist and SENCo, she took it with both hands.

“There is no denying that she has created a template to which all educational psychologists need to adhere.”

Lucy Fewkes

Lucy Fewkes joined Clifton in September 2017 as a drama and dance teacher across the College. Though based predominantly in the Prep School and extremely busy with running productions there, she brought enthusiasm and energy to all her dance teaching in the Upper School and particularly to the GCSE and A level courses. Her students spoke very highly of her lessons and her choreography. She is passionate about dance, movement and performance, and the arts as accessible, important to wellbeing and as a valid and important career path. She has been a champion of students' achievements of all academic abilities.

Lucy also contributed hugely to the Upper School musical productions; her first production was *Little Shop of Horrors*, and included choreographing material for the three singing girls who had vastly different abilities and were also expected to sing at the same time. *We Will Rock You* was challenging in a different way, with more singers on stage and a different style of music, and she excelled

in her choreography of the big group numbers of *Radio Gaga* and *One Vision*. Lucy epitomises the qualities a good director should have: she is ambitious in her projects (*Lion King* with Year 5 students) and resourceful (sharing a *High School Musical* set with another school and handmaking/crafting all of the *Lion King* costumes), and it will be challenging for future Prep School productions to match her creativity. She also took on the unenviable task of assisting me with the hugely popular Inter-House Dance competition. She was instrumental in making sure all was appropriate and, as a result of her guidance, resulted in some truly inspiring performances from across the House groups.

She's been an important and supportive member of the small Dance and Drama Department, and her absence will be keenly felt. Lucy has really made a mark here in her time at Clifton and her legacy will be the lasting impression she has left on the students and staff who have been lucky enough to work with her.

Alex Tebay



Neil Cushley

Speaking for all of us in both the Business and the Economics Department, the overriding memory of Neil will always be his voice. If this is news to you, the 'Neil voice' is a heady combination of decibels, speed, a (Northern) Irish lilt and infectious enthusiasm. All together, this means you hear Neil before you actually see him. Dropping in for NQT lesson observations hasn't really been necessary for two reasons: first, I could hear him perfectly clearly through the wall, and second because Neil had clearly and deservedly exceeded all eight standards by October half term.

In such a short space of time, Neil has made a huge impact on all of us. And I speak not just for staff but, of course, for those students who have been lucky enough to be taught, coached or tutored by the fabulous Mr Cushley. I have been teaching for more than 20 years in a variety of schools and I can, hand on heart, say that Neil is one of the most gifted young teachers I have met. We are all so sad to see him leave Clifton, but also very happy knowing that he is going to shine in his new role as a teacher/Assistant House-Parent at Rossall School in Lancashire.

Julia Folland

“She has been a champion of students’ achievements of all academic abilities.”



Sarah Rath

Sarah joined the Geography Department in 2014, having previously worked at Downe House School. It became immediately apparent that she was a tectonic force for geography as she set about reorganising her classroom and not only updating, but vastly improving the wall displays all around the Department. Sarah's forensic attention to detail and love of her subject ensured her popularity amongst her students, and during her time she introduced new and inspiring topics into the Third Form curriculum such as Oceans and Plastics, and Prisoners of Geography. Sarah took over as Head of Geography in 2016 and has led by example in navigating the Department through the challenging changes of curriculum reform and, more recently, through the pandemic with enforced distance learning and the dreaded TAGs.

Sarah especially loved Geography field trips with the Solheimajökull glacier and the infamous Eyjafjallajökull volcano in Iceland being two of her favourite locations. She is never happier than leading from the front and perhaps has missed her true vocation as a tour guide. In short, she has been an outstanding Head of Department and will leave a lasting mark in the world of Clifton Geography. She leaves the Geography Department in very strong shape, and her organisational skills and infectious enthusiasm will be greatly missed. Sarah's numerous contributions to Clifton life have also been significant. Outside of teaching she has been a tutor in West Town, a netball coach, introduced the poppies initiative to the Terriers programme and has been an officer in the Army section of the CCF. We wish her every future success and happiness as she leaves to take up the role of Head of Geography at Dean Close School.

Martin Williams

Jack Malden

Jack joined the College in September 2020 for his first year of teaching, having been a Graduate Resident Assistant at Taunton School. And what a year he's had! Jack has been a brilliant addition to the Economics and Business Departments, teaching lessons that have enthused his students, challenging them to reach ever higher levels of

success. He has thrown himself into the wider aspects of academic life, launching a new interdisciplinary environmental group, leading the Year 12 Economics Reading Group, and driving and supporting student entries into national economics essay competitions from all year groups - I've never seen so many students enter such competitions before. The academic 'buzz' in the Coulson Centre is in large part

due to Jack's enthusiasm and determination to see each of his students fulfil their potential. Throwing himself into life at the College has also been true of Jack's pastoral and co-curricular contributions. As well as running the Covid isolation boarding House, he has tutored a Sixth Form tutor group and been a passionate force on the sports fields, coaching the U15A rugby and U14A cricket teams.

The impact Jack has had on the College during the year he's been with us cannot be overstated, professionally but also personally as a colleague and friend. We wish Jack all the very best as he moves on to Lord Wandsworth College.

Graham Mallard

“It became immediately apparent that she was a tectonic force for geography.”



“Will has thrown himself into Clifton life, and there can be few staff members who have made such a contribution to so many aspects of the school.”

Will Nicholl

When a speculative letter arrived at Clifton College from a certain Will Nicholl back in 2012, seeking employment and extolling the virtues of Bradfield College, I like to think I looked beyond the obvious cut-and-paste errors and discerned the superb classroom practitioner he would become, but it was very much Will's sporting prowess which caught the eye of the then Head Master. “Offers football!!” I think the succinct Post-it note read.

Will studied classics at Durham, and represented the university at both football and cricket. He joined Clifton after two years in the charities sector, and has been a mainstay of the Classics Department and the sports pitch ever since.

Will is an all-round schoolmaster of the traditional mould.

Not only does he teach the oldest and greatest of subjects (occasionally while wearing tweed), but the adage that teaching is a vocation can be true for no one more so than Will. He has been a committed tutor and Assistant HoM in Watson's House, has been Senior Tutor for Years 10 and 11 whilst co-organising the Block II academic scholars society, has been Master in charge of Football and coach of the 1st XI, coach of 2nd XI cricket, coach of rugby and hockey, supporter of Christian Forum, player of rackets, and stalwart of the staff 6-a-side kick-around.

In the classroom, Will has been the consummate teacher, delivering inspirational lessons in Latin, Greek and Classical

Civilisation to every age group (except, perhaps, Years 7 and 8, which left him in a cold sweat). Many are the students who have gone on to study classics at university in no small part due to his influence. He has supported countless overseas trips to Greece and Italy, and I would like to put on record my thanks for him giving up so much of his holidays for the cause, though I must also confess to taking more than one deliberate detour just to see him labouring up some rocky, sun-scorched Mediterranean hill in his espadrilles.

Will possesses a highly developed sense of humour, and his lessons are consistently laced with sophisticated wit. Not for him the bawdiness of Aristophanes or the sarcasm of

Cicero! Will is a connoisseur of awkwardness, and rumour has it that he can quote every line from *The Office*. Woe betide the bashful boy who keeps glancing at a girl in class; Will rearranges the seating plan so the two are next to each other for as long as it takes for the budding romance to be utterly ruined.

Will has thrown himself into Clifton life, and there can be few staff members who have made such a contribution to so many aspects of the school in so short a time. As he moves on to Rugby School to be Head of Classics, he will be sorely missed, but we wish him, his wife and young family all good fortune with the move.

Tom Patrick

A Farewell from Miss Tebay

A little reminiscing about my time at Clifton which, to most of you, will seem like much more than several lifetimes but in so many ways it has passed very quickly. What will you remember? Especially those of you who can remember Clifton during normal times!

For me it's the little things. The lightbulb moment when a student actually understands implicit integration. Oakeley's delivering an African chant in House Song that took our breath away. Being proud of our school on Remembrance Day and seeing the CCF parade, whilst thinking of the young soldiers' names on Mem Arch who left us and went straight to the trenches. Being entertained royally by Polack's students at supper and spending 11 and a half happy years in charge of West Town. A Chapel full of Santa hats and fundraising events for charities near and far. Movember moustaches and rainbow laces, plus Harvest deliveries to the Food Bank. Peer supporters stepping up to help those who were in distress or just confused, and making a difference.

Amazing Heads of School making their speeches at Commem with not a flicker of nerves. A superb House Play such as Moberly's *Frost-Nixon*, which could have graced the West End, and the disasters that were so funny they had us all rolling in the aisles. School productions of incredibly high quality too numerous to single any out, and outdoor productions, including sword fighting on the ramparts of the library roof for the Scottish play, Juliet nearly drowning in her tomb in the quad during July (it was raining so hard). Art exhibitions which show the prodigious talent in ceramics, photography and painting.



Our first inter-House dance competition and subsequent events, for good and challenging reasons! Advent carols by candlelight and Choral Congers when the school raises the Chapel roof. Superb solos in the Kadoorie Cup but also relaxed open mic nights in the Crypt and international singing of great poignancy, plus solo musical performances from Grade 1 to Grade 8 and beyond. Commem and over 1,200 pupils and parents to lunch, plus the Gun Run and evening concert with the soul band playing *Valerie*. It was always *Valerie*.

Sports matches at BB and on the Close in driving rain and full sun with players meeting with "triumph and disaster and treating those two impostors just the same". Hockey at the Olympic Park, Rugby at Rosslyn Park and the Clifton Club and, yes, in that same category, cricket on the Close, where better? Of course there was a netball and rugby tour to Sri Lanka, which was quite exciting! Debating at senior and junior level (I remember a pupil eating a daffodil for effect, I'm still not sure why)

and amazingly debating in English and French, Russian and German. Inter-House competitions in everything from *Masterchef* to darts and general knowledge to chess. Who could forget House sport with the war paint on and the mud flying or boats sinking or drowning your opposite number in waterpolo? Competitions long gone such as the House cricket leagues and inter-House tug-of-war. The pain of the Pens and waiting in the mist and fog for those last Fourth Form to come in hours late, plus hearing the cheering of relay

“For me it’s the little things. The lightbulb moment when a student actually understands implicit integration.”

runners in the Clifton Chase; everyone complaining about doing it but relishing the sense of achievement when it was over.

House entertainment evenings, chatting to pupils as they come into Chapel every morning or at lunch or in a queue. Hearing boys talk just before half term about sexual harassment and really getting to the heart of it. Passionate addresses in Chapel from students and staff alike. A clown on a tightrope, an extraordinary Chapel sermon. Student Council and Big School Committee, where you always want to wear brown shoes, go home early and eat more and more protein. Wonderful library events such as Harry Potter Day, spooky stories, spelling bees and poetry parties. Third Form Camp, always with a few trips to the hospital, but also seeing pupils challenge themselves in coastering or caving or climbing. BSK trays going missing when it snowed. Fifth Form Enterprise, when managing a business is seen as fun, but turning a profit a little more challenging! Outdoor education with amazing Ten Tors events and climbing teams and loads of you reaching your Gold and Bronze DofE awards. Assemblies when the applause is generous for all achievements, however small. Hundreds of helium balloons magically appearing in Chapel at Commem; naughty but fun! House Suppers and Christmas trees in November. Saturday Night Detention when the majority leave the two hour stint saying, "thank you"...bizarre but true.

All of these things add to the experience.

We also, I'm sad to say, remember that we've tragically lost colleagues and students too soon and that's when the strength of the community is revealed. Over 40 countries are represented here, making Clifton a melting pot of cultures and experiences, which enriches the school, but we only have one uniform and that's the point. I



relish OC events and am proud when seeing OCs return to teach and take on leading roles at the school; you know who you are and we have many. Also, hearing how well OCs are doing after they leave us.

Then there was the big silence in March 2020, not a 'breathless hush' but faces in boxes making it clear that Clifton is all about community and everyone set about trying hard to make it work.

They say to teach is to touch a life and for me it has been a privilege to be a small part of so many pupils' journeys, but also to watch young colleagues share their passions and blossom as educators. I've learned so much from all of you, so thank you. When you embark on your next journey, leaving here and moving off to find your own path and career, you should be ready to leave or we haven't done our job. Franklin Roosevelt said, "We cannot always build the future for our youth but we can build our youth for the future". I hope that in some way all of your teachers here have done this for you.

“ I think we should recognise how lucky we are at Clifton with the opportunities that are offered to our young people.”

Clifton's great strength is for tolerance and for giving students the opportunity to try a vast number of different activities at House and school level. This allows you to develop interests beyond the classroom that will stand you in good stead for your future careers and lives. Teaching is not always seen as a glamorous or desirable profession, but I think we should recognise how lucky we are at Clifton with the opportunities that are offered to our young people, for the fantastic environment that we live and work in and we should give thanks for the amazing people around us. I feel privileged to have been some small part of

so many lives and hope that in the future I will continue to hear from many of you.

Thank you to the Praeps and prefects and to the three Heads of School: Briden, Flora and Flora, BFF; very appropriate initials given the year we have been in and totally coincidental.

Thank you to Dr Greene and the Senior Team who could not work harder for you or care more. Thanks to your teachers and to the support staff who allow all of this to happen and to you, for staying enthusiastic through this most testing of times.

Alex Tebay
Deputy Head

Development Trust

This past year has been very challenging for the Clifton College Development Trust (CCDT).

As the charitable body charged with the responsibility of attracting charitable support for bursaries and prioritised capital projects, Covid has presented tremendous challenges. Undoubtedly for parents and OCs, this past year hasn't been any easier for you either.

When I took the role of Development Director just over a year ago, no one knew what the future would hold for charitable endeavours, especially in the short term. However, I am delighted to report that Clifton College has received more philanthropic gifts than ever before. In fact, we have broken the £1,000,000 threshold for the first time ever. Not only did OCs give more than ever before but parents also broke records for giving.

We believe that there are many reasons for the generosity Clifton has received. Firstly, many have decided that with limited resources, their charitable giving should be directed to areas of highest priority. As such, education has always been at the forefront of charitable giving. Secondly, with our CCDT trustees creating a Matching Gift Scheme, parents and OCs saw the urgency of Clifton's bursarial need and the benefit of giving.

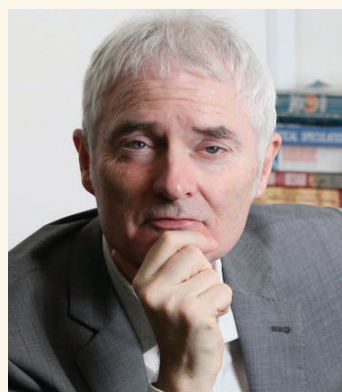
It is no secret that more and more qualified means-tested pupils need financial support more than ever before. Through the CCDT Matching Gift Scheme, a charitable gift is doubled, which directly impacts our ability to meet the needs of deserving means-tested bursarial candidates.

The CCDT Trustees and I thank both our OCs and parents for your generosity and encourage anyone considering making a charitable gift to contact the Development Trust. There has never before been a greater need. Additionally, the fortunate boys and girls who are the beneficiaries of your generosity thank all who see the value in investing in their futures.

Clifton's entire student body is undoubtedly impacted by the contributions, in all facets of College life, by our wonderful and talented bursary holders who could otherwise not afford a Clifton College education.

John Rolfe

Development Director



I attended the OC reunion in 2019 and reconnected with old friends and inspirational teachers, such as Brian Worthington. I had the chance to meet several pupils and was highly impressed by their confidence and positive thinking. Clifton was a transformative experience in my case, and I am happy to support its continuing evolution.

Peter Tasker OC, NT, '73



My husband David and I have had the pleasure of sending our three children, Rose, Luke and Lily, to Clifton. As we all know, independent schools do not benefit from public funds, so all the great facilities our family enjoyed are a result of fee income and charitable support from Old Cliftonians and parents. We helped with the Common Room in the new Holland's House, funded the formation of the Upper School Biology Pond (who doesn't want to bring a frog into school?) and were able to extend the wonderful work done by the school in making PPE during the pandemic. We hope all this will help with the continued wellbeing of Clifton College, the tremendous teachers and the children.

Heather and David Stevens, parents of OCs Rose WoH '13, Luke SH '14, Lily WoH '16

“When I took the role of Development Director just over a year ago, no one knew what the future would hold for charitable endeavours.”

Obituary

Richard Morgan 1940-2021.

Richard Morgan was undeniably one of the outstanding headmasters of public schools of the last 50 years. Clifton was fortunate to enjoy his services as a member of Council from 2000 to 2016 and as Chairman of Council from 2014 to 2016. Richard's school was Sherborne. His sporting ability took him on many occasions to Clifton. He had an abiding love of the school and before he joined the Council he offered help to the school on many occasions, particularly in choosing a headmaster.

After Cambridge, Richard took up teaching. At Radley, under Dennis Silk, he became a housemaster and was able to observe Radley's rise to become one of the leading public schools. A notable feature of that success was an unwillingness to set high entry requirements. Despite this, Radley fared very well in the A Level league tables. From Radley Richard moved to Cheltenham where he served as Headmaster for 10 years with great success. The governors missed a chance of retaining him and, after a short interval, he returned to Radley as Warden in succession to Dennis Silk. He brought some radical ideas to Radley's teaching but maintained its pre-eminence.

It is customary to have a serving or recently retired headteacher on a governing body. After several refusals, Richard eventually succumbed to the then Chairman of Council's requests to join Clifton's Council. Few will forget his rhetorical contributions to debate, often delivered standing. His support for the school was unstinting.

On the retirement of Tim Ross as Chairman of Council, Richard was elected to succeed him. The succession came at a difficult time.

Andrew Thornhill QC

I first met Richard when we played for our respective XIs in a match between Clifton and Sherborne in 1957, but I only came to know him when he joined Council in 2000. He was warmly welcomed by me, then Treasurer, and Louis Sherwood, Chair of Audit and Finance, at a time when we were faced with a number of financial challenges. It was immediately clear to us that Richard had a rigorous and forensic approach to financial management and a willingness to speak out on difficult issues. During those years, I frequently found myself seeking out his company, not just to discuss Clifton matters, but, perhaps more to the point, because he had such a wide range of interests that I always came away from those conversations with some new perspective on the world beyond schools and education.

So, when it fell to me to find a successor to Tim Ross as Chair of Council, I knew exactly where to look. In August 2013 I met Richard and Margaret in the calm atmosphere of their beautiful house and glorious garden in Wiltshire and I wondered whether it was kind to try to persuade Richard to disturb this ordered life. But he was always up for a challenge and, as he wrote the following day, he accepted my invitation 'with some trepidation' while describing his style: 'It has always been to praise and delegate, but I also believe very strongly in the need to make decisions with steely determination'. He was certainly true to that style throughout his Chairmanship.

In the sunny days of August 2013, we had no idea of the difficulties that were about to engulf the College. It was in those days that Richard's steely determination and outstanding leadership were most evident as he dealt

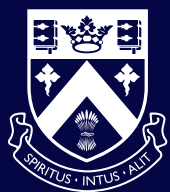


with enormous internal and external pressures. Yet, in spite of all the difficulties he faced, almost on a daily basis, his sense of humour never faltered, nor did his sense of history which convinced him, as well as us, that these things pass. When he announced the appointment of Tim Greene as Head of the College in a Chapel packed with teaching and support staff, there was a spontaneous outburst of cheering. For me, that was a moment of triumph for Richard, the culmination of a long period of tribulation which he had navigated with immense skill,

humour and compassion. I could not think of a greater tribute to his leadership. Nor should we forget the support of Margaret throughout. Almost certainly, more than anyone, she shared with him the stress and strain of those years and Clifton owes both of them a great debt of gratitude.

I have many things in my life to be grateful for. Having known Richard and being counted as a friend is one of the most important.

Dr John Cottrell



CLIFTON
COLLEGE

Together,
we are
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