

SENIOR & SIXTH FORM

HCS

AT HOME

5 FEBRUARY 2021



“It is so good to know that our pupils appreciate the staff's hard work.”

This week I have enjoyed meeting with all of our Year 11 pupils, which is something I have always done, although this is the first time that our meetings have been virtual. I have been impressed by the overall positivity that our Year 11 demonstrated, even though for them, together with Year 13, the impact of coronavirus restrictions has been particularly harsh.

The Year 11 interviews traditionally follow the GCSE mock exams, and give me a chance to gauge how pupils feel they have done, and to establish whether the School is doing all it can to help them achieve their potential. It is also a time to ask about career aspirations. I always end these interviews by asking pupils if there is anything they would change about the School. The most common answer to this last question is 'nothing', usually followed by expressions of gratitude for their education. However, I make it clear that I am genuinely seeking to hear of any suggestions that they may have – after all, they are at the receiving end of the HCS education, and their perspective is important when considering future developments. Once a pupil asked me if I had ever sat in a Maths Department chair for 40 minutes. I had to admit I had not, and so at the next lesson observation I made sure to sit it out, and I quickly understood what they had meant. We changed the chairs for more comfortable versions.

Mr Blyth's survey of pupils' impressions of remote teaching has been really useful, and will lead to some changes to the way in which we deliver remote education. Over 150 pupils made many positive and generous comments about the efforts of the teaching staff, and they certainly raised my spirits. It is so good to know that our pupils appreciate the staff's hard work, and are prepared to say so, too. Bravo, pupils and bravo staff.

Mr Paul Smith, Headmaster

THOUGHT OF THE DAY...

Mr Blyth shared this on Wednesday this week:

“Tomorrow will be a good day.”

CAPTAIN SIR TOM MOORE



FREE ONLINE FICTION LIBRARY

Our librarians have arranged for our e-book library to be available for the school through Firefly. Free, downloadable reading to keep students sane through lockdown. Use your Firefly details to log in. [Click here to access the catalogue.](#)

HCS PUPILS SHINE IN LA CHANDELEUR CRÊPE CHALLENGE

Last week, Hereford Cathedral School French Assistante Louise Crovisier threw down the gauntlet with a crêpe-making challenge for pupils.

Louise's challenge was set to celebrate La Chandeleur (Candlemas) – when the French traditionally feast on crêpes – which falls on 2 February.

In these days of lockdown there are limited opportunities for entertainment, and many clearly relished the chance to tackle this culinary task.



Pupils followed French Assistante Louise's [video demonstration on how to make the perfect crêpe](#)

There were dozens of entries and it was wonderful to see just how many pupils took on the challenge. Well done to Rufus M, who made a video of

his crêpe demonstration – entirely in French!



PHYSICS:

YEAR 8s STUDY HEAT TRANSFER

Year 8 pupils have been conducting some excellent video experiments to prove the theory of conduction, convection or radiation. Mrs Hendry and Mr Howell have been really impressed with their well-executed submissions. Click below to see videos created by Oliver S, Megan P, Willow J and Isabel G.



EXTRA-CURRICULAR

- **Christian Union**, Tuesdays, 3.55pm. Contact Mrs Beavan to be added to the CU Team.
- **Virtual Debating**, 12 February, 1.25pm on Teams: 'This House regrets the demise of snow days'.
- **Art Club**, Mondays, 3.45pm on Teams.



BOARDING

Hereford Cathedral School boarders have been making the most of living in the beautiful Herefordshire countryside by enjoying a spot of geocaching while on their Sunday walks.

Mrs Fowler and the boarding team ventured out on geocaching missions in Brockhampton and Much Marcle (discovering some excellent sites – some were drilled into logs or hidden in fake rocks). Unfortunately, the boarders' geocaching efforts in nearby Hole in the Wall last weekend were thwarted by floods.

ART: COURSEWORK EXHIBITION SHOWCASES PUPIL PROMISE

Hereford Cathedral School A-Level Art students have been working hard on their coursework during this term's remote learning.

Head of Art Miss Greenough has put together an [online exhibition of their work-in-progress pieces](#).

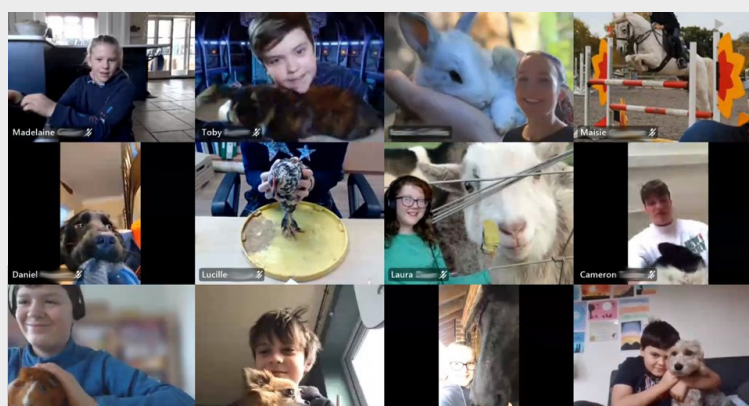
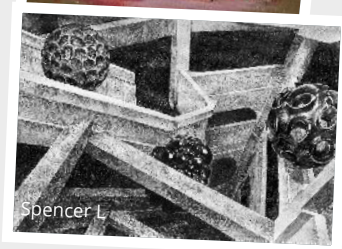
She explained: "I have been so impressed with how Year 13 have continued with their coursework during remote learning, they have all been so motivated and engaged really well with lessons. Two weeks ago we did some group critiques with the Fine Art and Textile Design students and Miss Collins, Mrs Clarke and myself really enjoyed hearing them talk about and discuss their work in such an articulate manner. I have put together

this online exhibition as a celebration of their work so far as I think they all deserve some recognition for their passion and commitment to their projects."

Later in the year there will be a summer exhibition of final artwork from pupils in years 11, 12 and 13.



Click for EXHIBITION



Miss Collins' form, 7S, have been introducing their pets to their peers during form time on Wednesdays. Present this week were Otto the teckel, Rocky the guinea pig, Almond the pygmy goat, Magda the English pointer, Bella the Friesian, Charlotte the cat, Pip the border collie, Bigfoot the Barbu D'Uccle and Bella the Chihuahua.

CHEMISTRY

There have been some excellent projects on the go in the Chemistry Department this week. Year 9 were studying the structure of the atom, while Year 8 made water filters in their study of our water supply and its treatment.



ICT: YEAR 7 PUPILS GET TO GRIPS WITH 'HOUR OF CODE' PROJECT

Hereford Cathedral School pupils in Year 7 are developing excellent coding skills as they work their way through the Hour of Code project online. This initiative uses familiar platforms to help students build confidence and knowledge on how to code.

Students use a block code editor to start such as 'BBC Micro-bits'. This then helps them develop their Python and Java skills, ensuring they are

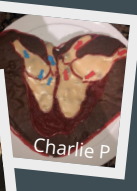
at the forefront of the coding movement.

Mr Phillips has been really impressed with the Year 7s' progress.



BTEC SPORT

Mrs Hopkins' Year 12 BTEC pupils have been revising the flow of blood through the heart and the organ's nervous control. The group have been really creative in their revision methods: baking cakes, using bikes to show the heart's function, and even demonstrating with a real cow's heart! Great innovation by our Sixth Formers.



ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME: HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE WEEK

Stars of the screen and the sports field provided some inspiration for Hereford Cathedral School pupils during this week's popular Enrichment Programme sessions.

More than 230 pupils and staff tuned in on Tuesday to hear stuntman David Newton talk about his exciting but dangerous day job. David, who grew up in Hereford, has spent more than 15 years performing stunts in blockbuster movies and hit TV shows, ranging from the *Harry Potter* films and the forthcoming James Bond movie *No Time To Die*, to *Game of Thrones* and *Dr Who*. David was inundated with questions at the end of the session, proving that this guest was a hit.

Wednesday's popular session saw ITV news anchor Matt Teale speak about the highlights of his broadcasting career. He spoke to pupils about the best routes into the industry, the positive pressure of working in a newsroom, and memorable on-screen interviews.

On Thursday evening, 50-time England international and two-time Six Nations champion, Tom Wood, spoke to pupils about his life in Rugby Union. He spoke about playing at Northampton Saints and how rejection from England U18s gave him the drive and determination to succeed in his sporting career.

Many thanks to pupils Liv A, Anna S, Alex P and Cam T for their assistance with hosting this week's Enrichment sessions.

Stuntman David Newton gave an exciting talk to pupils about his career in the film industry

Click to watch
ENRICHMENT
SESSIONS

Right: ITV newsreader Matt Teale spoke passionately about his broadcasting career

Northampton Saints and England player Tom Wood spoke to pupils about his career in rugby

ENRICHMENT: LOOKING AHEAD

- Jaime Thurston, founder of charity 52 Lives, 9 February, 11.15am
- Professional singers Patrick Dunachie OH and Ruari Bowen OH, 10 February, 10.45am
- Axel Dickinson, NZ international rower, 11 February, 7pm

HOUSE COMPETITION: FINAL PHOTOGRAPHY RESULTS

Over 100 photographs were submitted for January's **House Photography Competition** and what an amazing collection they were. Eight independent judges (none of whom is attached to a House and for their security cannot be identified) were challenged with the very difficult task of deciding upon the ranks for the finalists and these were announced in last week's HCS at Home.

The process to decide the outcome for the overall House Photography Competition is a long and complicated one, but in a nutshell, the result was calculated using the following formula: $R = \text{sum (ranks for finalists in each age category)} - \text{total number of photos submitted in each House}$ meaning that the House with the lowest number came out on top. Simple.

HOUSE PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION FINAL RESULTS

- 1st** Langford
- 2nd** Somerset
- 3rd** Stuart
- 4th** Cornwall

CCF: MAJOR PADDY KEATING MBE OH GIVES TALK TO ARMY SECTION

Last Friday, Hereford Cathedral School's CCF Army Section were lucky enough to hear a talk via Teams with Major Paddy Keating MBE, who is a former pupil of the School.

Major Keating spoke about his time as a pupil at HCS and his experiences of being a cadet in the School's CCF. He covered his university days in York before presenting the highlights of working with the United Nations and his career in the British Army. He talked the Cadets through his experiences of officer selection, and officer training at Sandhurst. He spoke about his regiment and the countries where he has served with them, including Iraq. Pupils were able to pose their own questions to Major Keating at the end of the session. It was a great talk and our Cadets gained a lot from it.



WE'RE WELL ON
OUR WAY DOWN
UNDER!

Thanks to a huge effort by the Hereford Cathedral School community, the Destination Australia challenge has now clocked up almost 8,000km (as of Friday morning). The aim is to have 'reached' Melbourne by 21 February. Excellent work by pupils, staff and parents.

KEEP UP TO DATE WITH OUR [REMOTE LEARNING PLAN](#)

