



Senior Newsletter

21 September 2018



Dear Parents

I hope you enjoy this newsletter which covers the very end of the summer term, the holidays and the first weeks of this new school year. I have been delighted with the way the School has operated in the first three weeks of term. The year has started with real pace and purpose.

From 27 September the "Inventing the Future" exhibition is running in Big School and I really would encourage any parent to come and view this extraordinarily wide ranging collection of objects which celebrates the contribution of over 40 former pupils to the world of the arts and design.

If anyone is interested in helping out as a volunteer guide then please contact Tim Bennett (tim11240@gmail.com // 01263 713039) . I know that he is still looking for some help.

I hope you all have a lovely relaxing weekend.

With best wishes

Douglas Robb
Headmaster

INVENTING THE FUTURE
An exhibition of significant designers, writers and artists from Gresham's who changed the world
Drawn from national, public and private collections, this major exhibition is the first to bring together the work of over 40 designers, architects, writers and artists all of whom were educated at Gresham's during the twentieth-century.

29th September – 14th October 2018
Big School, Gresham's, Holt, Norfolk
ENTRY FREE – LECTURE SERIES & EVENTS
www.inventingthefuture.info

Logos at the bottom: ART, Lycetts, ART & ANTIQUES APPRAISALS, Ollands



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BIOLOGY

Enrichment activities in the Biology department have already started well this term. Amelia Doran (Q) and Will Shaw (F) have been appointed co-secretaries of the school's prestigious Hodgkin Society and gave the first presentations of the year at a meeting earlier this week. Will gave an overview of how biology and technology have been crucial in the modernisation of farming and Amelia provided an account of research carried out by the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine on dormancy in *Trypanosoma cruzi* infections. In addition, the department is in the process of setting up an exciting new project in fungal barcoding as part of the Saturday morning Academic Enrichment activities. This will be a long-term project in conjunction with former Gresham's Biology teacher Dr Tony Leech and the John Innes Centre to set up a DNA isolation lab at Gresham's. Using a range of molecular biology techniques, the group will eventually be able to extract DNA from fungal samples for sequencing and then classification.

Mr M Gillingwater, Teacher Research Lead

FRENCH

Helena Hunt spent time in France improving her language skills during the school holidays. Here is what she has to say about her visit:

I spent part of my summer holiday staying with a French family living in Nice. Weekdays were spent at the local school, where all lessons were conducted in French with focus varying from day to day. While some focus was on grammar points and vocabulary, often activities were based on role-plays or speaking with the locals. Other students came from a variety of locations such as Belgium, Germany, Russia, Greece and Poland therefore all casual conversation had to be conducted in French as well which was instrumental in improving my conversational French skills in a short amount of time. Afternoon lessons were focused on speaking and listening skills and revolved primarily around debate, for example whether schoolteachers should be allowed to wear burkas at work - this was where having a class of diverse nationalities was so interesting, as each person had a different take on these kinds of issues. In the evenings, we spent time at the beach or playing volleyball before eating dinner back with our host families. Overall, it was a fantastic and slightly daunting experience which helped me to see the French language as it is really used and spoken in day-to-day life outside of the classroom, as well as fundamentally helping me improve my language skills whilst making friends along the way.



Well done to the U6 A Level French group for coming second in the international "this is language" summer holiday competition. Points are gained by pupils in the class for the work they put in on the interactive language site, so congratulations to the class for their independent work.

Mrs Anna Watt, Modern Languages Coordinator and Head of French



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SCIENCE GROUP 4 PROJECT

In September, Year 12 IB pupils took part in the Science 'Group 4' project. This involved all IB students from the different science subjects being placed into mixed groups to work together on a practical challenge.



Pupils were given the theme of 'materials' and had just three hours to plan an investigation of their choosing to fit with this theme.

Once planned, students then carried out their experiments over the course of a whole day, collecting data and modifying their experiment depending on the results obtained. They then had to present their data in a suitable format and prepare a presentation to show their findings and this was held in Tig's at the end of the day.

There were some excellent projects, ranging from testing the strength of different tights, to assessing the flammability of fabrics and even to testing if the material a food is presented in alters how we perceive it's taste! All students really engaged with the project and worked together brilliantly and it was especially good to see new friendships being made. There were some excellent presentations, enjoyed by staff and students and well done to everybody involved. Also a huge thank you to the staff supporting the project, especially the laboratory technicians who worked hard to source and prepare all the equipment requested.



Mr P Detnon, IB Coordinator



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ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT LECTURES

Brexit – two contrasting views debated

On Friday 7 September, pupils, parents, staff, and OGs from both the Senior and Prep schools joined Simon Kinder and Richard Peaver to reflect on what has happened so far and discuss what perhaps is to come. Mr Peaver, former Housemaster and French Teacher, first proposed arguments in support of the UK leaving the EU with a particular emphasis on the changing relationship between the two and the benefits of greater control of immigration and trade. Mr Kinder, Gresham's Head of History, then presented views against Brexit, focusing on a lack of direction since the triggering of Article 50. Following these points, the floor was opened up to a broad range of questions from audience members of all ages. Discussion continued on well after the end of the event, which was a model example of a civil and reasoned debate on an issue that has otherwise been associated with misinformation and confusion.

Future events:

- Friday 28 September: *Unique? Why the Gresham's war memorial window matters*
Adrian Barlow, Chapel
- Friday 9 November: *1918 Remembered: Centenary reflections on the Armistice*
Gresham's History Department and Guests, Fishmongers' Recital Hall
- Friday 23 November: *Beliefs in witchcraft in central Africa*
Dr Rebecca Mitchell, Fishmongers' Recital Hall

Talks are on Fridays from 6 – 7pm. All are most welcome. Contact Marc Gillingwater for more information (mgwater@greshams.com).





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GARDEN CLUB

Fishing and eel trap trip to Bayfield Estate

Although eel numbers have declined precipitously in recent decades, the Norfolk River Trust has had some success recording elvers moving into the River Glaven, and older eels into the river and associated ponds and lakes. The Norfolk River Trust is working on reconnecting back-waters and ponds in order to improve habitat for eels, by felling trees in flood-risk-free areas and implementing new eel passes to improve eel and fish passage upstream.



We checked the trap and after this photo was taken the eel slipped from the net and back to the wrong side of the sluice gate next to Bayfield Lake!

The European eel is a critically endangered species. Since the 1970s, the numbers of eels reaching Europe is thought to have declined by around 90%. Contributing factors include overfishing, parasites, barriers to migration such as hydroelectric dams, and natural changes in the North Atlantic oscillation, Gulf Stream, and North Atlantic drift.

The ancient city of Ely occupies the largest island in the Cambridgeshire Fens. The "Isle of Ely" is so called because it was only accessible by boat until the water-logged Fens were drained in the 17th century. Still susceptible to flooding today, it was these watery surrounds that gave Ely its original name the 'Isle of Eels', a translation of the Anglo Saxon word 'Eilig'.

As with last year's trip, no fish were caught, but the process was fun. This year we tried sweet corn and worms dug up by the club's president Ollie Whitten. Alfie Woolcock has been recently elected as the fishing lead officer, as he displayed far more knowledge on rivers and out-classed the sea fisherman Mason from the Seychelles.

Many thanks to Ursula Juta, the Eel Education Officer, for showing us this mysterious creature, and setting up another fishing session. Our pay-back will be digging some meadows at Bayfield.

Mr S Brown, Head of Geography



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CCF

It was a busy summer for the CCF with an assortment of camps and courses attended by over 50 cadets. A substantial number of the army section attended a summer camp based at Beckingham in Lincolnshire and enjoyed a packed programme of adventurous and military activities including shooting with a variety of weapon systems, climbing, biking, sailing, kayaking and a full simulated battle exercise. The RAF Section Camp was at RAF St Mawgan and included visits to local attractions, lots of adventurous training activities and shooting on the range. The RN section took advantage of a wide programme of courses with diverse activities such as sailing, ocean diving and musicianship all being experienced by Gresham's cadets.

Congratulations to the senior cadets for this year who were all promoted at the beginning of year parade – CSM Amy Matthews, CSgts Barnaby Gedney, Jack Stewart-Richardson, Rosie Gillett and Barney Gill, PO Libby Lukins and FSgt Lewi Bailey.

Mr S Gates, CCF Contingent Commander





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CCF RN Section

Cadets and staff from Gresham's CCF RN Section had a busy summer holiday taking part in a wide range of national courses. PO Cdt Tiah-Paige Davie completed training in offshore sailing, scuba diving, and attended an RM Band course at BRNC Dartmouth. She was joined on the latter camp by PO Cdt Oliver Carratu and AB 3* Marta Tallinn, who both successfully qualified as pool lifeguards. PO Cdt Oliver Carratu also completed the prestigious and challenging Senior Leadership Course run at HMS Raleigh. There was more offshore sailing and scuba diving enjoyed by PO Cdt James Westmore and OC Michael Haney respectively, Cdt Olly Holden joined a dinghy sailing course, and OC Sam Ellis successfully took part in the Adventure Challenge in North Wales. Lt Gillingwater also completed the section commanders' course in Portsmouth, which included a visit to HMS Queen Elizabeth, the section's affiliated ship, before her recent departure sailing across the Atlantic to collect the new F35 aircraft.



Mr M Gillingwater



To commemorate the new Commission 7 Inf Bde held a parade at Belvoir Castle on Saturday 2 June to celebrate this significant milestone in the history of the Cadet Force.

The senior inspecting officer was Lieutenant General Richard Nugee CVO CBE, Gresham's was represented 'on parade' by the CCF Contingent Commander (pictured) Lieutenant Colonel Simon Gates and Officer Commanding the Army section Captain Anna Watt.



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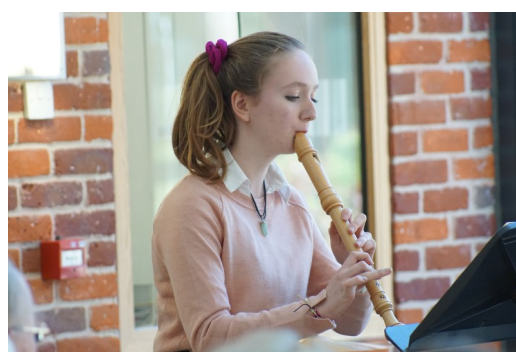
MUSIC

The start of any new academic year is exciting, and this year is certainly no exception. We have had an action-packed start to the new year in the Music School. With new rehearsal times, new ensembles and an exciting number of talented new pupils joining us, Music @ Gresham's has hit the ground running.

The summer ended with The Britten Music Course, which saw about 30 talented boys and girls playing and singing through the week. With plenty of trips out and sun and ice-cream (doesn't that seem a long time ago now), this was a week of focused music making, and was really fun and musically successful.

The Chapel Choir has already performed in a couple of services this term. This is the largest team in the School, with the longest fixture list! They have started well – fuelled in part by 'choir buns', which are now a central part of every Wednesday rehearsal...

The Music and Munch concerts, which are an informal lunchtime concert given every Thursday in Tig's Café, Britten Building from 1.20-1.50 pm, have started. The audience can enjoy listening to a variety of musical performances along with a light lunch. Parents, friends and family are always very welcome to join the audience on Thursdays – we look forward to seeing you there! The first concert featured many of our Music Award Holders: Effie Bowley (violin), Kate Webster (flute), Libby Faye (recorder), William Johnson (trombone), Diana Edwards (piano), Aaron Hollinger (drums), Dougie Wright (Guitar), Mr Chris Cooper and Mr Justin Myers (Jazz Quartet).





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MUSIC (cont/d)

A select number of singers sang Billy Joel's *And so it goes* at David Olby's memorial. It goes without saying, this was a hugely important service; they rehearsed and rehearsed, and rehearsed to make sure their performance was faultless, to honour this irreplaceable, special man. We felt sure he would have enjoyed the performance.

THREE MUST GET TO EVENTS BEFORE HALF TERM :

30 September: Emma Johnson : Arguably our nation's finest clarinetist, Emma Johnson comes to Gresham's to give a concert showing her amazing skills in less familiar guises. She is bringing musicians to perform ragtime, cakewalks and the habanera to the Auden theatre; certainly an eclectic programme, this promises to be an absolute delight!

This concert is part of our Subscription Concert Series; so please do look to see what else is on!

5 October: Faure Requiem at Binham Priory : If you haven't been to Binham Priory, then you must: Imagine a gorgeous ancient church (founded 1091) with one of the most famous choral works ever (Fauré's Requiem) and you can imagine the spell this evening casts over its audience. NO tickets required; come and be entranced!

12 October: House Music : This is one of the hottest tickets of the year; best of luck getting a ticket! Max only 2 per family – please apply directly through the Houses. This is a terrific part of the whole House Music Competition. Every single member of the school takes part; it is Gresham's at its very best!

Mr J Bowley, Director of Music

MUSIC TECHNOLOGY

Drummer Phil Crabbe who has worked with Gloria Gaynor, Candi Staton, Salena Jones, Mavis Staples, Mica Paris, Beverley Knight and Joss Stone came to help set up the fabulous new Mapex drum kit in the Strathmore Studio in the Britten Building. He stayed to do some recording sessions with the U6 Music Technology pupils.



Mr J Myers, Head of Music Technology



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DRAMA

We ended the summer celebrating the Auden's 20th birthday and 'Oh What A Night' it was. The audience in black tie walked the red carpet and then headed to take their seats in the Auden for a truly memorable night of Drama, Song and Dance. A big thankyou to all concerned, and a few pictures to take us back to the beginning of summer.





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DRAMA (cont/d)

We started the autumn term with the ensemble joining the principals as we begin rehearsals for *Grease*, the company is already reliving those *Summer Nights*. Meanwhile over in Scruffs a Sixth Form studio production of *DNA* has now been cast and is in rehearsal alongside preparations for our Drama Evening-of monologues and duologues which will be presented on Friday 28 September at 8.00pm. Two excellent trips to see *Julie*- a National Theatre Live production and *Private Peaceful* by Scamp theatre brings us to home weekend.

Miss B O'Brien, Director of Drama



Oakeley celebrates its 40th birthday!

Oakeley opened its doors last Friday afternoon to OGs, staff and parents to celebrate its 40th anniversary. It was lovely to see so many OGs, some of whom had been amongst the first girls here under John Rayner. The history of girls at Gresham's is an interesting one, which started in 1971 with just two girls! Year 9 started their enrichment with an insight into life as a girl back then, which was then recounted at the Oakeley House assembly. Many thanks to Liz Larby in the Archives department for her work on the display board, which is still in Oakeley common room for anyone wishing to come along and read all about it.

Mrs K Mousley, Headmistress of Oakeley





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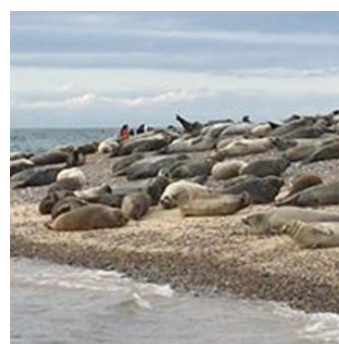
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BOARDERS' FIRST EXCURSION

What better way to show off the North Norfolk coast to our new (and returning) boarders than a seal trip from Morston! The weather was kind and the seals and common seal pups aplenty. Many were talking about a return trip in November when the grey seals have their pups.

Mrs K Mousley, Headmistress of Oakeley



HOCKEY

The first block fixture of the term saw teams play a triangular against Norwich School and The Perse. All the teams enjoyed close matches and played some good hockey especially when defending.

The 1st team played a hard fought draw against the Perse, there were few chances at either end due to the battle in midfield but Sophie Turner made some good saves to keep us in it. Then came our old adversary Norwich School, in another tough game with few chances at either end Norwich managed to capitalise from a penalty corner and then score again to make the final result 2-0 to them. Player of the day was Lucie Thomas for her work rate up front.



Mr D Buckmaster, Head of Hockey



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FOOTBALL

After making the long journey to Felsted the team fell behind after 3 minutes to a penalty. Following this early setback a titanic effort was capped by a superb 20 yard equaliser scored by Ben Withers before half time. Gresham's continued to play well and give maximum effort in the second half. This was rewarded when August Pieper scored to make it 2-1 to Gresham's. Unfortunately a breakaway goal drew the home side level with pretty much the last kick of the match.

Final score 2-2. A great achievement for a Gresham's team missing 7 players injured/ill or otherwise unavailable. Man of the Match - Manuel Berretero for several vital high quality saves.



Mr J Wheeler, Master I/C Football

CRICKET

Congratulations to Charlie Adams, Nat Laws and Ben Wilcox on being selected for the Norfolk Lions at the end of August and start of this term. This team is the Norfolk CCC 2nd XI and they play fixtures in the East of England League and is a pathway to playing for Norfolk in the Minor Counties Championship. Nat played in the games versus Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire whilst Charlie and Ben played in the game v Huntingdonshire at Manor Park (Horsford CC). This is a tremendous achievement for the boys as the standard of cricket is very high and all performed excellently in their matches and impressed the coaches and supporters on the boundary!



It was also a special summer for Chris Brown (Director of Cricket) who retired from playing and captaining Norfolk in the Minor Counties Championship (3-day format) at the end of the season. He became the 2nd highest wicket taker in Norfolk CCC history in taking over 500 Championship wickets – an incredible achievement! It was fitting that his final Championship game v Bedfordshire saw him in fine style taking 4 wickets and inspiring Norfolk to a fine win. Chris will remain in post as Coach to the Norfolk Squad next year as well as his role in overseeing the County Age-Group programmes.

Mr S Adams, Director of Sport



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RUGBY

The Rugby Club has had a very positive start to the term with their two block fixtures. In the first matches against Framlingham College, Gresham's won 6 of the 7 games, with the pick being the U16s first ever win beating their opposition 22-0. Last weekend, there were 8 fixtures against the Leys School and Gresham's came out on top in 6 of the 8 games. Particularly pleasing was the very hard fought 8-5 away win by the 1st XV.

Mr S Worrall, Head of Rugby



FOUNDATION

We are now a full team in the Development Office with Suzanne Reid joining us this term with plans for the year taking shape. Recent Foundation Grant Awards aimed at enhancing the Gresham's student experience include Pre-Prep outdoor learning furniture, drama hanging microphones, specialist learning support equipment, pizza oven essentials and a sports video camera to be used in playback coaching. All very useful but not school budget items. The Foundation, which primarily relies on receiving regular donations, is the place to turn to for its bi-annual application for its Small Grants Scheme.

Thank you again to those of you who have taken up the Donate School Deposits Campaign gifting them to the Foundation. We are extremely grateful for your philanthropy as will the children who will benefit from the Bursaries your donations will enable. Thank you!

The "Take Your Seat" Auden Campaign steams ahead with names on seats starting off the winner fundraising choice so far this term. Thank you, again, to those of you who are grabbing their seat. For those who would like to sponsor a seat please follow the link [here](#) to complete the form.



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FOUNDATION (cont/d)

The Foundation website will be updated over the upcoming weeks and will include a *donate now* button and *gift aid*. Keep an eye out for this from mid-October. We welcome all direct debit regular donation sign ups, small or not so small. We can still arrange this through the [Development Office](#) until we are online. It is the basis from which we can continue to make the difference that heralds the School's uniqueness.

You are all very welcome to drop by The Development Office which is in the CFB to the left of reception. We would love to meet you, have a cuppa and welcome any ideas or suggestions to help our aim in raising funds to make a difference for our future remarkable OGs.

Mrs S Reid, Development Director

OLD GRESHAMIAN SUCCESS STORIES



Harry Simmons (W 2007 - 16) Gresham's are delighted to be a player sponsor of former pupil and scrum-half Harry Simmons at Leicester Tigers this season. A first-team debut followed in November 2017 and at the end of the term he was chosen as Young Player of the Year by his team-mates.

Olivia Colman (O 1990 - 92) was recently awarded 'Best Actress' at the Venice film festival for her role as Queen Anne. She has also been named the most powerful person in British TV.

Myra Mwang'ombe (O 2009 - 14) released her debut single BE MINE which is now available to purchase, stream and download on ALL major platforms 🎵

We love welcoming back OGs to Gresham's. Here are a few of our recent visitors . . .



(L to R) Hannah Fritsch (E 2012), Simon Kinder, Alice Absalom (E 2014)



(L to R) Suzanne Reid, Tim Hipperson (k & H 1994), Ian Johnson (W 1967), Geoffrey Hipperson (H 1965) and George Tusa (F 1951)



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OG CLUB—RECENT EVENTS

Auden Theatre 20th Anniversary Concert



Celebrating 20 years of the Auden Theatre at Gresham's, 'Welcome to La La Land', current pupils and Old Greshamians performed songs and prose in a special performance to an invited audience on Friday 29 June. Alumnus, and member of the Brit-Award winning group Blake, Humphrey Berney (T, 1993-'98) opened the evening with 'The Impossible Dream' from Man of La Mancha.

Paul Hands said a few words about the Auden theatre project, which came to fruition whilst he was in post as Director of Drama at Gresham's. The theatre has grown in stature over the years hosting a diverse range of pupil-led and professional productions. It has served as an important arts hub for the local community as well as being one of the main venues for the annual Holt Festival welcoming national and international performers.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

OG Rugby Match – 29.09.18: Under 25s v Over 25s, Gresham's first team pitch, KO 12.30pm – all welcome to support

1914-1918 Never Such Innocence - 29.09.18: Tickets £10. To book contact Auden BoxOffice or <https://audentheatre.ticketsolve.com/shows>

OG Lincolnshire Dinner, Petwood Hotel, Lincolnshire – 02.11.18

OG Over 60s Autumn Lunch, Big School – 10.11.18

OGs v Gresham's Girls XI – 15.11.18

Gresham's / Holt Rugby Club Sponsored Lunch - 17.11.18: £21 for lunch, arrival at 12pm, Holt Rugby Club. Holt 1st XV v Crusaders, KO2.15pm

If you are interested in attending any of these events please email the OG Club office (ogclub@greshams.com)