

BLACKWATER

Lent Term 2021

When I took on the role of Blackwater Housemistress I was excited and eager to get started, little did I know that I would only manage one day before we had to revert to remote learning. I have had an incredibly enjoyable term and it has been a delight to get to know everyone in house. I want to take this opportunity to thank people.

Firstly—thank you to the girls for joining me each week for our year group meetings and for getting stuck into the activities, even the ones that were not to everyone's taste! It must have been strange to get to know me across a screen but I hope that it gave the girls something to look forward to each week.

Secondly—thank you to Bella and the Prefect team who have not only supported the girls in house by checking in on them whilst we were all away from school but also for coming up with ideas to engage the house and keep spirits high. You have set the bar high and next years prefect will have a lot of work to do to match you.

Thirdly—a big thank you from all of the girls and myself needs to go to our excellent tutor team who have looked after the academic and emotional well-being of your daughter's this term. I know that the girls and tutors prefer to have face-to-face meetings and it has been really nice to see socially distanced tutor meetings in the common room and around house over the last 2 weeks.



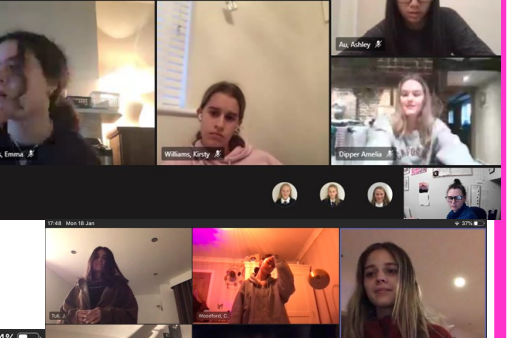
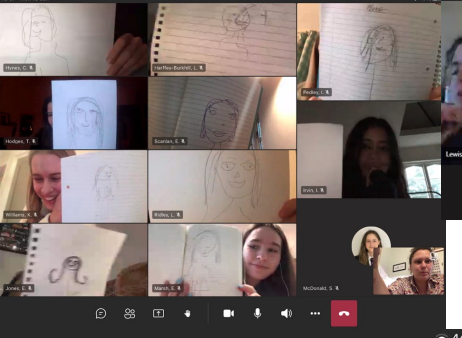
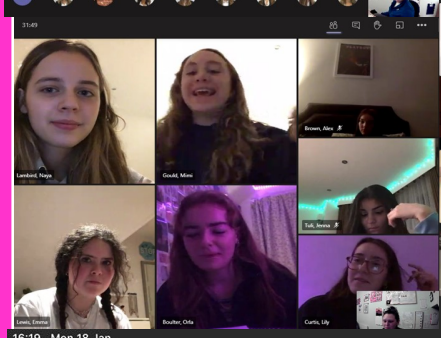
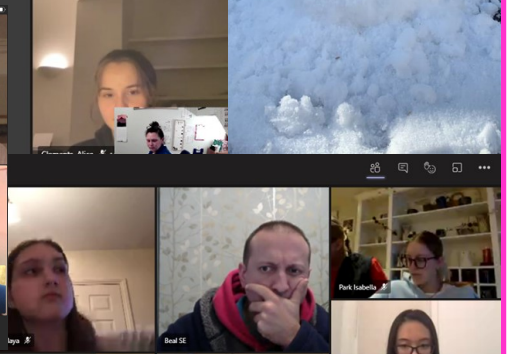
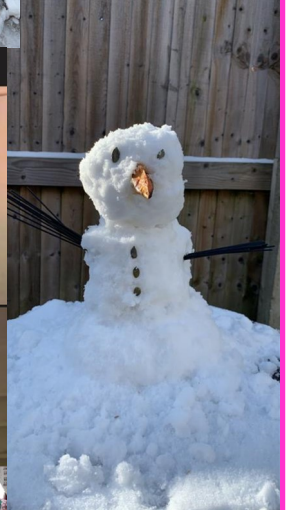
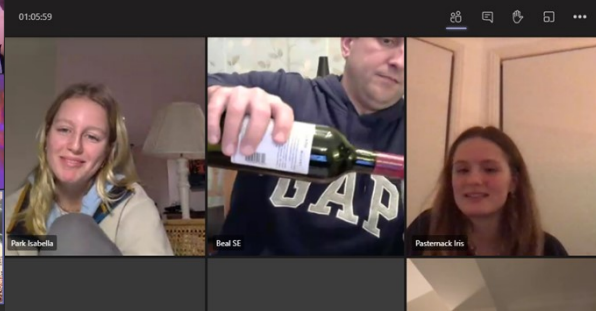
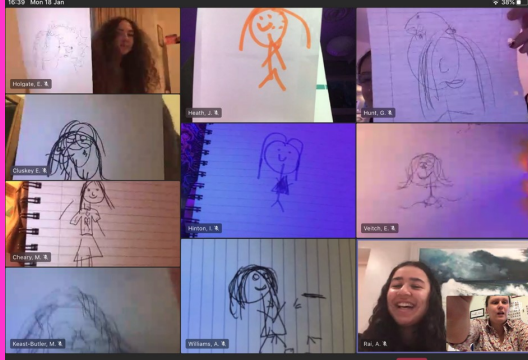
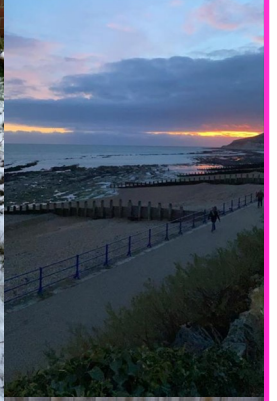
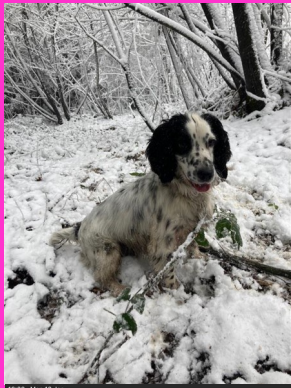
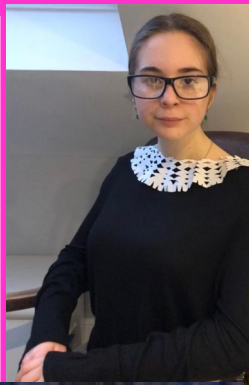
Fourthly—I know that the girls have appreciated the lengths that staff have gone to this term to keep everyone engaged and on track academically. Thanks must go to all staff, from the sports department keeping everyone motivated with work out sessions to the classroom teachers who have adapted lessons for their classes.

Finally—a massive thank you to all of the parents who have support their daughter's with online learning. Houses have been rearranged to give dedicated work spaces and WiFi routes have been strategically placed around the house so that everyone gets some signal! I hope that you all enjoyed having time with your daughters around you but I am sure that you are all glad that next term we will be able to return to a proper school routine.

I for one cannot wait for the Summer term so that I can see the Blackwater girls back in house and College, enjoying all of the amazing opportunities that we have on offer.

In the meantime, I wish you all a lovely Easter break and hope that you are able to get out and about to enjoy some glorious sunny spring walks.

Lockdown antics



Lockdown antics continued...



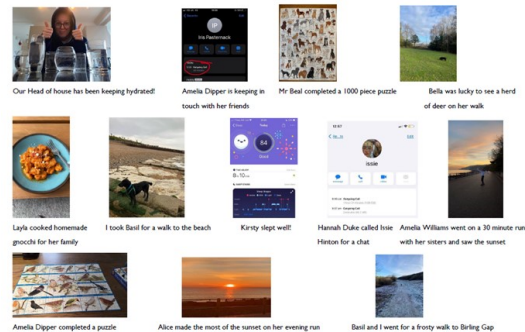
Blackwater's Wellbeing Challenge - January

Watch a documentary	Meditate in a quiet place for 10 minutes	Eat your 5 a-day for 5 days in a row	Avoid technology for 2 hours before bed	Get at least 8 hours sleep	Take part in a zoom quiz
Walk 10,000 steps in a day	Phone a friend or family member and chat for 30 minutes	Write down your strengths	Swap a biscuit or cake for a piece of fruit	Go for a 30 minute walk	Go for a long walk without checking your phone
Go to bed 1 hour earlier	Join the College's online chess club	Sit outside and get some fresh air	Listen to relaxing music	Write down all the things you like about yourself	Read a book
Play a game with someone	Complete a jigsaw	Drink 6 glasses of water in a day	Watch the sunrise and sunset	Declutter a small area in your room/home	Go for a 30 minute run
Do yoga or stretching for 30 minutes	Have a screen free day	Make a meal for someone else			



The Blackwater Girl's really rose to the challenges faced this term. Whether it was taking part in the monthly well-being challenges, sending in photos for the LGBTQ+ celebrations, joining me for their weekly year group meetings; where I may have made them do some ridiculous things, taking part in the house quizzes, logging their miles for The Great Escape challenge (we made a pretty good comeback in the last few weeks of the competition), sending in pictures to motivate others in the house as well as all of the things that have gone unseen.

It has been a strange term and I am really thankful to those girls who have reached out to their friends and others in the house to support them when they have found times hard. The girls have all shown tremendous house spirit so a big well done to everyone.



Blackwater's Wellbeing Challenge - Feb February!

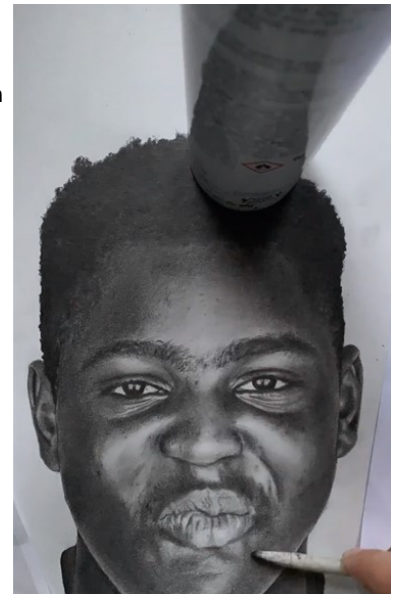
Complete a crossword	Enter the house baking competition	Listen to an audiobook or podcast	Do some origami	Visit a zoo (virtually)	Put a movie on and watch it with a friend (virtually)
Have a virtual silent disco	Do something nice for someone else	Work on prep with someone in your class	Recreate a photo from when you were young	Do some mindfulness colouring	Complete a Sudoku
Paint or draw a picture	Grow something from seed	Go on a nature walk	Visit a museum (virtually)	Go on a virtual tour	Dance like nobody is watching
Cook a new recipe	Send a letter to a friend (by post)	Do a Joe Wicks workout	Watch a boxset	Learn how to say 'hello' around the world	Have a virtual dinner party with your friends
Go on a virtual tour	Have a home spa night	Go for a moonlit walk	Read a book		



Creative Arts



Flo Long was selected to perform at the end of term Easter service.



14 pupils submitted work for the CAB event, special mention must go to **Megan Lee** for her incredible piano piece, **Flo Long** for her time-lapse drawing, **Emma Lewis** for her painting looking at mental health and to **Amber Blake** for her photography all of which were inspiring.

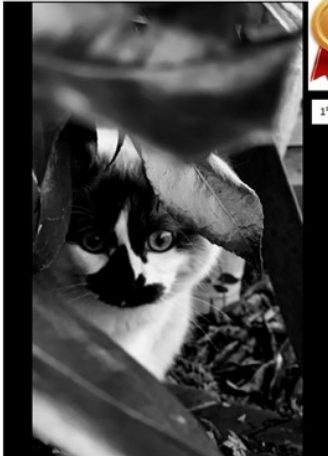
Mimi Gould's performance in the amazing Live Lounge Film was brilliant. The video has raised over £2000 for St Wilfrid's Hospice and has had over 2500 views!



Competitions!

Blackwater photography competition – the results!

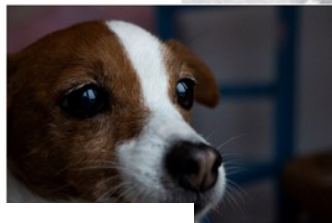
Category – animals



1st place – Rosa Al-Khalifa



Runners up – Hannah Duke



Runners up – Iris Pasternack

Savoury category:

1st place – Amelia Dipper GORGEOUS homemade pizza with homemade dough and tomato sauce



2nd place - Amelia Williams Pretzels



3rd place – Orla Boulter Spaghetti bolognese



Well, one thing that I have learnt this term is that the Blackwater girls LOVE a competition! I was blown over by the number of entries into the house photography and cookery competition, well done to everyone who got involved.

There is some serious talent in the house and I look forward to seeing more of it next term.

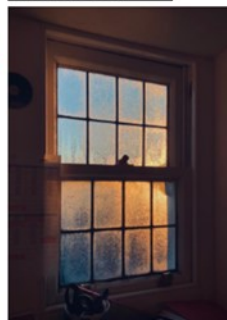
Category – nature



1st place - Ella Holgate



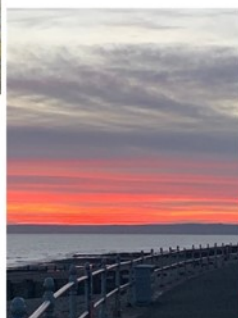
Runners up – Flo Long



Runners up – Alice Clements



1st place – Mila Cheary



Sweet category:

1st place – Ashley Au Salted Caramel Chocolate Tower - Layered dark chocolate brownies and caramel shards, topped with chocolate soil and salted caramel ice cream, alongside a mango and passion fruit sauce



2nd place – Liv Reade Celebration cake



3rd place – Jemima Heath Chocolate cake



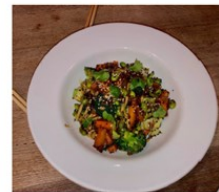
Runners up – Anya Rai



Runners up – Nellie Yarrow Davies

Dietary requirements:

1st place – Iris Pasternack Sesame, soy sauce noodles with wok-fried vegetables



2nd place – Nellie Yarrow Davies Beetroot Cake with beetroot buttercream



3rd place – Georgia Hunt Beetroot and sweet potato soup



Celebrating success

Lily Curtis, Orla Boulter and Chloe Maidens completed their Leadership Development Programme to become potential NCOs in the CCF. They produced high quality video lessons and all passed with flying colours.



Blackwater made it to the finals of the inter-house chess competition, we lost against Wargrave in the end but a massive congratulations go to **Amber Blake, Flo Long, Lily Curtis and MeiLuSha Xiao Askaroff** for taking on the challenge.



Georgie Lock was selected to read the Service report in the end of term assembly.

Isabella Freslov sat the Advanced level and **Clara Delaney** sat the Intermediate level in the UK Linguistics Olympiad, we look forward to getting the results next term.

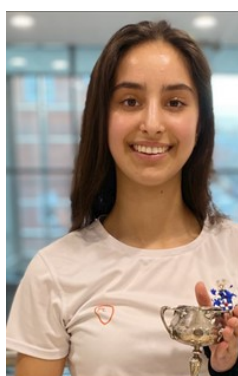
Elo Johnston was awarded the Eastbourne College Girls 1st XI Hockey Most Improved Player.



Colours:

- Half colours in Art go to: **Amber Blake** and **Cecilie Farrant**
- Half colours in netball go to: **Bella Park**
- Full colours in netball go to: **Dotty McNally**
- Full colours in fives go to: **Bella Park** and **Amelia Dipper**
- Full colours in swimming go to: **Rosie Clifford**
- Triple colours have been awarded to **Amelia Dipper** in fives, hockey and equestrian.

The Simon Green Cup for Endeavour is awarded for endeavour in games through consistent commitment, effort and perseverance. **Amelia Bottrill** shared this award with 2 others for engaging more than any other pupils in the online sports sessions this term.



LENT TERM	
4 th School 5pts	5 th = Powell & Pennell 7pts
3 rd Nugent 6pts	4 th Reeves 9pts
2 nd Blackwater 7pts	3 rd Wargrave 11pts
1 st Watt 12pts	2 nd Craig 13pts
	1 st Gonville 16pts
OVERALL (Michaelmas and Lent terms combined):	
4 th School 63pts	6 th Powell 143pts
3 rd Nugent 74pts	5 th Pennell 147pts
2 nd Watt 85pts	4 th Reeves 163pts
1 st Blackwater 108pts	3 rd Gonville 172pts
	2 nd Wargrave 205pts
	1 st Craig 215pts

In the overall annual house cup we came 2nd this term and are leading overall within the girl's houses.



The Blackwater Cup is awarded at the end of each term and is presented to the girl who has demonstrated house spirit and is a true Blackwater girl. This term the prefects choose **Mary Keast-Butler** for making the common room feel like a welcoming community for all with her piano playing. I choose **Bella Park** for keeping the girls motivated throughout the term and for showing what it takes to be a strong Head of House.

Celebrating success continued...

This term saw lots of pupils complete their extended project presentations. Well done to **Alice Clements, Rosie Clifford, Amelia Dipper, Rebecca Lamb** and **Ella Woodford**.

Liv Reade has been awarded a Departmental Commendation by the textiles department for her truly exceptional independent work on her costume for Carmen.

Esme Scanlan and **Nellie Yarrow Davies** received Headmaster's Commendations for their excellence and endeavour across a range of activities at the end of the Michlemas Term 2020. They are academic role models, who are constantly aiming to improve their effort and outcomes. They set themselves only the highest standards, inspiring others in their wake, and showing real endeavour in other discipline too.

Stella Grover received a Headmaster's Commendation for the support that she gave to the College's online Open Morning this term. She was a true ambassador for the College.

	Overall total of positive points this term (made up of commendations, praises and show hsms)	Show hsms leader board this term
Year 9	1 st place – Anya Rai 28 points	1 st place - Ella Holgate and Emily Veitch (9)
	2 nd place – Amelia Williams 25 points	2 nd place – Georgia Hunt and Amelia Williams (8)
	3 rd place – Ella Holgate 24 points	3 rd place – Mary Keast-Butler (7) Closely followed by Mila Cheary, Issie Hinton and Anya Rai
Year 10	1 st place – Liv Reade 49 points	1 st place – Emma Marsh (18)
	2 nd place – Esme Scanlan 39 points	2 nd place – Liv Reade (17)
	3 rd place – Emma Marsh 38 points	3 rd place – Esme Scanlan (13) Closely followed by Jessica Khorrami Asl and Nellie Yarrow Davies
Year 11	1 st place – Connie Woodford 20 points	1 st place – Connie Woodford (8)
	2 nd place – Emma Lewis 19 points	2 nd place – Emma Lewis, Naya Lambird and Mimi Gould (7)
	3 rd place – Naya Lambird 18 points	3 rd place – Alex Brown and Lily Curtis (4)
Year 12	1 st place – Maya Klein 21 points	1 st place – Maya Klein and Megan Lee (9)
	2 nd place – Megan Lee 20 points	2 nd place – Flo Long (7)
	3 rd place – Flo Long 16 points	3 rd place – Zoe Bell (6)
Year 13	1 st place – Stella Grover 19 points	1 st place – Amelia Dipper (9)
	2 nd place – Amelia Dipper 18 points	2 nd place – Stella Grover (7)
	3 rd place – Kennie Lumley 9 points	3 rd place – Alice Clements, Kennie Lumley, Poppy Moore and Amelia Ridley (4)

Important information

Key dates for the Summer term:

- Term begins for all pupils on Tuesday 13th April, the house will be open on the Monday for pupils to drop belongings off if needed.
- Monday 3rd May is a Bank holiday and the College will not be open so the school week will begin on Tuesday 4th May.
- Half term begins at 2.35 on Friday 28th May for one week.
- Pupils return to school on Monday 7th June.
- Term ends on Saturday 26th June at 5pm.



Exam updates:

We understand that pupils and parents in years 11 and 13 are anxious to know the final details of how the exam boards and College will assess and award grades. You should all have received a letter this week which explained where we currently stand, we are still waiting for final guidance to come through. Once we receive this we will be able to give you more information. In the mean time all pupils in years 11 and 13 have been told to revise over the next 3 weeks, as they would have done under 'normal' circumstances. Assessments that take place in the first 2 weeks of the Summer term will not necessarily count towards their CAGs but can be used as evidence if they do well. If you have any questions about the process please do ask.

Testing:

Everyone in house has been given test kits to use of the Easter holidays, we have now moved over to the free Government test kits. HM government / NHS now requires all staff and pupils to continue twice-weekly testing and registering results throughout the holiday and before returning safely next term. This is to help the country monitor infection rates and thereby help keep rates low. The next batch will be issued in the first week of next term. Testing instructions and guidance has been sent to all pupils.

Pupils must, on each occasion, [register your result with the NHS](#) (previously done by the school), as well as please registering your result with the College via this form [PUPIL - record your covid test result here](#).

As before, if the test is positive, please follow [self-isolation rules](#) but do also [book a PCR test to confirm](#), [family households are now eligible to obtain free lateral flow tests](#) from the NHS / HM gov., by nature of your daughter's being school pupils.

We encourage parents to use this service – results are recorded with the NHS in the same way but they obviously must not register their results with the school (as they are not pupils or staff)