



Senior

 Summer 2019  
 Issue 10


# Senior News

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### Dear Parents and Guardians

As term draws to a close today, I would like to thank all pupils, parents and staff for their support throughout the school year. King's Ely is an exceptionally busy school and I am very grateful for the sacrifices that many parents make to support their children. The school would not be the success it is without the commitment of so many parents in supporting on the touchlines, applauding in plays and concerts, encouraging with prep or simply dropping off and collecting your children, sometimes at unearthly hours of the day. The last two days alone have witnessed events which epitomise King's in different ways: the outstanding Principal's Concert, house swimming, the Sword and Dagger competition and then a fantastic Leavers' Ball. Various trips will take place over the summer, including a group of actors performing at the Edinburgh Fringe. We wish them all well.

For those parents of pupils who are leaving, a particular thank you. We wish you and your children all the very best for whatever the future may hold. I do hope you will stay in touch, particularly through the Old Eleans.

I would also like to say farewell to a number of staff who are leaving: Jayne Mackay who is retiring after 20 years of service; Theo Wakeley is leaving to undertake an MA; Rohit Kishor is heading off to teach in Singapore; Sophie Cheng to run her own outdoor adventure business; Dr Malak Olamaie has been appointed as a lecturer at York University; Olivia Thorogood has been appointed as Head of Geography at Felsted Prep; Jonathan Kingston is returning to his music consultancy work. We thank them all for their hard work in so many different areas of school life.

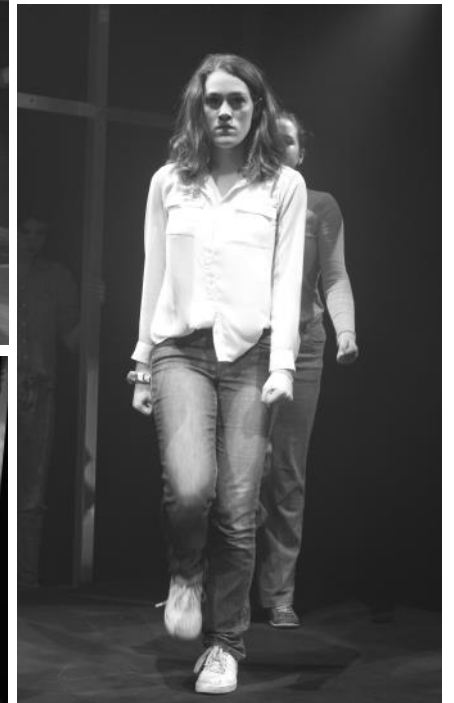
I wish everyone all the very best for the summer.

**Jonathan Shaw**  
 Head King's Ely Senior

**YEAR 12 A LEVEL DEVISED PIECE 'FIFTEEN'**

Six of our A Level Drama pupils took to the Black Box studio stage last night to perform in their Component 2 practical examination piece, Fifteen. Based on the docu-novel Picking Cotton, Orlando Squires, Francesca Bisson, Grace Curcio, Joshua Jackson and Tabitha Udy gave outstanding performances, reaching the top bands in the marking criteria. Alex Hood designed the lighting and created some extremely atmospheric moments in the play, enhancing the emotional turbulence of the piece. Inspired by Frantic Assembly, the performances were emotionally mature and highly physical, congratulations go to all involved.

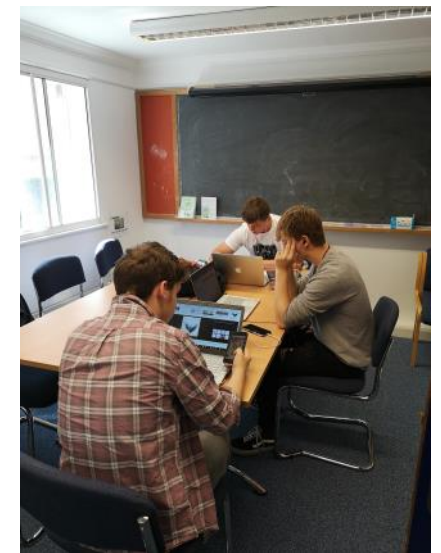
*Nick Huntington - Director of Drama and Theatre*



## EPQ STUDENTS

On Friday 28 June a group of EPQ students attended a research trip to Cambridge University libraries, accompanied by Dr Jones and Miss Riley. They spent the morning at Christ's College Library, getting to grips with iDiscover as well as the print and digital collections the Cambridge libraries offer. We concluded the trip with a whistle-stop tour of the University Library, which now offers the use of the vast legal deposit collections to 16 and 17 year olds. A few students used the opportunity to avail themselves of this offer. All in all this was a successful trip for our EPQ students and added that little bit of substance to their research.

*Dr Inga Jones - Librarian, EPQ Coordinator*



**SILVER D OF E ASSESSED EXPEDITION**

Twelve Year 11 students successfully completed their qualifying Silver D of E Expedition over the final weekend of term. The group spent three days trekking from the reservoirs at Whaley Bridge through the Staffordshire Moorlands and finishing in the Southern White Peak. Initially plagued with a minibus wheel bearing problem on the drive up, the group endured 7 hours at Donnington services on the Saturday, but we were rescued by a replacement minibus and made it to Buxton by 10 pm. Undaunted, both groups were ready to depart at 8 am on Sunday morning. The cloud kept the worst of the sun off and a mild breeze kept conditions cool for the duration of the expedition. Each team made excellent progress on their independent routes and completed their daily seven hours of walking on time, covering around 17 km each day. The teams finally reached the finish point at the village of Grindon a little tired, but happy with their achievements.

Well done to all the participants. Thank you to Helen Melville, Sophie Thorpe, Matthew Bridgman and Matilda Scott for their help over the extended weekend. Also thank you to John Barlow and Rupert Freestone for their assistance in driving the group to and from our destination.

*Martin Bray - Asst Director of Outdoor Education*



**YOUNG FASHION DESIGNER UK****Anna Pearce****2nd place in the Young Fashion Designer UK awards.****Saturday 29 June 2019****Kent College Pembury**

Young Fashion Designer UK is an exciting national competition which has been established since 2010. It focuses on enhancing the talent of Young Fashion Designers to showcase and promote the exceptional work achieved by A Level students studying fashion and textile design throughout the United Kingdom.

Anna Pearce was through to the final eight A level entries and after a series of presentations was awarded second place. She entered two beautiful jacket designs using digital transfer techniques and gathering and layering effects on a woven structure. The sculptural aspects have been an integral part of her design work and have created highly individual outcomes.



The judges made reference to the photographs she had taken of the garment and how they had 'brought the piece alive'. Also, the fashion illustrations that she prepared to support the design process. Two of the judges commented on what a 'stunning' and 'outstanding' textile piece she had created. Another judge told Anna that the final decision had been incredibly close and that there was a 'hairs breadth' between first and second prize.



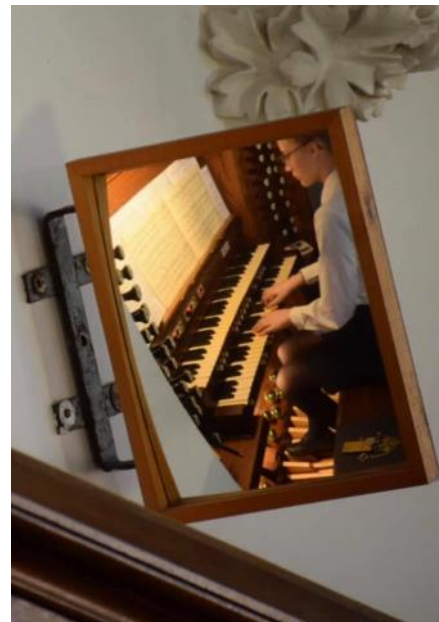
We would all like to congratulate Anna on this excellent success and wish her every happiness next academic year.

*Alison Rhodes - Director of Art*

[ECGC TRIP TO UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OXFORD](#)

Here are some photos of the Year 9-13 ECGC trip to University College Oxford yesterday to sing evensong - we had a lovely day out, singing music by Peter Nardone, Paul Edwards, Philip Moore, and Sarah MacDonald (all are living composers).

*Sarah MacDonald - Director of Ely Cathedral Girls' Choir*



## UNITED IN DIVERSITY—SMILING IN THE SAME LANGUAGE



Last week something unique happened at King's Ely: 60 students from La Reunion, Albacete, Spain and King's Ely, met in our school to complete the last activities and tasks from our big Erasmus Plus Project, which we proudly started last October. It has been a great year and the students involved in the project have certainly worked hard. We have worked collaboratively among the three countries in many virtual activities and, of course, in face to face tasks during our trips. Last week it was the opportunity for everyone to meet up together and work in mixed nationality teams in our last tasks: the creation of some Heritage Videos and a leaflet promoting diversity.



The aim of the project and certainly last week, was to present students with the opportunity to make decisions, to communicate and work as a team in an international context: our three nationalities! These are all skills that our kids will need in their futures and we feel privileged to be given the educational opportunity to develop these at this early age in a real situation.



The week was also packed with fun activities for students to discover our British heritage, as we discovered that of La Reunion and Spain early in the year, while having fun among all of us. It has been magical to see how students were trying to communicate in three languages while forging friendships, after all, as the Albacete team motto said in their project, WE SMILE IN THE SAME LANGUAGE!

Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union



Students went to London for a heritage tour, to Cambridge to experience punting, went up the Cathedral tower, visited the Oliver Cromwell's house, carried out team building and sports activities, were treated to a tour by the Junior School children and to a tea party in the Monastic Barn while working hard on their projects, including the elaboration of three beautiful collages! I am so proud of all of our children and their guests.

The whole week I have been reflecting not only on how good this project has been to promote international relationships but also, from a MFL pedagogical point of view, on how good this experience has been to allow all students to practise those skills taught in lessons for real. This is vital in education, as all recent research states that it is subconsciously that we learn a language the best. This experience has also been life changing for our guests from La Reunion, for some of whom this has been one of the few opportunities they will ever have to visit mainland Europe.

I must thank also, the Erasmus team at King's, in Spain and La Reunion for their hard work and commitment, as this has been a three way team effort. A huge thank you too to our wonderful King's families for hosting all of our guests.

Finally, very well done to Team Toulouse who were the overall winners of our Media Project competition, followed closely by Teams Albacete and Saint Leu. For me you are all winners. To see all the work produced during this Erasmus journey, please visit our etwinning page, our official dissemination platform, here <https://twinspace.etwinning.net/73283/pages/page/554310>

Let's be united in diversity!





**BATTLEFIELDS 2019**

Our annual Battlefields trip for Year 9 students left Ely at 06.00 on Friday 21 June. After briefly stopping at Maidstone to pick up our guide we were quickly on the Eurotunnel heading toward France. Day one was spent on the Franco-Belgian border discussing the outbreak of WW I at several significant places such as Gheluvelde, Polygon Wood and the Hoge Crater Museum. At the last of these students learnt about weaponry and battlefield casualty treatment before heading to our hotel for fish and chips and some well-deserved rest. An early start on Day 2 enabled us to get to the Somme to begin a full day of battlefield touring. Commencing in Newfoundland Park we then began our front-line walk from Montauban to Delville Wood and then High Wood, learning about the introduction of the tank and the tactical use of cavalry. We ended the day at Thiepval, paying our respects to Old Eleans and other relatives remembered on this iconic landmark. Day 3 again took us to France, this time the area surrounding Arras, including Vimy Ridge, Neuville St Vaast German Cemetery and our frontline walk from Monchy Cemetery towards Infantry Hill. In the afternoon we visited the museum where Deborah the tank is housed before driving back to Ypres for the Menin Gate Last Post Ceremony where two of our students laid a wreath on behalf of the school. On our final day we started at Tyne Cot Cemetery just outside the village of Passendale before walking along the high ground to Ploegsteert Cemetery where we visited the adjoining graves of two soldiers; one aged 14 and the other 47. In the balmy heat of Ypres students enjoyed their last packed lunch followed by some free time to explore the town. We rounded off our 2019 tour with a visit to Langemarck; another German Cemetery which was visited by Hitler early in the Second World War and in many ways brought us full circle to where we started on Friday.

With 41 students this was our biggest trip for several years, despite the heat, the occasional blister and the odd moan and groan all students had an amazing time and will no doubt have their own personal memories for years to come. My thanks, as ever, to Mrs Jackson, Mr Currie and Miss Riley for marshalling and encouraging our troops. To the catering team who ensured this army could march on with a full stomach, and to you the parents for supporting the Battlefields. Finally, the students who did us all proud with the way they conducted themselves, especially at the Menin Gate.

*Andy Thomas - Director of Boarding, Head Government & Politics*



UGLY YOUTH REHEARSALS

In 54 hours, 17 minutes and 14 seconds, I will turn 16.  
I will no longer have to sleep with my eyes open...



**UGLY YOUTH**

Written & Directed by Nick Huntington  
Original Music by Alex Judd

★★★★★  
A superb \*\*\*\*\* production  
(The Edinburgh Reporter)  
The Dreaming, 2017



1st - 2nd August 2019, 7pm - Hayward Theatre, Ely  
[kingsely.org/boxoffice](http://kingsely.org/boxoffice)

6th - 10th August 2019, 3.30pm - Greensides @ Infirmary Street, Edinburgh  
[tickets.edfringe.com](http://tickets.edfringe.com)  
General Info 01353 653931

fringe  
02 - 26 August 2019

GREENSIDE  
KING'S COMPANY



**YEAR 12 BIOLOGY STUDENTS**

Today a group of four Year 12 Biology students visited Isle of Ely Primary School, along with Mrs Stewart and Mrs Marshall (our Biology technician) to run a 30 minute lesson on digestion in each of the three year 3/4 mixed classes. Armed with an almost-lifesize model with removable organs, an elephant molar, a sheep skull, and all kinds of messy chemicals, the students led the children through the story of ingestion (eating), digestion and egestion (releasing waste). The children particularly enjoyed seeing the process of digestion acted out in a series of chemical reactions, using coco pops and a banana as the food stuff, and resulting in a rather messy end product. They were also amazed by the piece of string representing the small intestine (7 metres!), and Lachlan's favourite fact- that it is possible to swallow food whilst standing on your head due to the action of peristalsis. This was a great opportunity to visit one of our partner schools, and share our love of science with a very enthusiastic audience. Special thanks to Mrs Marshall for making up all of the chemical solutions, and cleaning up all of the mess, and to Lachlan Cook, Jing Cen, Anna Chaudhry and Charlotte Hamilton-Bing who led the sessions.

*Alison Stewart - Year 12 Academic Coordinator & Teacher of Biology*



## BIOLOGY CHALLENGE



The Biology Challenge **stimulates students' curiosity for the natural world and encourages them to take an interest in Biology outside school.** Each year questions are set based on the school curriculum, but also rewards 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 are generally aware of our natural flora and fauna. King's students in Year 10 and some Year 9 students once again entered the annual competition. This is a national competition with over 47,000 entries.

King's Ely Senior Biology department staff were delighted Barclay Greenway, Joseph Coppin, Eleanor MacGillivray and Ayala Gate achieved gold certificates placing them in the top 5%, Matthew Chaudhry, Conall Comley, Jonathan Iles and Sam Barber gained silver certificates placing them in the top 15% nationally.

*Isobel Smyth - Head of Biology & Teacher of Physics*

## HOUSE DEBATING FINAL

Our Senior House Debating Final took place on Friday and saw Withburga House and Etheldreda House debating the motion: 'Monuments to historical figures should remain'.

Lead adjudicator and Head of English at King's Ely Senior, Dr Daniel Gabelman, commented on the impressive level of research and the high quality of the arguments from both sides, but it was Withburga, who argued against the motion, who were declared the eventual winners.

Congratulations Withburga and well done all!



**YEAR 9 AND 10 MATHEMATICIANS**

On Thursday 27 June, eight mathematicians from Year 9 and Year 10 participated in the Mathematical Enrichment Conference at Oundle School. In the morning, everyone took part in three fascinating activities, which enhanced the students' knowledge of prime numbers, Euclid and the irrational number  $e$ , as well as learning how to do quick multiplication and squaring of large numbers in their heads in under five seconds.

After lunch, the students together with the teachers attended a talk by Dr Colin Wright about juggling and the Maths behind it. Even though the talk features juggling, the presentation was really about Science and Mathematics, how they work, what they mean, and why they're important. The talk has been given in locations as diverse as New Zealand, Australia, Sweden, Norway, Finland, Chicago, Seattle, Atlanta, Washington, Vancouver, Belgium, France, The Netherlands, Ireland, The Isle of Man, China, Brunei, and all over mainland UK.

Both teachers and students listened and were fascinated to see some juggling with five juggling balls. It was a fantastic day and was thoroughly enjoyed by all students involved.

*Audrienne Bezzina - Head of Mathematics*

**HISTORY JOURNAL RAISES £260 FOR CHARITY**

Some of our keenest KES historians have compiled and edited a peer reviewed journal of the best essays that we have had in the department over the last two years and sold it to the school community for £3 in aid of **Alzheimer's Research UK**, raising over £260 in the process. The essays are incredibly diverse; their time period, for instance, ranges from the eleventh century to the mid-twentieth century, and the themes covered include the nature of the Crusades, memorialisation of Spanish Civil War, the standardisation of the French language, representations of medieval history in Dr Who, and more. Each essay has been boiled down to 3,000 words and follows the same house style and format. The pupils chose to donate the money to Alzheimer's Research UK to help support the life changing work it is doing in helping so many people across the country. I am incredibly proud of them and their work – I think it is the most interesting collection of essays that we have had since I have been here - and am glad to be able to share it with so many people from across the school community.

*Colin Currie - Head of History*



## HILL HOUSE TEAS AND DOG SHOW 2019

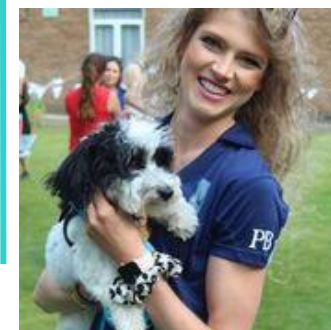
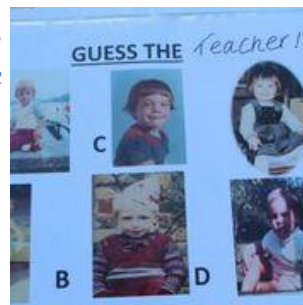


On Wednesday afternoon Hill House hosted its Annual Strawberry Tea combined with its inaugural Dog Show! In a blaze of sunshine a fluffy of canines competed for the titles of Cutest Puppy, Best Junior Handler, Best Trick and The dog that the judge would most like to take home. Mrs Thomas, the honorary judge, had the difficult task of selecting a winner in each category, with an enthusiastic commentary from Mr. Newman.

It wouldn't be a Hill event without a selection of delicious cakes and of course scones. Other attractions were face painting & portraits, guess the teacher from their baby photo, pringle-pong, guess the number of sweets in the jar and of course the hugely popular Sponge the Celebrity.

Now a staple in the Kings' School calendar, this superbly well attended event raised a fantastic £246.45 in aid of the Cancer Research UK.

*Julie Seabrook -Hill House Matron*



## **RUNNING CLUB SUMMER 2019**

What a year it has been for the ever-growing group of runners here at King's Ely. Opportunities to run this year have expanded to include Tuesday and Thursday games sessions alongside the popular Monday lunchtime slot and even included a staff running session on a Wednesday evening. Not a single week has been missed due to weather, meaning we have battled through snow, ice, wind, torrential rain and, last week, 30 degree heat. Nobody ever gets left behind as sessions have included all kinds of interval challenges, many involving Cherry Hill, and every single runner has improved not only physically and technically, but also in terms of their mental endurance. It is exciting to see younger runners coming up through the school, and some of them already challenging the older students. Year 9 student Alice Wallace must be commended for taking on any opposition thrown at her; happily lining up against Mr Currie for the final 400 m reps this week. It is also the end of an era for some of our committed Year 13 students. Rebecca Garrett has been with running club since day 1 and her endurance has always been phenomenal. She will take on any challenge thrown at her, whatever the weather. Emily Tomkins and Maria Campbell have both joined more recently, but both increased their speed massively. Emily is an excellent sprinter a skill which she uses in the team sports she plays, and Maria has amazed even herself coming back from ACL surgery a year ago and now getting faster week on week.

Tristan Harding is another student who has turned into a 'runner' over the past few months, clocking repeated sub 4 minute kilometres in his final track session last week. Running club will continue next term on a Monday lunchtime at 13.05 at the Porta and ANY senior school student, or staff member is welcome to come along. All you need is enthusiasm, a pair of trainers and some motivation!

*Alison Stewart -Year 12 Academic Coordinator & Teacher of Biology*





## ROWING

The annual Old Elean v School boat race was held on the river just upstream of the Stuntney road bridge on Saturday.

In the first race the Old Eleans set off at a sprightly rate and established a lead, which they maintained to the finish. Possibly they surprised themselves with their cohesion and effectiveness.

After a few words from the cox the school crew set off in the second race at an altogether brisker pace. The Alumni were unable to live with the pace and had to trade their half-length victory in race 1 for a 1 and a half-length defeat in race 2.

To make the 3rd race as competitive as possible, the course was shortened by 200 m and the Alumni started with a 3/4 length lead, which they managed to hang onto for much of the race. The school raced well and managed to catch their opponents before the finish to win by 6 feet. The thoroughly enjoyable morning was rounded off with a buffet held at the Babylon gallery.

Thank you to Phoebe Bradbury and the rowing team for organising the event.

*Craig Ward - Head of Rowing*





CRICKET**Friday 28 June - King's Ely staff beat Old Eleans by 6 wickets.**

The King's Ely Staff took on a young and energetic Old Elean side on a beautiful Friday evening down on Campus table. The staff bowled first, led by strong opening spells by Pennington and Daniel. The Old Eleans were a tad erratic and ended up being bowled out for 129 with Pennington, Daniel, Thompson, Marshall and Meddle taking the wickets. Captain Meddle got the biggest cheer of the evening when he bowled out Simon Blake for a duck (0 runs).

In our reply, Kevin Daniel did well to last 10 balls where he managed a disappointing 3 runs. Craig Ward scored 4 runs then threw his wicket away with Ben Pennington scoring a very slow and steady 19 runs off 54 balls. The match winner was Harrison Palmer, who took the game away from the OEs single handily, with the only tactic resorted to being to keep him off strike!



Unfortunately he faced enough balls to win the game with 72 not out alongside Jonny Smith who scored a solid 19 not out. Pat Green came in to score the winning runs with 2 balls remaining. A famous win, which was played in a wonderful spirit, which will surely now be played for years to come.

**Saturday 29 June - 1st XI beat Old Eleans by 3 wickets.**

On the hottest day of the year, the 1st XI put on a red hot performance to beat the old Eleans on Saturday. Although named Old Eleans, all the ex-pupils (apart from Simon Blake - 47) were under 25 and it was great to see some familiar faces playing and supporting. As is tradition in an Old Elean's match, the 1st XI went out into the field and, with some excellent bowling from both Tom Stiff and Callum Hall, restricted the visitors runs. The bowling of Sol Boon, Zac Bailey, Ben Marshall and Dan Grapes limited the Old Eleans to 177-7 off 30 overs.

After tea, the 1st team got off to a flyer with Callum Hall hitting a number of boundaries. However, it was his partner Ben Garrett who scored freely to make a well-deserved 39. A number of wickets in the middle order made it tense but some excellent clean hitting from Ben Marshall (46\*), Dan Grapes (13) and Arthur Plews (12 off 3 balls) steered the 1st team to victory for the first time in 8 years.

A memorable weekend of sport with special thanks to Simon Blake and Rosie Holliday for organising.

## Monday 1 July – 1<sup>st</sup> XI beat Wisbech Grammar by 22 runs and Spalding Grammar by 8 wickets

On Monday, the 1<sup>st</sup> team travelled to Wisbech to play their last matches of the season. Although this season has been a frustrating one with weather, form and injury the boys put in two fantastic performances to win the Wisbech tournament. The first game against Wisbech started badly with a number of very quick wickets falling when batting but Tom Stiff guided the team to a respectable 137-9 off 20 overs. The highlight being a cameo from Zak Bailey and an excellent 30 from number 11 Sol Boon to post a respectable total. The boys backed it up in the field with Callum Hall getting two wickets in the first over and good support from Sol Boon, Zak Bailey and Ollie Rae. The hosts came 22 runs short and the boys progressed to the final against Spalding Grammar.

The final again got off to a bad start when bowling as Spalding scored 50 off 6 overs but an excellent unexpected ball from Dan Grapes broke the partnership. This was backed up brilliantly by Archie Haynes and Ben Marshall who stopped the runs and took some crucial wickets to restrict Spalding Grammar to 111 all out off 18 overs. The batting started brilliantly with an excellent partnership from Ben Garrett (34) and Tom Stiff (39) to bat Spalding out of the game. Although both players got out they set the tone for Callum Hall (18) and Ben Marshall (4) to steer the 1<sup>st</sup> team to two wins and be crowned tournament winners. A special mention must go to the two year 13 players who played their last game for the school in Archie Haynes and Captain Tom Stiff.

*Alex Meddle - Head of Cricket*



**REMINDERS FOR YOUR DIARIES**

Saturday 6th July		SCHOOL CLOSED
Sunday 6th July		SCHOOL CLOSED

Saturday 31st August		SCHOOL CLOSED
Sunday 1st September	14:00	Boarding Houses Open
	17:30 18:15	Boarders' Evening Meal
Monday 2nd September		Term Begins
	08:00	Y9-11 Tutors to Houses
	08:00	Y12 - 13 Tutors to OP
	08:00 08:30	All Sixth Formers to OP Resource Room (thumbprints)
	09:00 09:45	Y9-13 Tutor meeting (including timetable issue)