

Gonville House Newsletter

Summer Term 2020

It is certainly strange to be writing a newsletter to you all when most of the news has happened closer to you than me! An extraordinary term has seen a huge amount of effort and work from the pupils without ever setting foot on the school site. New technologies have become second nature, resilience and independence have been tested and developed, and huge demands have been placed upon parents to police and cheerlead. Thank you all for your efforts. I am certain that the remote-learning, while tiresome, will be of great benefit to the boys in the long term. Certainly their hard work has ensured that they have not fallen behind in terms of the material covered and they have continued to be assessed and monitored.

Of course, the glaring difference this term has been the lack of social contact and far fewer co-curricular opportunities. Having said that, it was gratifying to see so many contributing to the Gonville to Townsville challenge which, though still short of Townsville, is making great progress at 12,500km. Pupils also took part in the Virtual Diamond League and the Keep it Moving video edited by Henry Drew. Some photos commemorating this strange period for everyone are displayed later in the newsletter.

Despite the circumstances, there are some excellent achievements and prizes to celebrate. As usual I have collated the pupils with the best academic effort and improvement on page 3. The following won school prizes:

Mark Burnham - Senior Politics Prize.

William Reeves - The Godden Memorial Award (services to Gonville).

Wilson Zhang - The NJ Hill Junior DT Prize.

William Lominchar Ormeño - Year 10 DT Prize and entry to G&T programme.

William Daniels - Headmaster's Prize for all-round contribution to Year 9.

Further to these, the following were awarded class prizes for effort this term:

Denzel Armah	- Art
Oscar Baker	- Biology
William Daniels	- Geography
Adam Emin	- Philosophy & Theology
Humphrey Hare	- Product Design
William Lominchar Ormeño	- Biology
Leo Makarov	- English
Arthur McKay	- Geography & History
Tawanda Muyeye	- Chemistry
Lucas Perez Ruiz-Esteller	- PE
Brian Tong	- English
Wilson Zhang	- English

Rohan Van de Ven - Departmental Commendations in French and History.

The following were awarded colours:

George Pepper	- Full Golf Colours
William Reeves	- Full DT Colours

Arthur McKay	- Half DT colours
Wilson Zhang	- Half DT colours

KEY DATES:

Wednesday 2 September

New pupil induction day

Boys return

Thursday 3 September

First day of term

Friday 25 September

U6th Parents' meeting

Exeat 2.35pm

Saturday 6 October

L6th Dinner

Friday 16 October

L6th Parents' meeting

Half term 2.35pm

Sunday 1 November

Boys return 4pm-9pm

Friday 20 November

Year 9 Parents' meeting

Exeat begins 2.35pm

Saturday 28 November

Gonville House Revue

Saturday 12 December

Gonville Christmas Dinner

Wednesday 16 December

Term Ends



Gonville to Townsville - the line shows us close to Australia, but still a long way from our aim.

Awards of Special Note in 2020

Tawanda Muyeye - Wisden Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year

Awarded in April in recognition of his outstanding season last summer in which he scored more than 1100 runs as well as being 'the best U18 spinner in Sussex and an electric fielder' according to Mr Ferley. This prestigious award, whose previous recipients have included Jonny Bairstow, Jos Buttler and James Taylor, marks Tawanda out as a remarkable talent and unique among Eastbournian cricketers. Of course, Tawanda felt that last season could have been better, despite a double hundred against Brighton (his second for the College - another first) and breaking the school batting record. It is a great shame that we never got to see what he could do in a 'good season'. We will have to wait for news of how his career progresses and hope that his ambitions of playing for England are met, just like the three previous recipients above. As the 2020 Edition of the Wisden Almanack says he is "a batsmen destined to empty bars".



Henry Drew - Head of School 2020-21

It is always special to have the Headmaster's appointment in the house. It has not been an honour regularly bestowed upon Gonville in recent times (with only two in the previous 25 years). Generally candidates mark themselves out through grasping every opportunity to contribute and support school events, while also being a fine role model academically and in the wider school. Henry has certainly made a big impression on Gonville since his arrival. In particular, he has been very active in the community, taking part in the School Council, Food Committee, Charity Concert, School productions, 1st XV rugby, ESP drama club, marshalling for the Eastbourne Marathon and helping out in the baby room at St Andrew's (until Toby scared him away). He has also been passionate in house success, whether in sport or on stage. He has shown leadership in championing inclusion, diversity and litter-picking (to name a few) in house meetings. We all wish him well in the role.

Academic Review

eRC (effort) Wall of Fame

Year 12

Humphrey Hare	5.86
Adam Emin	5.67
Victor Chan	5.51
Shintaro Hashimoto	5.4
Carter Ho	5.4
Henry Drew	5.36

Most improved from last term:

Humphrey Hare	+1.35
Adam Emin	+0.79
Kosi Oguine	+0.53

Year 10

William Lominchar Ormeño	5.94
Brian Tong	5.91
Lucas Perez Ruiz-Esteller	5.87
Luke Clifford	5.67
Edward Rowell	5.67
Denzel Armah	5.45

Most improved from last term:

Denzel Armah	+0.89
William Lominchar Ormeño	+0.65
Luke Clifford	+0.53

Year 9

William Daniels	5.24
Oliver Du Feu	4.85
Rohan Van de Ven	4.73

Most improved from last term:

Max Crowther	+0.37
Oliver Rose	+0.25

Show Hsm Roll of Honour

(Denotes praise which is slightly less good than a show hsm, but still awarded for excellent effort)

Year 13

Josh Mantle	2
William Reeves	2
Nicholas Siu	2

Year 12

Victor Chan	5 (2)
Henry Drew	5 (2)
George Pepper	4 (3)
Adam Emin	3 (2)
Rupert Plumtre	2 (8)

Year 11

Wilson Zhang	10
Arthur McKay	8
En Goh	5 (6)
Herbert Keung	4 (1)

Year 10

Denzel Armah	9 (9)
Brian Tong	8 (3)
William Lominchar Ormeño	7 (13)
Luke Clifford	7 (1)
Lucas Perez Ruiz-Esteller	4 (5)

Year 9

Max Crowther	10 (5)
Aidan Yao	9 (6)
William Daniels	6 (13)
Rohan Van de Ven	5 (7)
Leo Makarov	5 (2)

GONVILLE IN LOCKDOWN



HAIRCUTS....



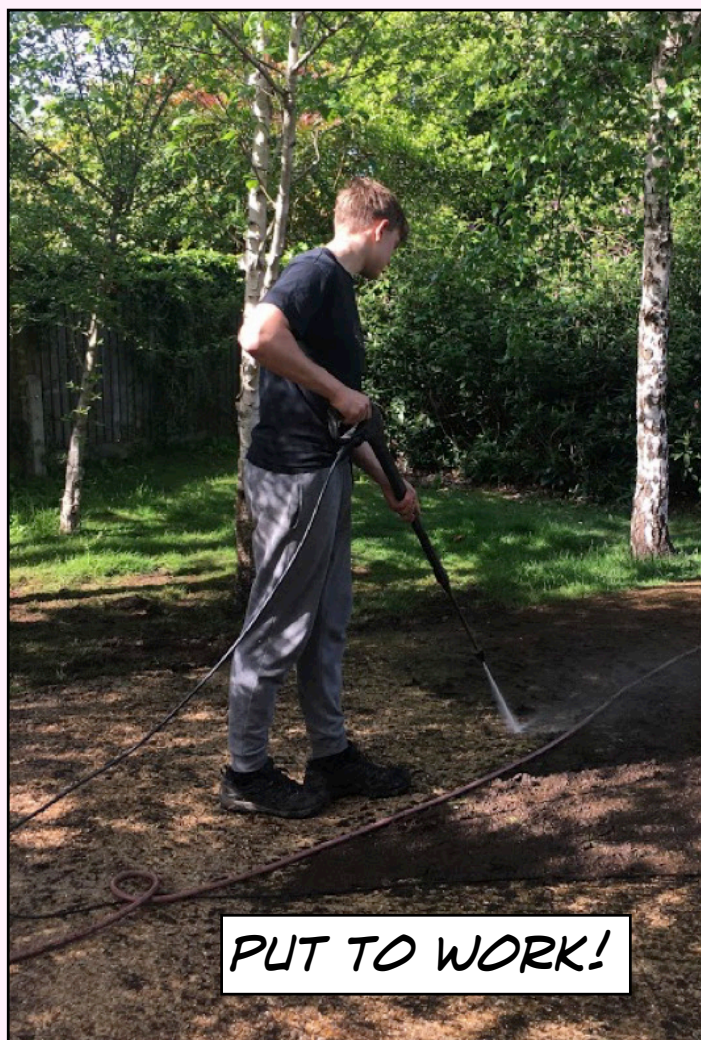
TRAINING



NEW PERSPECTIVES

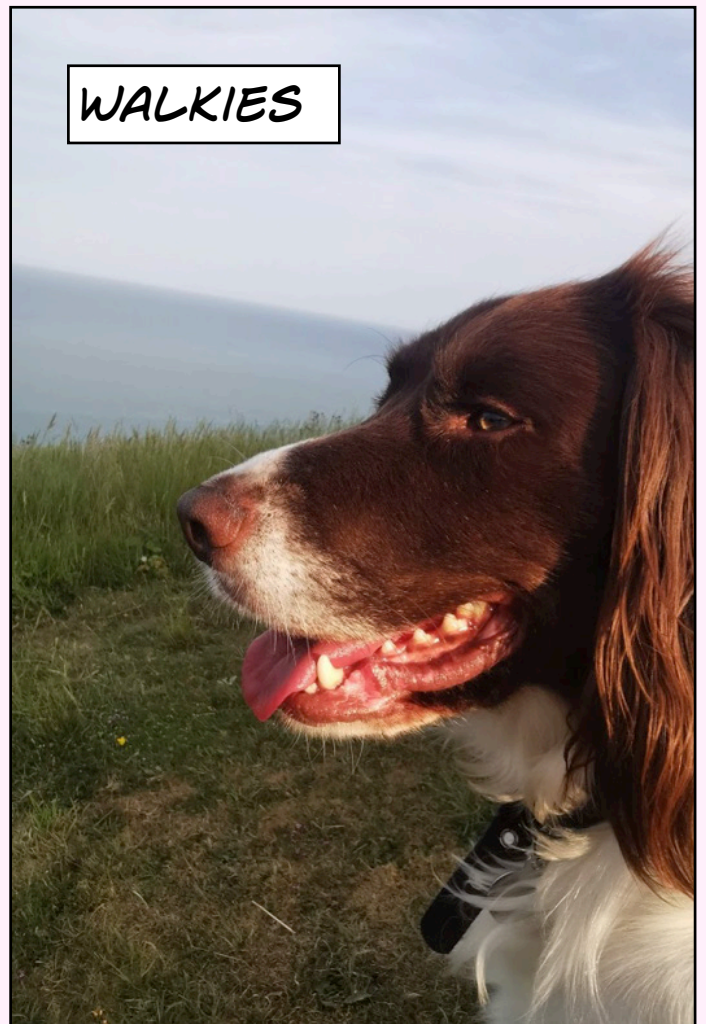


TIE WITHDRAWAL





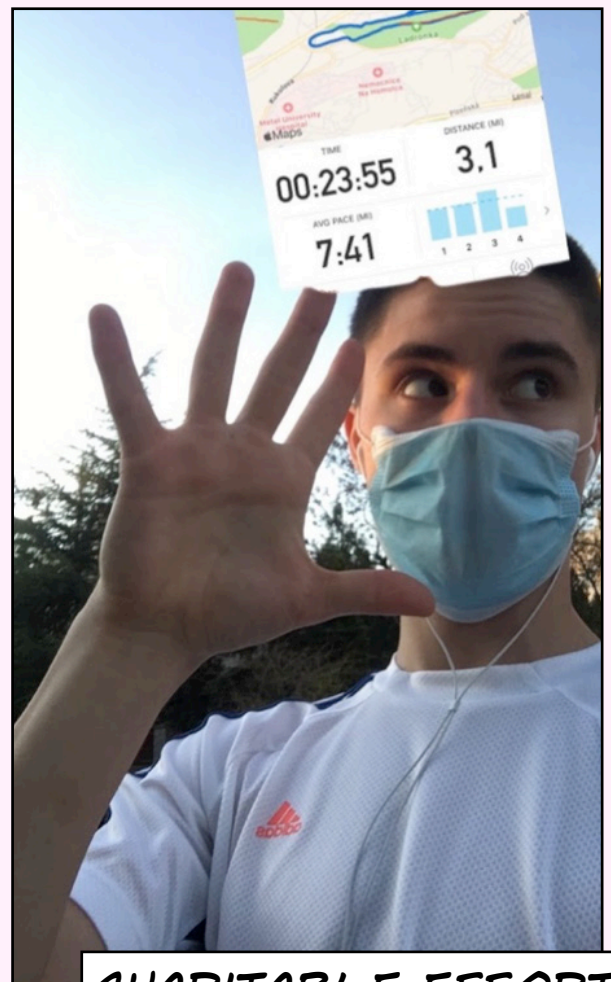
SOCIAL DISTANCING



WALKIES



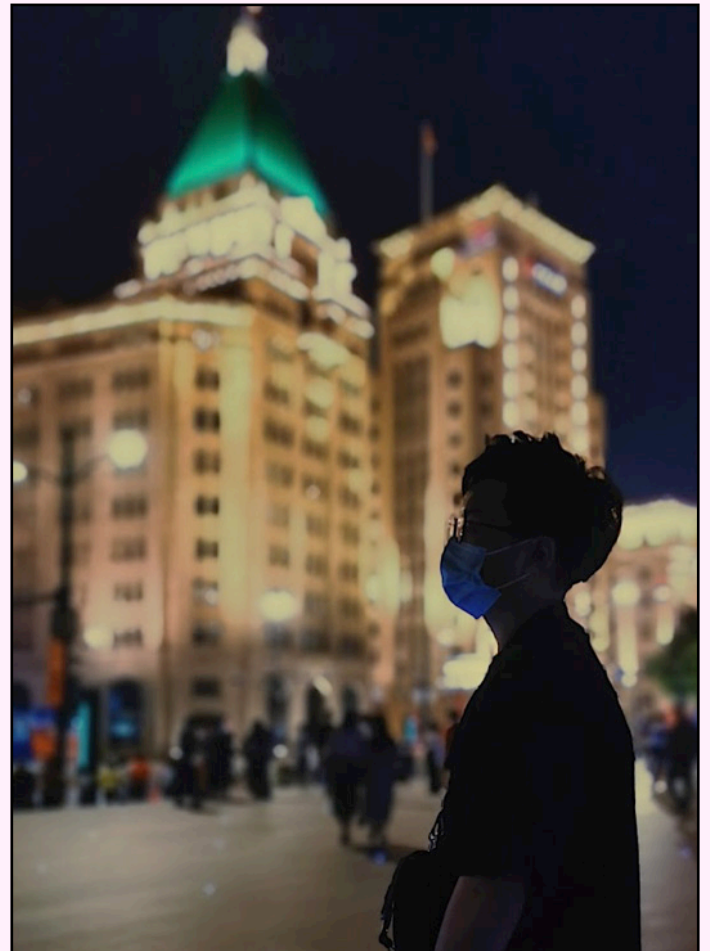
BEARHUNTS



CHARITABLE EFFORTS



POSING



COMPETITION ENTRIES



OVERCOMING HURDLES





HANGING OUT



THANKING



REMEMBERING

Message from outgoing Head of House



We welcomed a new housemaster to Gonville this year in the form of Mr Wingfield Digby. The Wingfield Digby's hospitality was immediately demonstrated as they hosted each year group for dinner, getting to know everyone and breaking down the barriers between house and home.

In addition to this we have also welcomed a new resident tutor, Mr Ford, who is not only new to Gonville but also to EBC. His musical wisdom and military precision mixed with his humour and generosity of spirit made a certain impact on Gonville. Luckily for my Russian colleagues he let slip early on his fluency in their native tongue...

As a team, Matron, Mr Ford and Mr Wingfield Digby have very quickly become pillars of Gonville, supporting and strengthening the house. Changes such as the introduction of troops were implemented; splitting the house in a linear fashion, across year groups and encouraging teamwork, mixed with healthy competition at weekends, soon meant we bonded over FIFA tournaments, table tennis matches and competitive gingerbread house decoration, to name a few activities.

We have kept busy with many inter-house events including swimming, football, rugby, fives, the aquathlon and steeplechase. I can't say we have won everything, but to always give yourself the opportunity to win and to be gracious in defeat are words that ring true in Gonville. For house singing, our rendition of Piña Colada was stunning, and despite being absent for the competition, I had spent many an evening hoarse from the fondly named 'house shout'.

Five years is not a particularly significant amount of time, yet the friends I have made and the experiences I have had in Gonville will remain with me forever. I wish all the best for my fellow Gonvillians and hope they enjoy it as much as I did.



William
Reeves

VALE

It is of great sadness that so many were unable to spend their final term in Gonville. They have all had a significant impact upon our community and the wider school. I thought it would be nice to write a couple of lines about them in these pages:

Mark Burnham - Mark was the cornerstone of the house football team and conducted the house singing with unique style. His Gold Arts Award film was a tour-de-force with Mark writing, directing, editing and organising a guest speaker for the screening event. He served as a house prefect and leaves us for College in California and a continued grounding in film-making.

Nikita Bilibin - Apart from trying to claim the upper floor of Bushey Ruff this year for his native Russia, Nikita has been an effective house prefect. His humour, friendliness and optimistic outlook have made him a popular member of the house. I am certain that his quick wits and gift of the gab will bring him great success in the future. We also found out this term that he is good at wakeboarding - even when he should be working.

Chirag Gupta - Possibly the only pupil to attempt to set up a company registered at Gonville and certainly the most fearless tackler on the rugby field. He was even chauffeur driven to one game by the coach as his power nap had extended until 10 minutes before kick off. Chirag is a brilliant friend, a proud Gonvillian and extremely able. He, like us all, has some areas of development, but I have no doubt that success lies ahead as he heads to Massachusetts for College.

Mingzhe Hu - Wonderful company and strong academically, although he could be tough to tempt away from Bushey Ruff. His sense of style will live long in the memory, especially the 'comfiest looking pyjamas of all time'. Contributed well to the house senior Aquathlon team and the Steeplechase. He is certainly ready for the next challenge.

Elliot Jones - Elliot would certainly get an A* for chattiness. He has had wonderful presence in the foyer, chewing the fat with young and old alike. He served as a prefect, was always willing to give for the house whether Aquathlon, sport, singing or Steeplechase. The dance guru will also be remembered for delaying the house revue dress rehearsal for 15 minutes as he wanted to take a dip in a big puddle on College field. Intelligence and spontaneity do not always mesh perfectly.

Joshua Mantle - A career in medicine is the aim for Josh. His hard work and thoroughly impressive extended project presentation suggest that he will be at home in the field. As a Liverpool fan at least he knows anything is possible in 2020! Josh has served well as a house prefect, was crowned best FIFA player in the house and has helped to drive on other house events.

Tawanda Muyeye - We have heard much about his cricket, but Tawanda has been more valued in Gonville for his moral fibre and compassion. He has been an excellent Deputy Head of House (when not in the nets) and has set a fine example for others to follow. His loss will be felt by all, but especially our house hockey team or "The Powell Slayers" as I like to think of them.

Christian Phillips - Christian has crammed plenty into his time at the College and also hopes to be heading north in September to study medicine. He has been a supportive Deputy Head of House when he has had a moment. The try he scored for the U16 development squad against the least pleasant schoolboy team I have seen, will stand long in the memory. He showed, in that cauldron, that he is a man with a cool head and plenty of determination.

William Reeves - There is more to Will than just the Head of House that printed the House Revue programmes back to front (or rather designed them like that so his feckless hsm printed them wrong). Utterly dependable in all areas (with perhaps the exception of maths) he was the worthy winner of the Godden Trophy. Sporting success was found in both hockey and equestrianism (a little more in the latter). His creativity and design capabilities are bound to see him successful.

Nicholas Siu - Nick has served wonderfully as a house prefect and managed, among other things, to cure me of my Diet Coke addiction through regular shaming. He is direct, honest and caring. He loved a good story and would be in his element at a tutor or house dinner. I will always remember Nick for an incident in Year 10 when, despite being a 'reluctant' rugby player, he managed to gather the ball and score his first and only try. This wonderful moment of triumph over adversity is not a memory that Nick carries with him to university as he took a head knock on his way over the line and has no recollection of his finest hour on the field. I would feel sorry for him, but he took my Diet Coke away from me.

Harry Yeung - Harry has had success in the classroom and on the basketball court this year. He has a huge passion for the latter and I am pleased that he has some exciting memories of buzzer beaters and success. He has been excellent company in prefect meetings and those roll calls he attended. I wish him the best for the next challenge.

As well as our Year 13, others leavers are:

Oscar Baker - Oscar leaves to attend BHASVIC where he can study graphic design. He has been unfailingly wonderful company and caring to others.

En Goh - En's academic record was outstanding and it was no surprise to hear of his amazing efforts in the DT NEA. We will miss his flawless character, hard work and endless good will.

Sebastian Schmid - With us for one year before returning to Germany, Seb threw himself into life at school. An early sea swim taught him a few lessons about the English Channel. We wish him success in his next endeavour.

Max Herrmanns - A quarterback in Austria, Max took to rugby quite well representing the U16s. He settled fast into his year group and the school. We wish him well back in Austria.

Nicolay Kharbarov - Unfailingly polite and reliable, Nicolay heads to sixth form in Exeter with his parents. We will miss his dry sense of humour and house revue cameo.

Tessen Von Heydebreck - With us for one year before returning to Brazil, Tessen had plenty of success on the tennis court and brought some class to house football.

Elombe Case - An impressive young man with academic, musical and athletic prowess. More importantly a caring and kind character. He will be missed.

Brian Tong - An amazing year academically with a headmaster's commendation and consistently stratospheric effort. Also threw himself into new sporting challenges with great maturity.

Lucas Perez - Among the nicest young men in the house! Constantly smiling, impressive character and effort. Well liked by all. Do you have to return to Spain?

Duncan Phillips - We wish him well in Powell as a day pupil and look forward to seeing him in house competition next year!

I wanted to draw everyone's attention to the following opportunities for academic extension and information gathering:

Headmaster's Challenge Competition for Years 9, 10 & 11:

Context:

You might be aware that the Eastbourne Schools Partnership (ESP) is supporting the plan to bring the Eden Project to Eastbourne by developing certain areas which will enable people, and above all young people, to re-connect with their local environment. Many local and national organisations are coming together to submit their ideas on 9 November.

The challenge:

The Headmaster's Challenge this year is to work collaboratively to produce imaginative ideas for the first part of the project: the transformation of part of the Jubilee Way adjacent to Eastbourne to bring to life our magical countryside. Further details can be found in the letter and by emailing reception@eastbourne-college.co.uk. This will give you access to the Microsoft Teams page that has the details of the site and the supporting documents. It is suggested that this should be a collaborative effort and, as boarders, you would be wise to find a partner local to Eastbourne who could recce the site and send information.

Please still read the letters (sent on Monday 29 June) as they also contain information about the opportunities the pupils have for academic extension such as the Model UN and Saturday workshops.

Interview Skills Success for Sixth Form Pupils in Year 11 and L6th:

The Futures Department is excited to offer pupils the chance to flex their interview muscles with the Interview Guru. The Interview Guru, led by James Luckhurst and team, have been visiting the College for over 20 years, helping pupils understand how to make the most of their skills and strengths when it comes to participating in competitive interviews.

There is an extra cost and details can be found in the end of term mailings or by emailing me. Places will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis, and are limited. To book a place for your son, please complete the date selection and relevant payment via [WisePay link](#) no later than Wednesday 30 September 2020.

Uniform information:

Much has been sent out about the new uniform. In summary all Year 9 next year will wear it, there is no impact upon sixth form (other than the need for Year 12 to wear a College overcoat if required as other coats will not be permitted with their suits) and the boys moving up from Year 10 to 11 may not require it before they reach the suits and the sixth form. Those who will be returning in Year 10 will have to purchase the new uniform at some point before September 2021 (their Year 11). Exactly when is dependent upon their growth and how long they can wear their current uniform.

The relevant websites for further info are:

Sports kit: <https://playerlayer.com/>

Uniform: <https://www.schoolblazer.com/>

Finally, I hope everyone has a restful and healthy summer. I look forward to seeing you all in September. Please remember to return with sensible haircuts - I would hate for anyone to be kept out of school for such an avoidable reason. Happy holidays!

