

Gonville House Newsletter

Michaelmas Term 2021

One of the longest ever terms has ended and the boys should be hugely proud of weathering the challenge this has posed, with the nights closing in and covid in the background. I will also be challenged to fit everything that has taken place into this newsletter; Gonville has been busy on all fronts as the first fully 'normal' term for a while went full speed ahead. In academic work the overall runners and riders can be seen in the eRC effort summaries and house awards later in the newsletter, but I would like to highlight **Nathan Woodall** in year 11 who placed first in the school in the senior national computational thinking challenge and progresses to the next round. **Magnus Chiu** achieved a bronze award in the senior maths challenge.

In the creative sphere **Wilson Zhang** and **Julian Göhre** (OG) were part of the team that came runner-up in the British International Education Association STEM competition to eliminate plastic waste. The final (contested by the best 43 schools) consisted of a zoom presentation to an eminent panel of judges. It is a wonderful achievement. Wilson also received a Headmaster's Commendation. Aside from this **Isaac Lee** was joint first in the Headmaster's challenge to design the College Christmas card. His design incorporated the College café. **Oliver Du Feu, Rohan Van de Ven** and **Harry Heming** were in the fabulous school production of *Les Misérables* which brought the house down for five nights. The house competed very well in the singing competition and year 9 drama. In service, the house has been proactive in its support of the local charity The Matthew 25 Mission. Money raised so far, and in our planned future fund-raising events, will go to help



feed and clothe those less fortunate than us in the local area. My thanks to Helena, our Matron, for discovering this excellent cause and spearheading fundraising. Gonville were also involved in the Duke of Edinburgh award, CCF and other services from dog-walking to teaching German.

In sport the pupils have been involved in hundreds of fixtures across 12 sports. Special mention should go to **Harry Prescott** who broke two school records (50m freestyle and 50m backstroke) at the London Aquatic Centre as the U15 relay team became the first ever Eastbourne relay team to place in the top 10 nationally. **Tom Hutton** and **Matt Geddes** have had success at the East Sussex Cross Country championships (2nd and 3rd respectively) and the season-ending U17 national triathlon (17th and 10th respectively). They also won the Steeplechase and Aquathlon. **Edward Rowell** was awarded the **Simon Green Cup** for Sporting Endeavour. **Aidan Yao** (basketball) and **Harry Prescott** (swimming) were both shortlisted for their efforts. **William Daniels** has been awarded an honorary sports scholarship for his attitude, character and leadership. **Emmanuel Bawa** has been selected to Captain the Zimbabwe U19 cricket team at the U19 World Cup in the West Indies. We wish him luck over the next few weeks. Finally, the house won the inaugural rowing competition travelling 96,578 metres in 7.5 hours (enough to pip Wargrave by 672 metres). The house colours now adorn the John Chaplin Oar in the gym (pictured).



Colours Awarded	
Half colours Squash	Jago Goodsell
Full colours DT	Wilson Zhang

KEY DATES:

Wednesday 5 January

Boys return after 4pm
(unless arranged with me)

Thursday 6 January

First day of term

Year 11 mocks begin

Thursday 20 January

Exeat begins 2:35pm

Year 10 Parents' meeting
3:15pm

Sunday 23 January

Boys return 6pm-9pm

Friday 11 February

Half term begins

Year 11 parents' meeting

& A level info 3:15pm

Sunday 20 February

Boys return 4pm-9pm

Friday 11 March

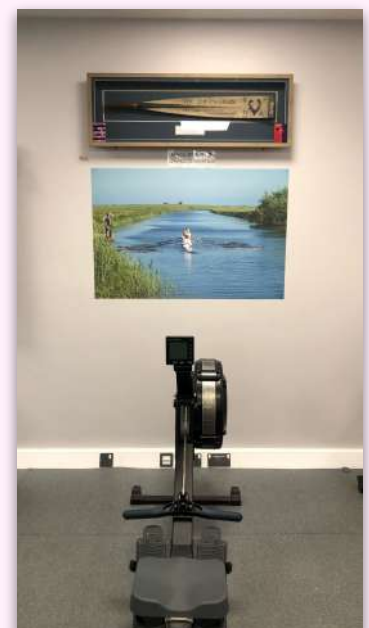
Exeat begins 2:35pm

Sunday 13 March

Boys return 6pm-9pm

Friday 25 March

End of Term



Academic Stats

eRC (effort) Wall of Fame

Year 9

Isaac Lee	5.69
Samuel Lee	5.16
James Mattison	4.76

Most improved:

Samuel Lee	+0.48
James Mattison	+0.38

Year 10

William Bearcroft	5.44
Arsène Chaté	5.24
William Rennie	5.10
Archie Stephens	5.02

Most improved:

William Bearcroft	+0.44
Ben Whiteley	+0.44

Year 11

Elias Ritterbusch	5.47
Aidan Yao	5.18
Oliver Du Feu	4.98

Most improved:

Elias Ritterbusch	+0.31
William Daniels	+0.27
Aidan Yao	+0.27
Nathan Woodall	+0.22

Year 12

Luke Burnham	5.67
Shin Kawagoe	5.51
Duc Dinh	5.51

Most improved

Herbie Flint	+0.65
Shin Kawagoe	+0.37
Duc Dinh	+0.32
Edward Rowell	+0.29

Year 13

Wilson Zhang	6.25
Yuki Nagata	6.03
Theo Wong	5.68

Most improved:

Wilson Zhang	+0.21
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Show Hsm Roll of Honour

(Denotes Praise which is slightly less good than a Show Hsm, but still awarded for excellent effort)

Year 9

Isaac Lee	18 (9)
Samuel Lee	6 (5)
Felix St John Parker	6 (1)

Year 10

William Rennie	12 (6)
Archie Stephens	11 (0)
Oliver Bearcroft	8 (10)
Arsène Chaté	7 (4)
Ben Whiteley	7 (1)
Harry Prescott	5 (1)

Year 11

Elias Ritterbusch	13 (8)
Nathan Woodall	3 (6)
William Daniels	2 (8)
Oliver Du Feu	1 (8)

Year 12

Luke Burnham	7 (1)
Duc Dinh	4 (2)
Matt Geddes	3 (0)

Year 13

Theo Wong	5 (2)
Herbert Keung	4 (0)
Yuki Nagata	4 (0)

Welcome to new house staff

We welcome **Helena Sundstrom** as our new Matron. Helena has lots of experience having worked at Stowe and Marlborough, Malaysia. She has also lived in the Far East for eleven years, run her own business and even taught the Swedish Parliament to speak English. The house has already learned of her love for table tennis, mini golf and Swedish waffles. I am sure as the days lengthen we will also see her passion for tennis and the sea. Helena has a long-standing passion for charity and will help drive new charitable ventures for both the house and the College.



Ethan West moves into Bushey Ruff as our new Resident House Tutor. Ethan attended Clayesmore School in Dorset where he discovered his interest in Religious Studies. After school went on to study Theology at Canterbury Christchurch University. While there he played three years of 1st team hockey, his last as captain. He is in his second year as a sports graduate and hopes to complete a PGCE in due course.

VALE!

We say farewell to Keely Rainer Jones who has left the College after three years as Gonville Matron to pursue her passions in a move to North America. It was lovely to catch up with Keely at the Gonville Revue in November. She is working as a pastry chef in Colorado and hopes to realise her dream, in time, of opening her own business selling all sorts of delicious cakes. The boys will miss her willingness to listen at all hours, her sense of fun and, of course, ice cream Wednesdays. We all wish her the best in her quest for the American Dream.



Service review

It has been lovely to see Gonvillians involved as the wide range of service opportunities return after being reduced by the pandemic. All of year 10 and some year 11 and 6th form, were involved in the CCF this term. Year 10 had a camp in September and then, in November, the annual Remembrance service saw the CCF parade again in front of the Memorial building. **Wilson Zhang** laid a wreath while **Edward Rowell** and **Arthur McKay** bore standards. **Herbert Keung** and **Arsène Chaté** sang in the Remembrance service. The former and **Elias Ritterbusch** also played beautifully in the orchestra at the concert that had been planned to commemorate the 75th anniversary last year, but was delayed by covid.



Following the House Revue our Charity team took £302 to the Matthew 25 Mission. We discovered that this was enough to feed 300 people for a week and so the house are determined to raise more money at a brownie sale in January and by taking on a physical challenge (possibly in water) in the summer term.



Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award winners, including **Arthur McKay** from Gonville, were nearly swept off the Brecon Beacons by stormy half term weather. They will be looking forward to returning to the more usual beginning of July slot. Before heading to Wales, however, they warmed up in our own South Downs National Park and I had to share some of the photos.



Creatives review

The school production of *Les Misérables* was a stunning experience both as an audience member, but also cast member. Three Gonvillians re-awakened their love of the stage, despite the extra work and long rehearsals, and I look forward to seeing them on the stage again soon. The Year 9 also displayed their acting chops in their production of *Snow White and the Seven Dwarves* directed by **Luke Clifford** and **Herbie Flint**.





YEAR 9 DRAMA



SNOW WHITE AND THE SEVEN DWARVES



There is more music in the house than I can remember. As well as Gonvillians in the orchestra, choir, jazz band and chamber choir, we also are well represented in weekly music lessons and informal concerts. This term **Herbert Keung**, **Arsène Chaté** and **Isaac Lee** have performed, but I hope that many others will be inspired by their role in the House Band's version of Viva La Vida by Coldplay to perform more often.



The house performed George Ezra's song Pretty Shining People enthusiastically conducted and led by **Herbert Keung**. While they did not finish in the prizes the judge did lavish praise upon the house for their polish and togetherness.



Gonville Revue

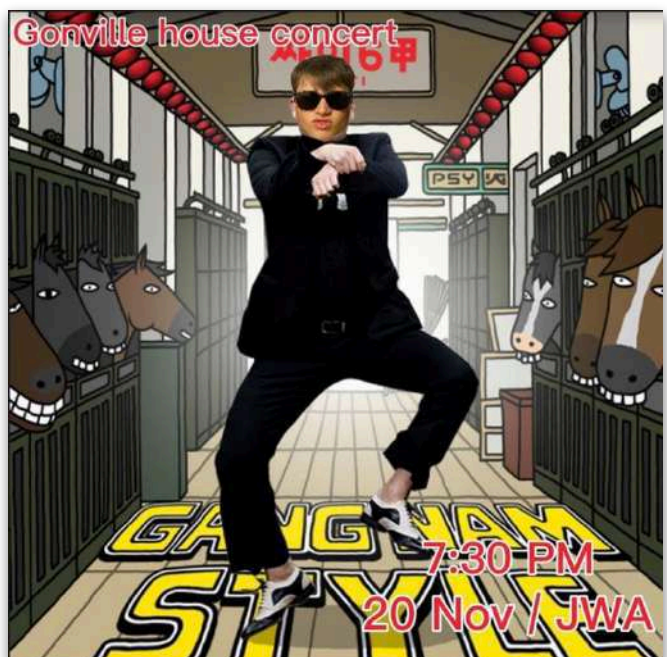
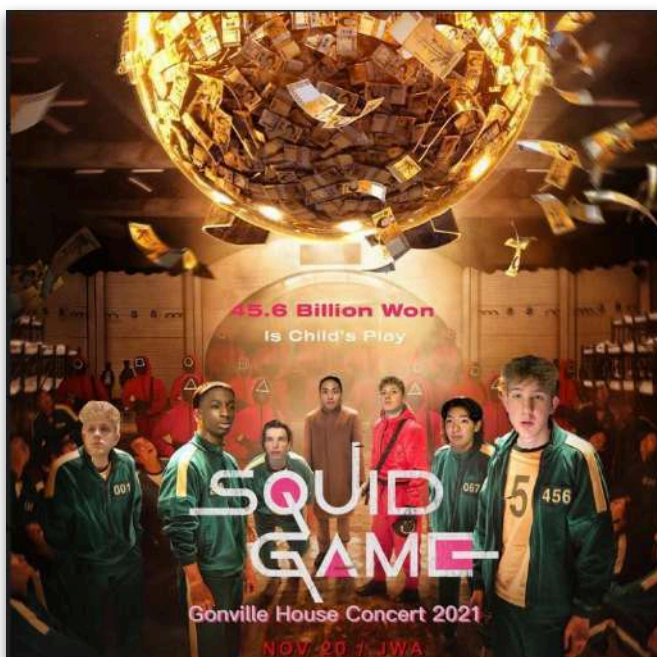
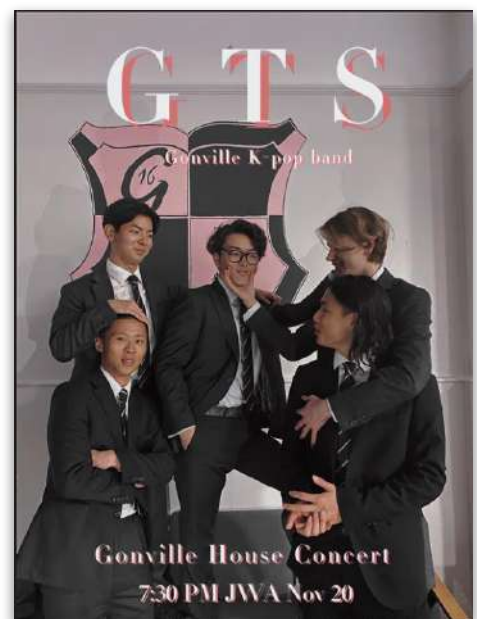
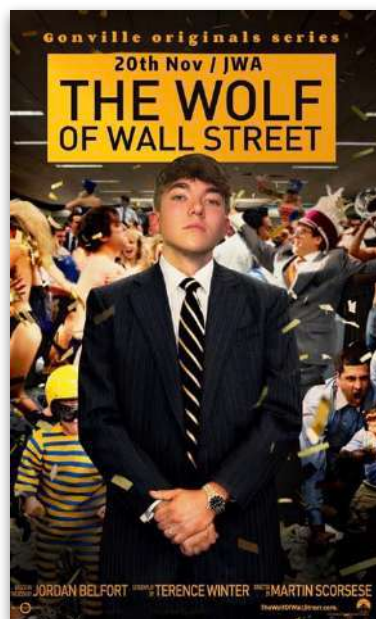
As always the annual house concert produced both the best and worst week of the term. There is nothing better than an impending audience to galvanise a year group and get the creative juices flowing. Comfort-zones get left miles away as the boys always surprise themselves. I am always staggered by the creativity, the editing prowess and the desperation to put on dresses. This year's concert was very ably compèred by **Matthew Whiteley** and **Mosope Oyemade**. With dance something of an unintentional theme we saw ballet, an homage to Strictly Come Dancing, a handful of Elvis' and a dozen Michael Jackson's. There was even a boy band!

Gonville House
Concert
2021

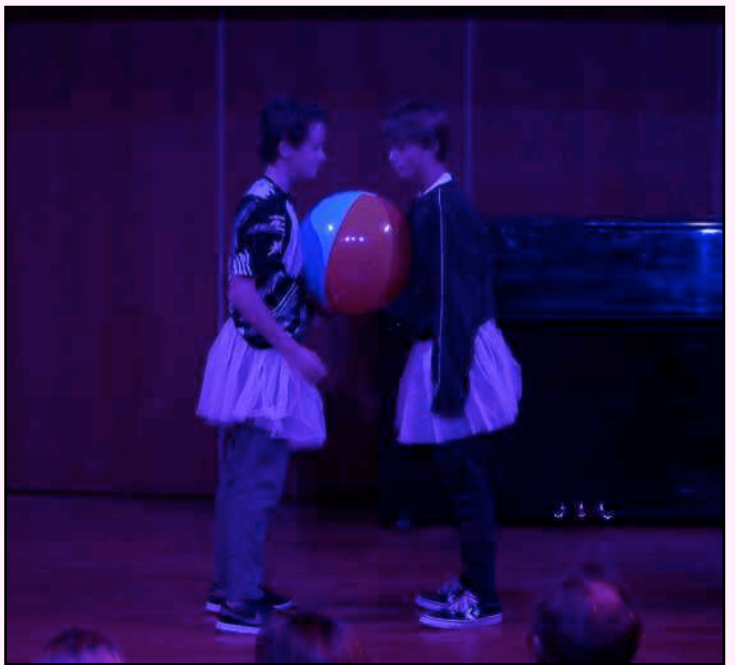


Running Order

- Introduction Video
- Year 9 – Beachball Ballet
- Arsene Chate – Chanson Boheme-saxophone
- Year 11 Video
- Year 10 – Strictly Come Dancing
- Year 13 Video (1)
- House Band – Viva La Vida – Coldplay'
- Year 13 Video (2)
- Herbert Keung – Nocturne Op.9 No.1 – Piano
- Year 12 Dance
- GTS – Gonville K-pop Band
- Charity and Thanks
- House Song



HOUSE REVUE





Sports review

The house has participated heavily in a variety of fixtures. Gonvillians were represented in all rugby teams, barring the 2nd XV, had six pupils in the 1st XI recreational football squad, another six in the basketball team, fencers, swimmers, tennis players and **Jago Goodwill** who was awarded half colours for being undefeated on the squash court. Special mention should also go to **Theo Wong** who has captained the basketball team to eight straight wins and to **Daniel Li** who, despite being in year 9, represented the senior tennis and basketball teams. It is also exciting to have two rugby teams heading towards January rugby. **Edward Rowell** (1st) will play in the semifinal of the NatWest U18 Bowl and **Harry Heming, James Hall** and **Barley O'Connor** (U15) will play in the last sixteen of the U15 Vase.

Harry Prescott was part of the U15 relay team that broke new ground in qualifying for the National finals in both freestyle and medley events at the London Aquatic Centre. In finishing 10th in the freestyle relay they became the first Eastbourne College squad to race in the Grand Final.



Harry broke the school U15 50m freestyle record in the process with a time of 24.56 seconds. In the medley relay they took a huge 2.5 seconds off their qualification time. Harry also broke the school 50m backstroke record. Although I do not have the exact time at this moment, I believe it was around 32 seconds.

In house sport, Gonville has tasted success in more than one competition this year. The inaugural house rowing competition was a marathon, whole-house event. The prefects had to keep our machine going constantly throughout the day for seven and half hours. In the end the winning margin of 650 metres was only about three minutes of rowing. The boys rowed ten minute slots through free periods, breaks and lunch. Over half the house took part in what was a truly collective victory.



Harry Heming scores the winning try in the U15 4th round on College Field.



As always the term began with the inter-house Aquathlon. On a glorious September day 15 Gonvillians swam and ran with victory coming in the Senior event. The school Steeplechase returned with **Tom Hutton** and **Matt Geddes** in 1st and 2nd, Matt with the King of the Hill award and **Daniel Li** (year 9) coming third. House rugby was held over two Saturdays in an inclusive touch rugby format. Some excellent teamwork saw 3rd place finishes in Year 10 and 11. All the sides showed wonderful tenacity and enjoyed themselves.



SCHOOL SPORT ROUND UP



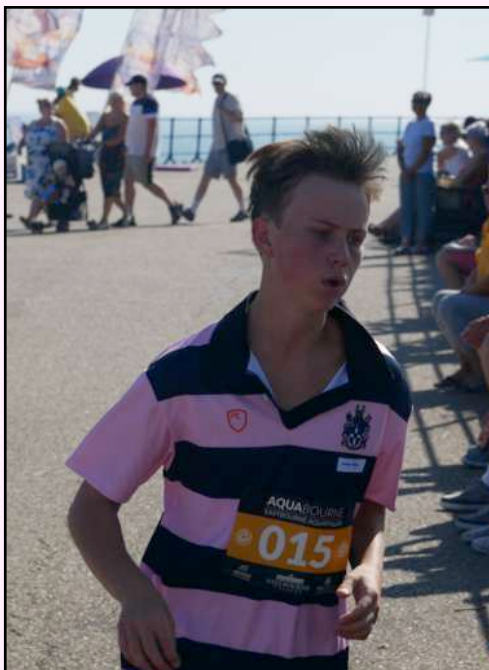
THE PHOTOS I MANAGED TO TAKE WHEN I COULD GET TO FIXTURES.







AQUATHLON



MATT GEDDES 1ST

TOM HUTTON 2ND





STEEPLECHASE



PRETEND TO RUN LADS....





SENIORS RUN TO VICTORY WITH 5 GONVILLIANS IN TOP 10 RUNNERS!



TOM HUTTON 1ST & MATT GEDDES 2ND IN SENIOR EVENT



DANIEL LI 3RD IN YEAR 9 EVENT



MATT WAS KING OF THE HILL







HOUSE RUGBY





YEAR 9: 5TH
YEAR 10: 3RD
YEAR 11: 3RD
SENIORS: 6TH



ROWLEY EMUS ON HIS WAY TO THE 'GOLDEN TRY'



House Awards

As with previous years, the boys have been competing in vertical teams throughout the term to get a free dinner on the house. I am keen to retain some of the inter-year group spirit that used to be gained through tutor groups. The branding of these teams has been problematic, especially since Microsoft have made team unusable. I dabbled with troupes, but the boys didn't go for it. they would love gangs....me not so much. In the end I am now officially calling them 'squads'. They are shown in the table below:

G	O	N	V	I	L	LL	E
Oyemade	Keung	McKay	Houben	Tarpan	Campbell	Goodsell	Wong
Burnham	Whiteley, Matt	Dinh	Nagata	Lo	Harding	Zhang	Rowell
Clifford	Hutton	Flint	Bawa	Maria Besora	Geddes	Kawagoe	McKeown
Chiu	Daniels	Ritterbusch	Du Feu	Van de Ven	Rose	Makarov	Crowther
Chate	Stephens	Woodall	Jayaraj	Bearcroft	Liu	Perez Ruiz Esteller	Yao
Rennie	O'Conor	Hall	Li	Heming	Whiteley, Ben	Prescott	Fox
Ajikobi	Ris	Lee, Isaac		St John Parker	Mattison	Emus	Lee, Samuel
MTH	ACE	EHW + HDAF	PRC	IPS	EMWD	LRG	PJF

Anyway the squad competition is decided by the boy's engagement in three areas (given equal weighting): academic effort, community focus and house activities. Some of the activities this term are shown in the photos following this page. The basketball was won by squad L, football by squad G, **Arsène Chaté** proved to be a cut above in bauble decoration, **Yuki Nagata** and **Aidan Lo** proved pretty unbeatable on the badminton court and **Edward Rowell** rolled his way to mini golf glory. It is not all about winning, though. There are points to be won for participation and, as such, the most successful 'house activitier' this term was **Arsène Chaté** who competed in everything apart from the tennis. There will be more to come and a fresh competition next term. There will also be a meal for the winning squad. This term ended as follows:

G	635	2
O	579	5
N	653	1
V	585	3
I	544	7
L	547	6
LL	491	8
E	584	4

Congratulations to Squad N

On the 15th December we also had our bi-annual house awards celebrating the achievements of those in the house. This term the winners were as follows:

Academic Prize:
 Sportsman of the term:
 Best Impact:
 Matron's Award:
 Year 9 of the term:
 Year 10 of the term:
 Year 11 of the term:
 Year 12 of the term:
 Year 13 of the term:
 Gonvillian of the term:

Isaac Lee
Harry Prescott
Duc Dinh
Aidan Lo
Samuel Lee
Archie Stevens
Rohan Van de Ven
Luke Burnham
Herbert Keung
Edward Rowell

For the first time I wanted to celebrate those pupils that put in a huge amount of work and effort for the house and award Gonville Colours. The following have received their hats this term:

Theo Wong	Herbert Keung
Yuki Nagata	Arthur McKay
Wilson Zhang	Edward Rowell
Magnus Chiu	

HOUSE AWARD WINNERS



SPORTING SMILES AND THE NEW COLOURS HATS (NOT TO BE WORN WITH UNIFORM).



EDWARD ROWELL THE GOAT
....GONVILLIAN OF A TERM



INTERNAL HOUSE SPORT



BASKETBALL





BADMINTON





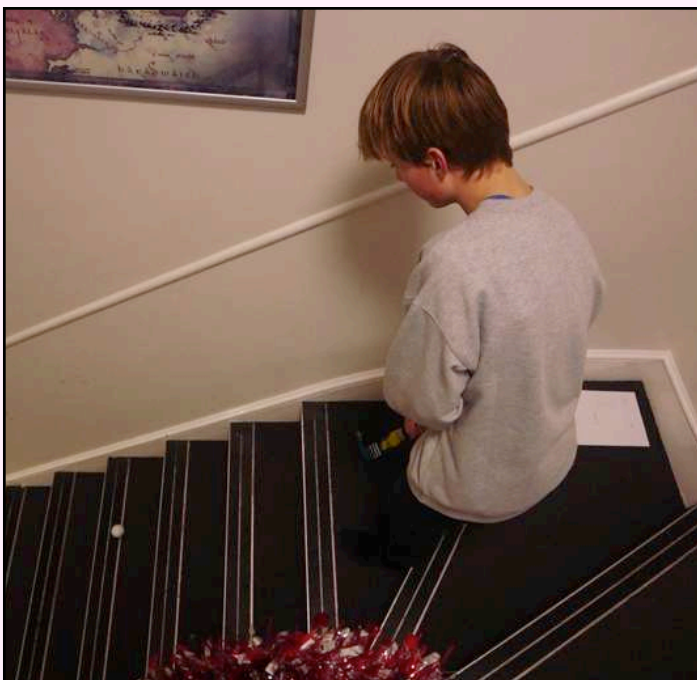
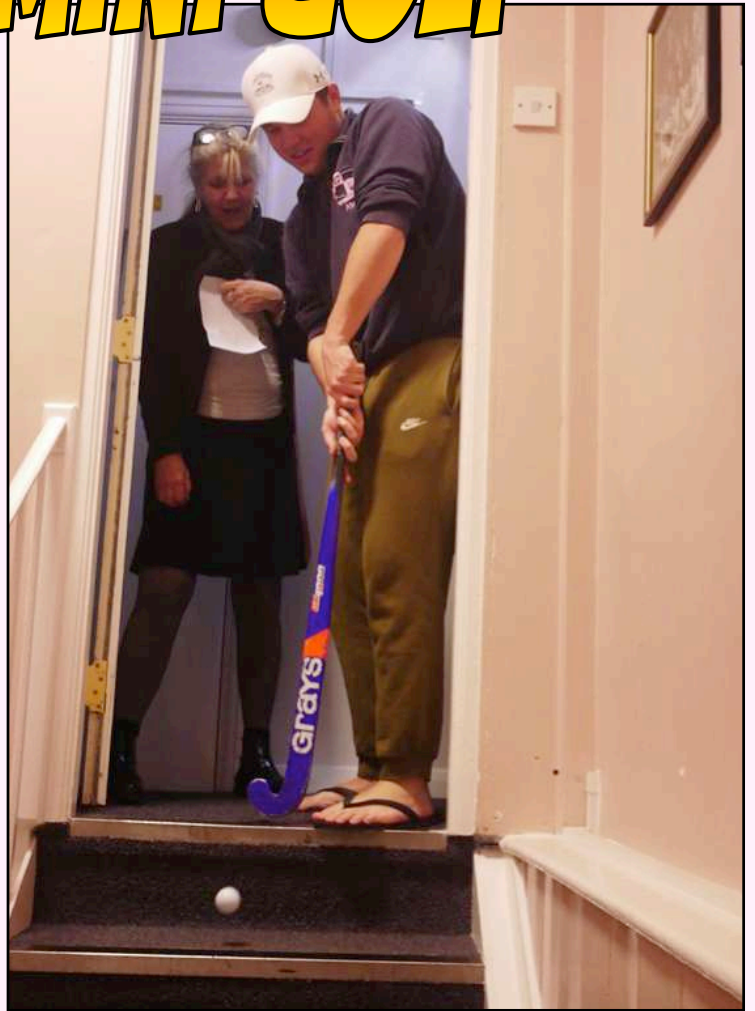
FOOTBALL







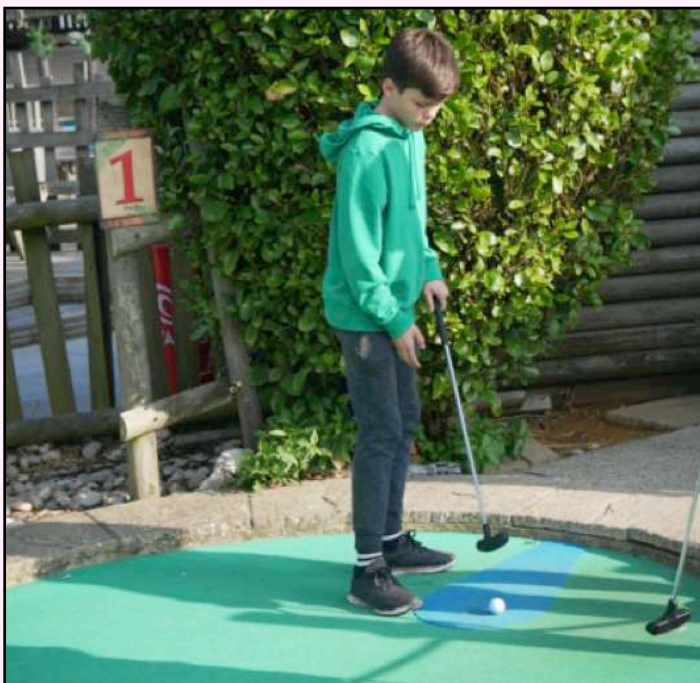
CORRIDOR MINI GOLF







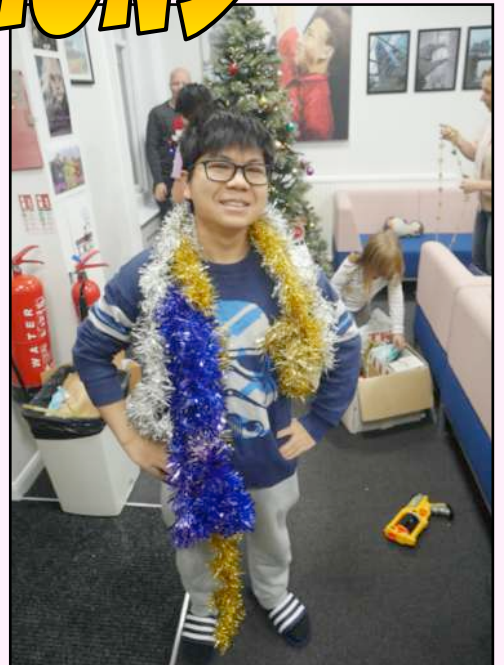
ACTUAL MINI GOLF

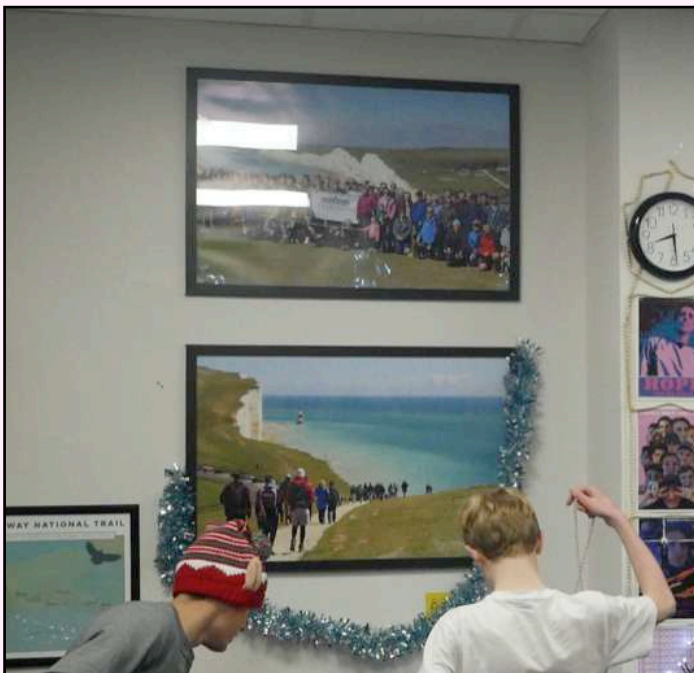


As we passed exeat, the decorations came out, including 'Buncey' the reindeer, and reached our annual Christmas Dinner at the Beachy Head Hotel.



DECORATIONS





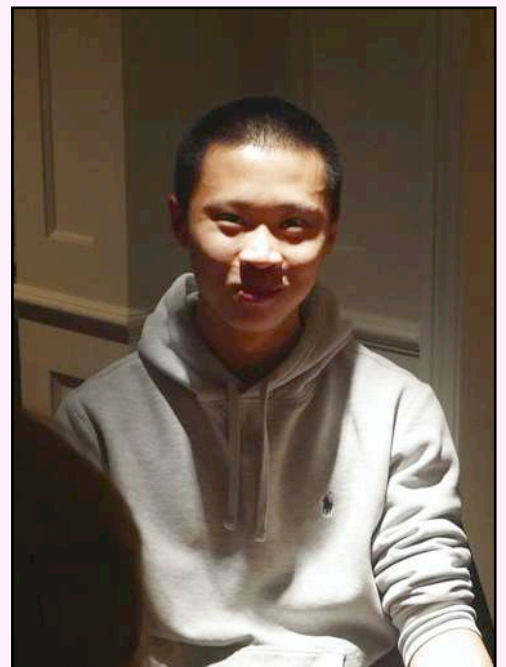
HOUSE DINNERS



BOTH YEAR GROUP.....



.....AND CHRISTMAS.









Finally all there is left to do is to wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. I have left a few house-keeping points at the bottom of the page. I would appreciate your support with these as always.



Isaac Lee's winning entry to the Headmaster's Christmas card prize.



A few reminders for next term:

- 1) Please LF test and log results on Sunday 2nd and Wednesday 5th January.
- 2) Please avoid controversial haircuts; if in doubt please contact me first.
- 3) Please remember that home coats cannot be worn with uniform or sports kit. All pupils should please have school coats. I would recommend an umbrella. It does not need to be the excellent Gonville colours. It can be any black umbrella.

See you all in 2022!