

Powell House Newsletter

Lent Term Review

The Lent Term has been an intense 11-weeks of College life, full of hard work and industry. The participation in all inter-house competitions; ranging from water polo to fives has been fiercely contested and I thank all those who have invested time and effort in these events. I proudly write that Powell sits at the top of the leaderboard, a position I hope we can hold onto for a while. Beyond the walls of Powell, there has been a remarkable amount of productivity, endeavour and success to celebrate, which I hope to capture some of which, in this termly newsletter.

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Creative arts (p.4)



Inter-house football (p.5)



Giving Day Success (p.11)

1

INTER-HOUSE

Powell gained 1st place in the water polo and squash competitions

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OVERALL STANDINGS

1st place in the inter-house standards at the end of term

200

SPORTS TEAMS

A busy term of sport, 500 pupils, 40 teams, over 200 fixtures



Academic Review

Over the course of the term there have been many examples of outstanding academic achievement and effort that deserve the houses recognition. In January, pupils in Year 11 sat their mock GCSE exams with a level of performances that bodes well for the summer; with U6th pupils doing likewise in mid-February. January brought news that 3 pupils at the College were offered Oxbridge places and although no Powell boys were able to gain a place this time, they should be hugely proud of their endeavours and we wish them all the very best with many highly competitive university offers on the table.

In the annual physics Olympiad, we congratulate Dean Zhang on achieving gold, Zeph Andal (Pw,13), silver and Tilly Chapman, bronze. Earlier in the term four teams participated in the Oxford and Cambridge Debating regional round school competitions. We were excited to have a team representing Eastbourne College at Cambridge Finals Day which took place on Saturday 22nd March, with special mention to Matty Arnold (Pw,10) who has been a stalwart member of the team this term. Pupils are still competing in the preliminary rounds of the UK School Challenge general knowledge competition, with the College aiming to make the final rounds of the Challenge. In MFL13 pupils from years 9, 10 and 12 took part in the UK Linguistics Olympiad, a prestigious national competition which involves solving challenging linguistic data problems. Meanwhile in modern languages, year 10 pupils have just returned from a very successful and enjoyable exchange trip back from the beautiful town of St. Jean de Luz in the southwest of France. As well as enjoying day trips and spending time with their host families, pupils also got to attend lessons in their French school. Sixth form linguists also enjoyed a multilingual quiz and food evening this term, testing their knowledge of French, Spanish and German culture with a great competitive spirit. In drama, GCSE and A-level Drama pupils completed their scripted practical exams this term. With scenes taking place in pubs, boarding schools, living rooms, Hollywood Studios and a post-apocalyptic universe, both GCSE and A-level pupils gave incredible performances to parents and peers.

In dance pupils were fortunate to host an American Jazz A-level workshop from Jodie Clark, the assistant director of the UK's leading performing arts establishment, The Brit School. The A-level pupils had a superb trip to London where we visited the archives within the Rambert Dance Company.

Recently, the English Department took 21 pupils from years 12 and 13 to Stratford-upon-Avon to see a performance of Shakespeare's Hamlet. This was an excellent opportunity and will support their upcoming A-level exams.

PRAISE MARKS – LENT TERM 2025

Top 3 pupils in each year group this term:

Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13
Patrick McKee (35)	Hugo Stevens (22)	Shaun Van Niekerk (18)	Dmitry Bykov (28)	Max Williams (25)
Stanley Revell (28)	Gareth Davies (21)	Henry Lawrence (14)	Max Hill (21)	Oliver Rivett (16)
Alex Valks (26)	Oscar Swift and Matty Arnold (17)	Teddy Kuganesan (13)	Teifi Wolstenholme (11)	James Rimington (14)

Four reward points for class effort prize or department commendation. Two reward points awarded for a Show Hsm. One point awarded for praise comments.

We congratulate all these pupils on their exceptional academic achievements this term and wish all those sitting exams this summer the very best of luck in their GCSEs and A-levels.

Creative Arts

As always, our creative arena continues to be packed full of opportunities and achievements.

Year 12 art scholars produced excellent presentations for the National Gallery's Articulation Prize. Visual artists are producing artworks for the Blue Sky Art Auction which takes place in the summer term. There is still time for pupils and staff, from any subject area, to contribute - look out for the adverts on Teams. The Year 13 Arts Award pupils' brilliant showcase on Thursday 13 March showed the breadth of their creativity. A premiere of three films by Mary Keast-Butler, Olly Beaton and Dexter Bell (with Jossi Pears as Director of Photography) started the



evening which was organised by Georgia Hunt. Workshops in stop animation and origami were hosted by Charlie Goffin and Nao Kobayashi. Lola Woollard and Freya Parker presented prizes to the winners of their Sewing Bee which all Houses took part in. Flora Liu and Mandy Luo reprised the brilliant photo booth concept from their Curation Project and Isabella Banks and Evie Ginbey displayed photos from their excellent Dance and Vocal Showcases. Amelia Williams showcased her intricate, beautiful textiles design and Noah Gould presented photos from his directing project. The whole evening was expertly curated by Martha Lillicrap with the poster and signage designed by Al McLaurin. We look forward to seeing Layla El Jishi Cluskey's production of Waiting for Godot in April, starring Esteban Boruel-Lopez

and Jossi Pears.

In Dance the term has ended with an outstanding Showcase from our talented dancers. Years 9 to 13 have continued working towards ballet, modern and tap grades. We were fortunate to host a dance workshop from Daniel Hay-Gordon, co-director of the renowned LGBTQ+ dance company, Thick and Tight.



We are pleased to report that following entries by Y12 into the Samsung 'Design for Tomorrow' competition that received 350 entries, whilst our Y10 have recently started a project designing and modelling a piece of flat pack furniture that must slot together and use no joints or fixings. This is being run as an internal competition and the 2 best designs, one from each set, will be selected by a panel of judges, with the winning designs being made full size for pupils to keep.

Sixteen events have kept the Music Department busy this term. Highlights include a fantastic vocal recital given by Alice Caroe and Harry Shouksmith; a trip to see the world premiere of Jonathan Dove's new opera, *Uprising*, performed by Glyndebourne Community Chorus and Glyndebourne Youth Opera, of which Sophia Sneddon was a member. Battle of the Bands was resurrected after several years and involved two College Bands plus musicians from Seaford Head and Willingdon School – well done to Gifthorse for securing the trophy. Durham University Jazz Orchestra led by OE James Grout completed a wonderful finale to our inaugural Giving Day, joining forces with our Jazz Band and providing our pupils with an inspiring and unforgettable experience. The annual Composers' Concert involved pupils from across the year groups performing original works including a reworking of the newly discovered Mozart Serenade.



Finally, well done to Esteban Boruel-Lopez, Jossi Pears, Dmitry Bykov, Zach Perry, Ben Davies, Fraser Hunt, Toby Tomlin, Hugo Stevens and Jake Knowles for their excellent a cappella performance in the last week of term, finishing in 3rd place.



Inter-house football



Sport

We have seen another brilliant term with 17 sports playing over 350 fixtures with more than 85% of pupils having now played a fixture for the College this year.

The 1st XI boys hockey averaged an extraordinary 6.5 goals per game and played in the national cups to the latter rounds including reaching the cup semi-final of the 28 school St George's Sixes before beating Hurst 7-4 the next day. The U14 and U15s have amassed an incredible 150 goals and the U15As reached the national plate quarter final in Nottingham. The 2nd XI and 3rd XI won three of their 5 and 4 matches respectively. Our equestrian team qualified again for the national finals; the cross country team competed in the Sussex Champs with some going to race in the regional and national finals; the golf team is back in action again after a winter break; and the basketball team competed in the regional cup final league games and Sussex schools tournament.

The fencing, girls squash and our badminton teams enjoyed fixtures with the against other Sussex schools whilst the boys' and girls' fives teams competed in the southeast regional competitions. The girls qualified brilliantly for the national finals last weekend with cup and plate singles and doubles winners and runners up in an impressive return. The biathletes also returned from the national finals with a silver medal for the girls and some impressive 5th and 7th positions in the boys. The sailing team also competed in a national schools' regatta too for the first time with some great performances.

Some great football was played throughout the season, and it is great to



Swimming Excellence

The Swim teams' commitment to training never ceases to amaze with the squad training while most of us are still in bed in the morning or training late into the evening after school. Their dedication is as impressive as the standard they are competing at. The team have once again been achieving new personal bests throughout the term and further College records.

Records fell for our swim team at the national 150 school Bath Cup at the Olympic Park. With the boys completing a unique double-double gold retaining two national titles and setting national records along the way. Our girls also achieved an amazing haul of two silver medals. In the schools super league they secured a bronze overall and won the senior boys and inter girls. A just reward for the impressive early morning and evening sessions they complete. Congratulations to Jack Hylands, Stanley Yeats, Charlie Evans-Shephard, and Matt Clark - a strong Powell contingent.



<https://www.eastbourne-college.co.uk/eastbourne-college-shine-with-historic-double-gold-and-silver-at-the-bath-cup/>

Powell boys in action



Giving Day



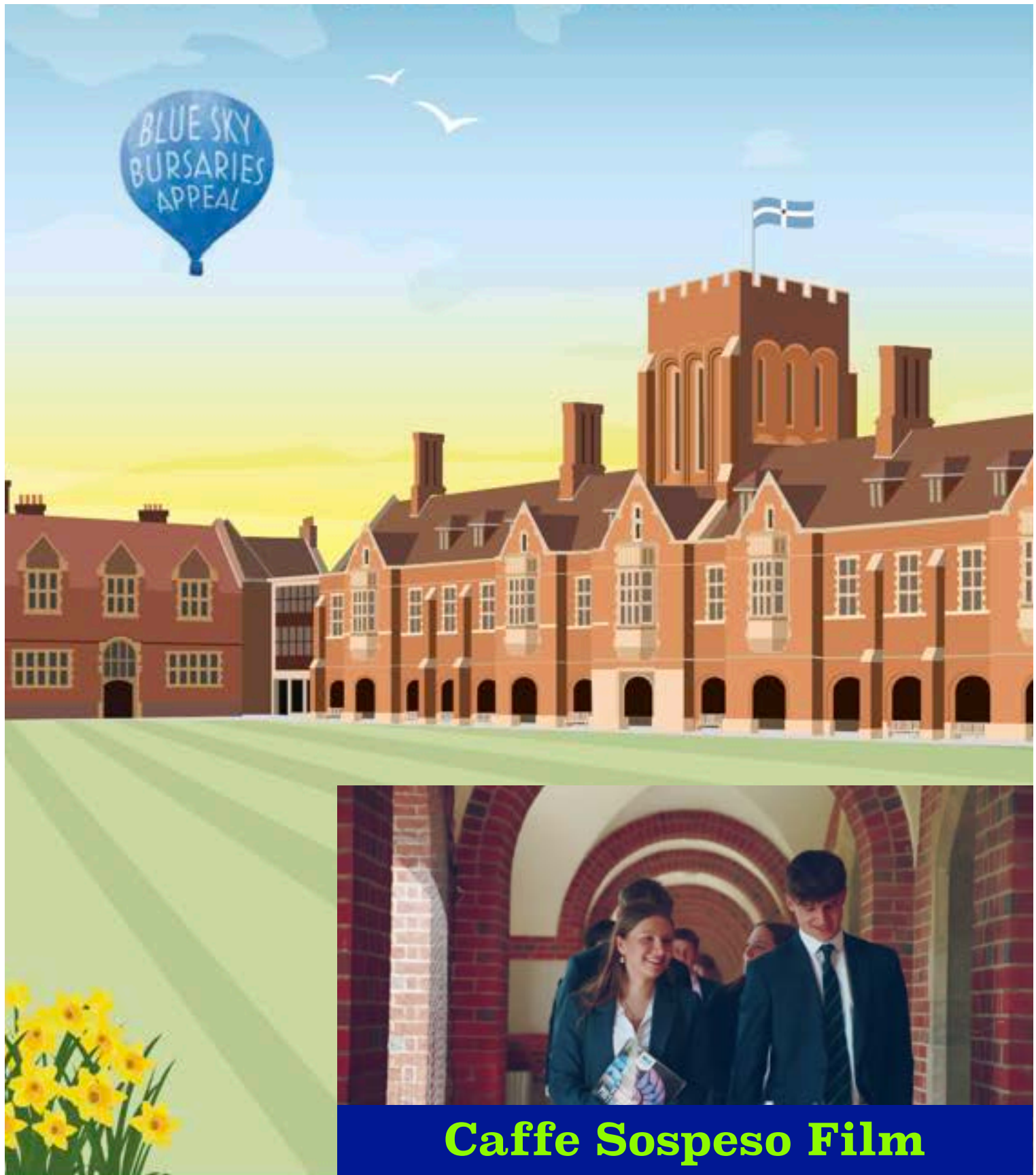
see four senior teams and our U16As playing each week. The four senior teams scored 53 goals between them with the 3rd XI scoring 23 and the 4th XI going unbeaten with 3 wins and a draw. The senior boys rugby played some 15-a-side games before switching to Sevens. The 1st, U16s and U14s all competed at Rosslyn Park and the 1st team won their group for the first time in a long time.

Service

The College's spirit of service has remained undaunted this term.

The CCF has continued to offer its cadets a fantastic range of opportunities and challenges this term, in each of its 3 sections. The small yet mighty Royal Navy section set sail for the Lent Term under the command of Lieutenant Lambert with renewed vigour and an eye on sharpening and smartening up. Sub Lieutenant Thorpe has, as always, been an invaluable steady pair of hands during the transition, ensuring that everyone is patched up and turned out correctly! For the Army Section, this term has offered one main extra opportunity: the overnight voluntary exercise at the start of this month. Seventeen cadets and NCOs from all four year groups took part, many coming straight from sports fixtures. Preparing rations and putting up shelters in the dark, they did well to look after themselves on an exceptionally cold night – all were grateful for their Arctic-rated sleeping bags. The next day their weapons handling skills proved impressive, and they gained a lot from the blank firing tactical training laid on by the accompanying officers. The eight Year 10 cadets who took part, especially, have made themselves stand out from the crowd within our compulsory CCF. In the RAF section, eight more cadets took part in their first Air Experience Flight and spent the night at RAF Benson, enjoying a glimpse of life on an active military base. Y10 cadets have received weapons training with half of the section passing their handling tests so far. They have also started their fieldcraft unit in preparation for the summer term. Y11 have continued their leading cadet and Methods of Instruction courses with the following cadets receiving awards, having passed their three exams and assessed presentations already: Edward Duncumb, Oscar Elliott, and Ben Fellows. The CCF term closed with its splendid annual formal dinner to thank all senior cadets and adult volunteers. Service was provided by our top Y11 cadets who will themselves be dining next year, and Wing Commander Ruskin shared the results of recent research that concluded that the CCF produces young people who are more confident, more able, more engaged, more resilient, more employable and happier people as a result of their CCF experience.

This term's S@S programme has involved over 100 members of Lower Sixth and 24 pupils from Year 11. They have undertaken a wide variety of activities, either within the college community or working with partners outside of school. Members of the CSP homework clubs have been supporting pupils at local secondary schools with preparation for the maths and languages GCSEs and Literacy Club mentors have been helping younger pupils from Eastbourne Academy with reading and comprehension skills. Visitors to the Chaseley Trust have been involved in social and craft activities and physiotherapy programmes with severely disabled adults, who have also enjoyed musical performances from talented College violinists. Wednesday Club helpers have been serving up afternoon tea, bingo and quizzes to local elderly residents and a small team has helped to maintain wheelchairs for the Shopmobility service in the Beacon Centre. The Green Teams have been carrying out beach cleaning operations and a recycling service across the College campus. A group of Year 11 and Year 12 pupils have been developing their coaching skills during cricket service. They have been creating short videos on different drills and techniques of skills for younger students to learn from while also enhancing their understanding of effective session planning. They have put their skills into practice by coaching the Year 7 and 8 girls' cricket club at Willingdon School. It has been fantastic to see their confidence grow as they begin to inspire the next generation.



[https://
blueskybursaries.eastbourniansociety.org/](https://blueskybursaries.eastbourniansociety.org/)

Thank you for the Powell community for donating so much and pulling together.



Giving Day



Another busy term for the DofE team, with twenty eight Y12's and thirty nine Y10's attended their first training day on Sunday 23rd in preparation for their practice, in the summer term. Seventy pupils have completed the award over the last year. Twenty-two of which were golds, a massive achievement for our college and punching well above our weight. Forty-seven silvers and one bronze also completed their awards, another great success for the College.

Once again, a substantial amount of charity money has been raised this term. During this period The Charity Society held a very successful Revue, building on the good work of the Charity Lunch (and previous events) and contributing to a running total so far of about £2500, with more to come. All monies went to the chapel charity for this year – the Midlands Orphanage and Care Centre in Colenso, South Africa.



Headmaster's Assembly

Sporting achievement

Half colours for swimming were awarded to Jack Hylands.

Half colours for hockey were awarded to Oliver Rivett.

Half colours for football were awarded to Esteban Boruel-Lopez, Jossi Pears, Thomas Richards and Teifi Wolstenholme.

Other notable achievements:

Congratulations to Dmitry Bykov who was awarded the Advanced Level in the 2025 UK Linguistics Olympiad.



Dates for the diary:

Summer Term 2025

Wednesday 23 April - Summer Term begins

Monday 5 May (Bank Holiday) - Term resumes on Tuesday 6 May

Friday 23 May - Half term (commences at 14.15) and Y9 GCSE options meeting 14.45

Monday 2 June - Second half of term begins

Saturday 28 June - Speech Day / End of Term (16.00)

<https://calendar.eastbourne-college.co.uk/>