



BLACKWATER



Michaelmas Term 2023

The Michaelmas came to an end on 15th December 2023, and what a way to start the year. 15 weeks packed with singing, dancing, running, jumping, studying, and getting to know each other. We kicked off the term with welcoming the New Year 9 cohort and newbies in Year 12. The L6 welcome dinner was a great success, as well as the scholarships awards dinner. The interhouse events kicked off with a successful win for all year groups in the Hockey competition and ended in some great results in the Steeplechase, rowing, and table tennis. We were early in the lineup for our House revue this term, but it meant the girls got to work together and get to know each other practising their dance routines and sketches for the show, which was a great success. The house singing competition put a close on the end of half term. This side of term we saw the Year 9 drama production of Charlie and the chocolate factory, the Live Lounge concert and the house became a Christmas grotto with bauble making and some fantastic room decorations. We managed a 3rd place in the overall house decoration competition judged by the heads of school and Rev Merceron. We ended the term with Secret Santa and the whole house Christmas dinner at Pomodoro's with the tutors. Overall, a long and packed term. I look forward to seeing what the Lent term brings with some serious work ahead for the Year 11 and Year 13 mocks.

Academic/Creatives and Sport achievements

Izzy Pedley – Full colours awarded for photography in the creative arts

Ameila Willaims, Georgia Hunt and Laya Cluskey – all received their Silver Duke of Edinburgh award at the end of term headmasters assembly

Kirsty Williams – was one of three of our U6 pupil who successfully concluded our first four-term training programme in Leadership, Awards and Personal Development

Izzy Pedley – received half colours for hockey

Eliza Jones and Kirsty Williams – received full colours for hockey (**well done to Eliza for a successful season as Captain of the 1st XI hockey team**)

In September, the winners of the Headmaster's Challenge were announced including **Emma Valks** in Year 10 and in Year 12, **Melanya Freeston**. Well done also to all those that submitted entries and were highly commended.

Year 12 Welcome Dinner

On 16th September the L6th attended their welcome dinner. The girls looked stunning in their dresses, and it was a chance to get to know each other better, welcome new faces. and catch up with old ones. The girls had a great time.



Sporting Highlights

The girls have been training hard since they arrived back in house in September. As well as competing in House events, we have had Blackwater representation across sports for the College.

Eliza Jones, Kirsty Williams and Rosie Hill have been playing in the indoor cup, they made it to the last 32 in the ISHC cup and are now in the national school plate competition carrying on into the lent term. They have represented the 1st XI throughout the season with Eliza Jones captaining the squad.

Kirsty Williams and Eliza Jones reached 5th Place at the National Schools Netball County Round in October. This was the first year that the U14s were representing with **Ella Helm, Scarlett McFarlane, Annie Lewis, Charlotte Hinton, Maisie Gregory, and Lucy McDonald** all representing from Blackwater House. It's going to be a great interhouse netball competition in the lent term.

Separately, **Rosie Hill** has been selected for the England Hockey pathway at East Grinstead.

Emma Valks continues to play for county tennis outside of school, as well as keeping her place within the Sussex set up for Cricket.

Darcy Dumas and Hannah Duke have been working hard in the equestrian team. Darcy competed in the national finals which the school has entered for the 8th time in as many years and the team recorded an amazing 7th place thanks to the clear rounds from Chloe Hynes, Reuben Mace, Millie Stack and **Darcy Dumas**. They are already competing in qualifying events for the national finals next year.

In Cricket - **Georgie Pedley** was re-selected for the Southern Vipers EPP, this is a regional representative set-up that covers 6 counties across the South-Central area. Tops a great summer for her of Sussex U15, U18 and Women's 1sts team appearances.

In netball - **Charlotte Hinton** has been selected into the U15s pathway for Superleague Franchise, London Pulse and **Lucy McDonald** has been selected for county as well as the Surrey Storm Superleague franchise. Congratulations to both.

In addition, the inter house hockey was a great occasion with Blackwater taking the overall title for the second year running.



Interhouse Competitions

This term the girls have competed and showed true team spirit and loyalty in the House Singing, Rowing, Hockey, table tennis, esports and Steeplechase competition.

Aquathon was staged this year with **Kirsty Williams** competing for the seniors, as well as **Pheobe Wearne, Saffi Poon, Rosie Hill, Ella Helm and Elouise Garton.**

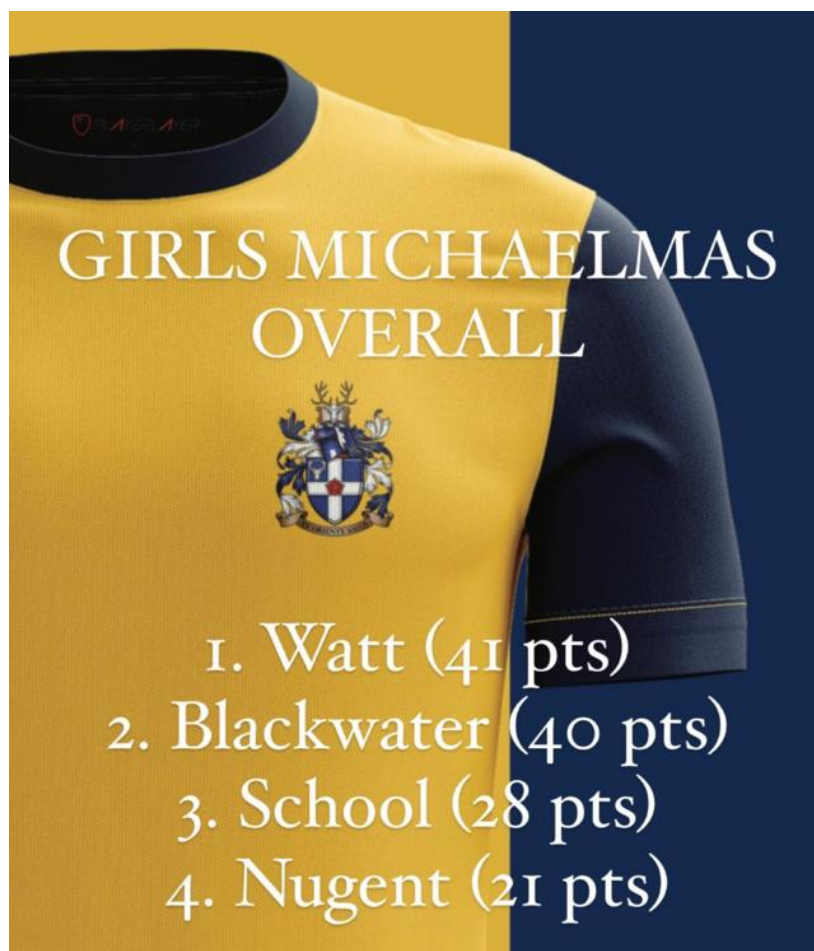
Steeplechase saw **Maisie Gregory** place **3rd** in the Junior Girls, **Emma Valks** placing **3rd** in the inter girls and **Rosie Hill** placing **2nd**. Well done to everyone who competed for the house. We came **3rd** overall.

Table tennis has started amongst the houses with a clean sweep for each year group against Watt House. Well done to **Izzy Pedley, Ella Holgate, Pheobe Wearne, Georgie Pedley and Jessie Holgate.**

With the scores to still be determined it looks promising that we have also taken **1st** place in the house **rowing competition** which saw 4 x competitors take to the rowing machines from each year group.

House Squash and Fives was also played this term with **Ameila Williams and Kirsty Williams** representing Blackwater in Fives and taking **2nd** place overall!

However, we stole the show in the **Hockey** with wins for both junior and senior teams again! This now puts us in **2nd place overall going into the Lent Term.**







Drama

Sweeney Todd

In December the school put on their annual production. This year saw pupils perform in the musical Sweeney Todd over 6 nights. My congratulations go to **Tilly Lancaster, Rosie Dale and Annie Lewis** who worked tirelessly with the production to perform over 5 nights.



Year 9 – Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

The Year 9s had a blast acting out Act 1, Scene 1 of Charlie, and the Chocolate Factory. **Maddie's** English accent was spot on, and **Annie Lewis** carried off Granpa Joe beautifully. The girls worked hard every Wednesday with our L6th team comprising of **Laya Cluskey, Anya Rai, and Ameilia Williams**, to perfect their performance. A great way for all our new Year 9s to get to know each other better.



House Revue

Our House Revue took place on October 14th, 2023. It was all hands-on deck for the show as the Year 9s staged a fantastic dance over two songs, The Year 10s managed to somehow pull off a very funny 'I'm a celebrity, Get me out of Here' sketch! The year 11s created a dance video to *One Direction*, Year 12s danced the night away to 'All the Single Ladies' and the Year 13s produced their very last video for a revue. We had some superb solos from **Lucia Ridley**, **Rosie Dale**, **Mary Keast-Butler** and **Tilly Lancaster**. A fantastic night and thank you again for all your support towards our house charity 'The Princess Trust'. As I mentioned on the night, they should all be very proud of themselves, especially working together.

PROGRAMME

Compère's
Welcome Video

Blackwater House
Dance Challenge

Year 9
Group dance

Mary Keast-Butler
Bohemian Rhapsody Solo

Charity
Little Princess Trust

Year 11
Music Video

Rosie Dale
Where I want to go

PROGRAMME

Year 12
Dance

Year 10
Sketch

Tilly Lancaster
Singing 'Stay'

Lucia Ridley
Pink Moon

Year 13
Music Video

Blackwater House
Take a Chance on Me





Scholars dinner 2023



We had a great evening to celebrate the new Scholars joining Blackwater House, and the rest of the College. It was an opportunity for all Scholars to meet, as well as hear more about the award they have received. We celebrated **Ella Helm**, **Eloise Garton**, **Scarlett McFarlane**, **Lottie Hinton**, and **Freya Martin** in Year 9, as well as **Melanya Freeston** in Year 12.

Remembrance service and CCF

In CCF our three Y10 programmes got underway whilst the majority of those who have stayed on for Year 11 are developing the skills of instructing and leading, with a view to future responsibility. On Remembrance Sunday all cadets paid their respects to The Fallen, either at the College or by marching in the town parade and in addition a small number of enthusiasts enjoyed a cold but enjoyable overnight exercise in late November.



Charity

Now in her 2nd year at the College, special mention goes to **Maya Toor** who worked with the 'Be You' members for Race and ethnicity to produce a wonderful service which was given to the whole of the college on Monday and Friday in Chapel



 Little Princess Trust

This Year the girls have chosen to support the Princess Trust. We thank you again for the money raised at the House revue. We have raised a whopping £600 in total so far including the Candy Cane sales the girls sold during the last week of term.



House Council and Reps

The start of the year saw lots of new signings for important rolls within our house. Our House Council was formed with one member from each year group.

Name	Year
Kirsty Williams	13
Any Rai	12
Amy Wearne	11
Bella Hodges and Tillie Ward	10
Ella Helm and Scarlett McFarlane	9

We also named our various reps for School council, Food committee and charity reps

Name	Position
Any Rai	Senior School council
Bella Hodges and Ella Helm/Scarlett McFarlane	Junior School council
Ameila Williams and Nellie Yarrow-Davies	Food Committee
Maya Toor	Charity rep
Izzy Pedley	Chapel rep

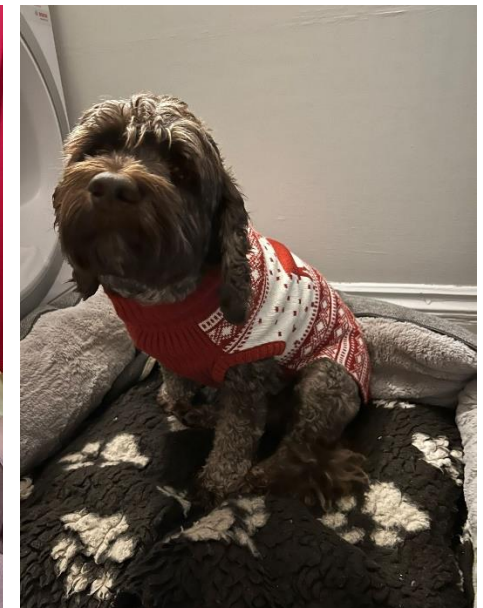
Show HsM and Praise Leader board

Year Group	1 st	2 nd	3 rd
Year 9	Mia Sherrington	Jessie Holgate	Axelle Turnock
Year 10	Sophie Benson	Emma Valks	Bella Hodges
Year 11	Pheobe Oates	Pheobe Wearne	Emily Corrigan
Year 12	Melanya Freeston	Anya Rai	Ella Holgate
Year 13	Lucia Ridley	Kirsty Williams	Nellie Yarrow-Davies

Christmas in Blackwater

As well as the usual Cakey Friday, we celebrated Christmas in style in the House. With a Secret Santa, meal at Pomodoro's and bauble making, we certainly made the most of it. I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas, and I can't wait to see you all back soon for the New Year! Happy New Year from Myself, David, Tom, Harry, and Bea! Here's a big photo dump!





See you all soon Mrs Price