

# THE Tower REVIEW

A CELEBRATION OF THE  
2021/22 SCHOOL YEAR



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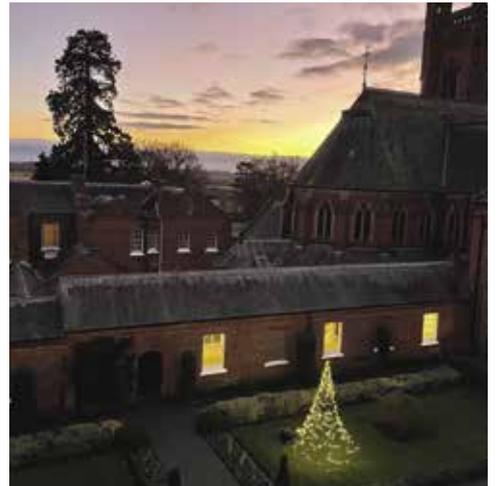
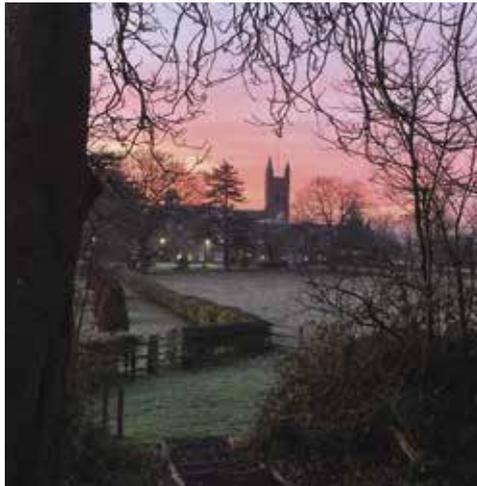
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# A year in the life of Princethorpe College

**Welcome to The Tower Review and a celebration of the 2021/22 school year.**

Charting another memorable year in words and pictures this year's souvenir edition celebrates the community and ethos that together make Princethorpe such a very special place. 2021/22 was an incredible year full of wonderful and remarkable moments and plenty of achievements and successes too. So much happens here, day in day out, it is hard to capture it all. We hope you enjoy reading it and remembering, just as much as we've enjoyed putting it all together.





# Message from the Headmaster

2021/22 was another incredibly busy school year and I would like to thank all our pupils, parents, staff and trustees for their hard work and support.

There is so much that goes on here at school, each and every day, and you will have your own personal highlights but here are some of the events, successes, stories and achievements that stood out for me over the course of the school year. One in particular was the "phone call" from the inspectors that came on the first day of the Trinity Term and we were, of course, delighted that they found the College to be excellent in all respects and that they were so complimentary in their report about the pupils and staff.

## Pupil Successes

There are so many times when pupils inspire us with their creativity, hard work and perseverance: the House Talent Show, Matilda The Musical Jr, the Spring Music Concert, the LAMDA Showcase Evening, the Summer GCSE and A-level Art, Photography, Design and Textiles Show, seeing the inspirational work produced for da Vinci projects and The Pinnacle, Planet Princethorpe initiatives and of course the wide variety of sporting achievements and fixtures throughout the year.

It's hard to single-out individuals but some of the stand-out performances include: the 1st XI Hockey Girls making it to the England Hockey Schools Championships semi-final, the U13 Netballers and U14 Footballers becoming ISA National Plate champions, our Equestrian Team qualifying for Hickstead, the Girls' cricket programme this year, fantastic team performances by our cricket and cross country teams and of course six of our pupils competing at the English Schools National Athletics final with Cam McGregor and André Onyekwe both bringing home golds!

It was super to see key elements of the Princethorpe calendar return this year. To have our first Sports Day in four years was tremendous and we congratulate More on their success on the track and field. Residential trips have also made a welcome return this year, with both Year 7 and 8 visiting Whitemoor Lakes and the Lower Sixth heading to Dearne Valley for outward bound and team-building activities. Over the summer we ventured into Europe for the first time since 2019 with the History and Music trips.

## Duke of Edinburgh's Awards

It was also tremendous that across the year 274 pupils completed a Duke of Edinburgh Award expedition amounting to a total of 39 days of in-school training and trips. It was also lovely to see the pictures in May of the 12 strong group of recent Old Princethorpians together at Buckingham Palace receiving their Gold Medals at the first Award Presentation for over two years.

There is a large team of staff involved to thank, but special thanks must go to Will Bower for his leadership of this key pillar of our co-curricular programme.

## House Programme

The multitude of House events at all levels are also inspiring, giving each pupil the opportunity to contribute and represent their houses. The pinnacle of these events is of course the tremendous House Activity Day where every single member of the College is involved. With this year's theme being 'Gap Year', staff and pupils had some amazing tasks to tackle including the 'Airport Run', 'Camp America', 'Mardi Gras' and the 'Samba Stop Over', all in all a wonderful day. Huge thanks to all the House Activity Co-ordinators and prefects and particularly to Jess Newborough for her leadership of the House programme this year.

## Charitable Work

Some of the most memorable and special moments are when the whole school community comes together. This is often by giving both time and energy to some wonderful charitable causes and living out the ethos of the school by showing kindness, compassion and love for others. This has been another bumper year for projects and activities run with the sole aim of helping other people, not just by raising money but also by giving of time.

We have had cake sales, ice-lolly sales, pancake races, 40-mile and 24-mile walks, non-uniform days, pink days, blue days, Valentine's flowers, visits to the Leamington night shelter, lunches and social events. The situation in Ukraine has of course been at the forefront of our minds and much-needed support has been given to aid the humanitarian effort there, but a wide-range of other charities have also benefited both at home and abroad; Mary's Meals, CAFOD, Breast Cancer Now, Friends of the Holy Land, Graham Fulford Trust, Father Hudson's Society, British Heart Foundation, MIND, Aid to the Church in Need and SHELTER, our House Charity.

The total raised by the Princethorpe Community was just over £18,000 which is a tremendous achievement.

Many thanks to all staff and pupils who have been involved in these events, but a special mention must go to Mary Benham, our Chaplaincy Co-ordinator, who also co-ordinates our charity events and Rod Isaacs who leads our Youth SVP and Sixth Form community outreach programme.

## Campus Developments

In January, the green light was given to our largest building project to date, the new £8 million Science Centre, which is on track to open in Autumn 2023. These new facilities will help create an exceptional learning environment and provide an outstanding legacy at The Foundation.

## Results Days

The culmination of the academic year is of course August when A-level and GCSE results are published. We strive hard to ensure that each member of the College's community makes the most of their own talents. When pupils leave Princethorpe they do so with so much more than just an examination certificate, but we do take great pride in trying to ensure that all our pupils achieve the very best possible academic results. We were of course delighted with the exceptionally high number of top grades this year but are proud of all our pupils who have worked hard and done their very best. The majority of our Year 11s progressed into our Sixth Form to continue with their studies, and we bade a fond farewell to our Upper Sixth leavers as they made their way on to the next stage of their lives. Ably equipped with the qualities of kindness, respect, determination and friendship which we as a community hold so dear.

2021/22 really was a remarkable year and I hope you enjoy reliving it with the help of *The Tower Review*.

E D Hester  
Headmaster

# Michaelmas News

01

## New Year 7s enjoy action packed Activity Day

Friday 3 September was an exciting day for the 130 Year 7 pupils who were joining Princethorpe College. The incoming Year 7s arrived looking excited and a little bit nervous. During their action-packed activity day they participated in fun team building activities including a scavenger hunt, took part in Science or Technology lessons, a Year 7 Chorus rehearsal with Mr Hester and enjoyed an afternoon Games lesson. For the next generation of Princethorpians it was a great opportunity to generally ask questions, allay any fears and ease the transition to secondary school.

03

## Year 7 explore Princethorpe's history

Year 7 begin their RS studies at Princethorpe with an introduction to the origins of the College and its predecessor, the Benedictine community of St Mary's Priory. Exploring the College's history gives an excellent insight into the school and its ethos and is a really great way to bring pupils' initial RS studies vividly to life.

In their first few lessons pupils tour the school exploring the Chapel, the Cloisters and even the Nuns' cemetery. They also all take part in one of the must dos for pupils and staff at Princethorpe College, a climb to the top of the Tower. It can be seen from miles around, is integral to the College's identity and even features on the school crest. Year 7 found it all fascinating and asked plenty of interesting questions.



01



02



03



04

02

## Year 8 take on the John Muir Award

Year 8 had a new addition to the curriculum, Outdoor Education. Led by Head of Outdoor Education, Will Bower, ably supported by Foundation Grounds Manager, Edd Robertson, pupils enjoyed getting outside and participating in different conservation activities. Whether maintaining the orienteering course, installing a new seating area by the beehives or cutting back overgrown brambles, it was a great opportunity to discover and explore Princethorpe's own wild places. In their Outdoor Education lessons, Year 8 worked towards the John Muir Discovery Award, a recognised scheme that encourages awareness and responsibility for the natural environment.

04

## Pupils enjoy European Day of Languages fun

At the College there are many opportunities to get excited about languages and celebrating European Day of Languages is just one of them. This year the MFL and House teams challenged staff and pupils to take part in fun language-based activities. Staff were challenged to use a foreign language in their lessons, either speaking it or including it in the lesson activity with pupils acting as judges. Miss O'Gorman came out on top with Dr Onyekwe second and Mr Rosenbaum third. Then pupils gathered excitedly outside at break to answer a wide range of language-based questions in a trivia quiz. It was fast and furious and very competitive, all a lot of fun while helping to inspire our pupils too!

## Michaelmas News

05

### Emmi accepted onto New York Academy of Sciences programmes

Year 9 pupil, Emmi, was accepted into the prestigious New York Academy of Sciences Junior Academy and onto the 1000 Girls, 1000 Futures mentoring programme. Both programmes offer Emmi the opportunity to join virtual learning communities and work with STEM experts and leaders from around the world.

With only 1000 places available world-wide, Emmi's selection bears testament to the strength of her application which included an essay on biological engineering and applying the principles of biology to real life situations.



06

### Princethorpe falls silent in Remembrance

On Thursday 11 November at 11.00am the College community gathered together to silently reflect on the bravery and the selfless sacrifice made by so many of our country's service men and women. This year's Remembrance Service was held outside on a cold and damp school playground.

Father Alan Whelan MSC opened the proceedings with a prayer. Year 9 pupil, Sean Birtley read out a thought-provoking poem for Remembrance and then College trumpeter, Year 8, Henry Corbin sounded the melancholic and mournful notes of the Last Post. The one-minute silence offered all a time for reflection, a shared moment to remember those who have given their lives for the peace and freedom we enjoy today.



07

### Near perfect marks for James

Lower Sixth Former James Maclean achieved the near-perfect score of 98 in his London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts (LAMDA) Grade 5 examination in Mime. LAMDA's examinations in Mime are designed to develop the skills to articulate emotion and characterisation in storytelling without using a single word. It is a silent performing art using only movements, gestures and facial expressions.

James prepared and performed two scenes for the examination including a challenging piece called Brothers In Vietnam that called for a diverse range of movements and isolations as it told the story of the Vietnam war. His LAMDA teacher, Chris Carpenter, was delighted and impressed with James' examination result, commenting, "I knew his two pieces were good but didn't realise just how well he would do – I believe this is the highest Mime mark ever achieved in LAMDA examinations here at the College."



08

### Holes was a compelling coming off age production

Over three nights the Drama department delivered a creative adaptation of Louis Sachar's *Holes*. Transporting the audience to the heat of the Texan desert and a compelling world of larger-than-life characters. When a pair of sneakers fall from the sky Stanley Yelnats is convicted through the juvenile courts and sent to Camp Green Lake, a boys' juvenile detention centre in Texas. There is no lake there, instead the boys spend each day digging five-foot holes in the dried-up lakebed under the watchful eye of the tyrannical warden.

The production was excellent, the young actors giving an enthusiastic performance that was received with thunderous applause at curtain call. Despite the pandemic significantly affecting the rehearsal process, drama clearly continued to flourish at Princethorpe College.



## Michaelmas News



### 09 Professional magician visits College Magic Club

Princethorpe's Magic Club had a special treat on Monday 22 November when they were visited by Mark Traversoni, member of The Magic Circle. Mr Traversoni popped into school at lunchtime to inspire our budding young magicians with a variety of tricks, and plenty of sound advice on becoming a magician.

His performance was very entertaining and included a number of card tricks, Princethorpe's friendly ghosts even got in on the act when they helped to magically move the cards. Mr Scoutas trusted his wedding ring to Mr Traversoni and quite how it ended up in the sealed envelope nobody knows. It was a marvellous session that had pupils wide eyed with wonder.



### 10 Princethorpe pupils rise to the Senior Mathematics Challenge

Pupils from Princethorpe College took part in the 2021 UK Mathematics Trust Senior Challenge, a prestigious national problem-solving competition that recognises the best young mathematicians in the country. The competition is aimed at students in the Sixth Form and Princethorpe selected 28 able mathematicians to participate in this year's Challenge.

Upper Sixth Former, Ben Scares was awarded a Gold certificate, and took the award for best performing student in school, Ben performed so well that he also qualified for the follow-on round, the Senior Kangaroo Challenge.

Silver certificates went to: Will Hawkins, Joshua Rawlings, William Gibson-Sexton, Caitlin Mason and Edward Sharpe with Bronze certificates awarded to: Tobias Lambe, Alex Hill, Pablo Scopes, Henry Walker, Mary Lomas, Anthony Convey, Jack Rochford, Ciaran Smith, Tom Spencer, Alexander Allison and Robyn Field.



### 11 Bookbuzz cross-curricular learning

The Book Trust Bookbuzz scheme is hugely beneficial in encouraging independent reading and there was much excitement when Year 7's chosen books arrived. Independent reading is crucial for pupils' cross-curricular learning, emotional development, and academic outcomes; reading for pleasure is one of the key predictors of examination success. So, to engage the pupils with their new books, Language for Learning Leader, Mrs Parsons ran a cross curricular task with Year 7. Pupils created a poster about the characters in their book in their Spanish lessons. All great fun and super learning for Year 7.



### 12 College welcomed JLR Senior Design Engineer

Princethorpe College was delighted to welcome guest speaker, Mr Gary Knight, Senior Design Engineer on Bodywork Engineering at Jaguar Land Rover, into school on Friday 3 December.

Mr Knight visited the school to talk with Design Technology pupils from Year 10 through to the Sixth Form. He delivered a lively and engaging presentation to the Design Technology groups covering topics such as the design process, concept iterations, CAD and virtual model analysis. Many thanks to Mr Knight for his inspirational presentation to our young designers and engineers.

## Michaelmas News

### 13 Upper Sixth physicists' Olympiad success

Perhaps the most challenging Physics test available to Sixth Form students, was tackled by some of Princethorpe's finest physicists with resounding success. Seven students sat the Year 13 Physics Olympiad Challenge, a series of tough problems that stretches the sixth formers with questions beyond the scope of the A-level course.

Ben Scares, Caitlin Mason and Joshua Rawlings, all achieved the highest level of 'Merit' within the competition. Congratulations also to Louis Beck, Charlie Wollaston, Archie Hancock and Daniel Hatfield, who all achieved good scores.



### 14 STEAM essay competition winners

Princethorpe's STEAM essay competition attracted plenty of entries and Mr Lee and the STEAM Ambassadors, Caitlin, Ben and Ciaran, were delighted with the response. Pupils were asked to write a 500-word essay on a STEAM subject and another interdisciplinary topic of pupils' choice, and the judges were really impressed by pupils well thought out and constructed analysis of their chosen linked subjects.

After careful consideration the prizes were awarded to Isaac Nelson, Year 7, and Tim Peyret, Year 10, and Jorja Parris, Year 8. Special mention went to Ariana Gray, Megan Thandi and Delilah Teeton for their submissions of topical essays. Well done to all who took part.



### 15 Sixth Form students explore Maths in Action

A group of 14 A-level Mathematics students travelled to the University of Warwick to attend their annual Maths in Action enrichment event. The students enjoyed five fascinating talks on flight engineering, viral maths, statistics in the news, error correction in data transfer, and the stock market. There was also a useful session on exam technique.

The event was chaired by quiz show host, and maths social media presence, Bobby Seagull.

The Sixth Form students had a thoroughly enjoyable day and it was also a great opportunity for them to visit a leading campus based university.



# Michaelmas Sport

## Pupils help Warwickshire to seventh place in National Schools' Athletics Championships

Four Princethorpe pupils represented Warwickshire in the English Schools' Athletics Association Combined Events Championships at Bedford International Athletic Stadium in September. The boys were the only County team participating with all the athletes from the same school. Year 10 pupils, Anjola Okusanya, Vincent McNevin and Ben Smith and Year 9, André Onyekwe, competed in the Junior Boys Pentathlon that included – the 80m Hurdles, Shot, Long Jump, High Jump and 800m.

The team finished in a very respectable seventh place overall against competitors from 18 County teams. On the day the boys all ran personal bests in the 800m, a superb achievement, and Vincent delivered personal bests in every event.



## Success for runners in local round of ESAA Cross Country Cup

Princethorpe College was delighted to welcome runners from ten Warwickshire schools on Monday 4 October for the county qualifying round of the English Schools Athletics Association's (ESAA) Cross Country Cup. Runners competed in the Junior, Intermediate and Senior Boys and Girls races on a course that led the competitors out around the College's playing fields.

Well done to the Inter Girls who finished in first place overall, the Junior Boys who finished in second place, the Inter Boys who were third, Senior Girls who also finished in third place, and the Junior Girls who finished fourth. It really was fantastic to host the competition once again.

## Great effort by all at the Warwickshire Inter Area Cross Country

The Warwickshire Schools Inter Area Cross Country took place on Saturday 6 November in Stratford-upon-Avon. Princethorpe College entered a team of 23 from Years 7 to 11 in the Minor (Year 7), Junior (Years 8 and 9) and Inter (Years 10 and 11) events.

The College had the largest team of competitors on the day and for a significant number of the runners this was their very first race. Cross country running has always been a strength of the school, so it was great to see so many new faces upholding the tradition.



## U14 Girls qualify for Hockey Regional Finals

The U14 Girls Hockey team qualified for the Tier 2 Midlands Hockey Final after a very exciting afternoon of hockey on their home turf. After their victory in the Tier 2 County Hockey tournament, the Princethorpe U14 girls progressed to the Midlands Zonal round, which was held on Tuesday 17 November.

They faced Wellingborough and Worksop and a great performance saw Princethorpe through as tournament victors.

## Michaelmas Sport



### College swimmers bring home medals from the ISA National Championships

Princethorpe's squad of 14 put in some excellent performances helping the College achieve fifth place overall after the 36 events were completed at the Midlands ISA Swimming Gala.

Year 9 pupil, André Onyekwe swam a terrific race to claim the Gold medal in the Year 9/10 Boys 50m Freestyle while Year 8, Sam Grindal was on form too, finishing in second place to claim the Silver medal in the Year 8 Boys 25m Butterfly. Both boys qualified to swim for the Midlands regional team in the finals in London. Year 8 pupil, Ewan Pearce also put in a solid performance for a Bronze medal in the 50m Backstroke. Lower Sixth, Jess Mackenzie earned herself a Silver medal when she finished in second place in the Year 11-13 50m Backstroke and took Bronze medal in the 50m Freestyle. Year 8 pupil, Emma Becker claimed a Silver medal too, by finishing the 50m Breaststroke.

The Nationals took place on Sunday 28 November at the London Aquatics Centre at the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. André swam in three events and came away with three Silver medals for the Year 9 and 10 Boys 100m Freestyle, the Year 9 and 10 Medley Relay 4x50m and the Year 9&10 Freestyle Relay 4x50m. Sam swam in the Year 8 Boys Freestyle Relay 4x50m team that finished in third place to bring home a Bronze medal. Together the boys' medal winning performances helped the Midlands team finish in second place overall at the national event.

### Senior Hockey Girls had a phenomenal season

**The Girls First XI Hockey team had an absolutely fantastic season which began with an unbeaten run including wins against Solihull (3-1), Ratcliffe (3-0), KES Birmingham (3-2), Kimbolton (7-0), Bablake King Henry's (4-2), and the formidable Bromsgrove School (4-2).**

The team earned their well-deserved place in the final eight in the England Hockey Schools Championships in a hard-fought match on their home turf against the talented Cheltenham College on Tuesday 23 November. Talking about the match, Team Captain, Milly Hemmings, commented "It was a very close match against a determined side, but we never gave up and made the most of any opportunity we had to break through. It was a very nervous last ten minutes, but the team showed real resilience to get a well-deserved win."

Their excellent 2-0 victory against Cheltenham meant they faced Blundell's School in the quarter-finals. That game went their way too after the game finished 2-2 at full time and the match went to penalty flicks.

In a thrilling but nail-biting shoot-out the girls slammed home the penalties to come out 3-1 on top and take the win.

Although the semi-final against RGS Newcastle did not go their way, we could not be any prouder of our First XI Girls' Hockey squad who had a simply incredible season. To reach the last four in the country in this competition is a truly outstanding feat, one that has not been done at Princethorpe before. It was an amazing and incredible team effort that was a reflection of the tenacity and dedication of pupils and staff over the season.

Playing for Princethorpe College First XI Hockey Squad for 2021/22 were: Mia Johnson, Molly Harper, Jess Mackenzie, Eve Farquharson, Sophie Gray, Alice Whittaker, Tilly Houghton, Lara Tripp-Smith, Emilia Scimeca, Sophie Tudor, Anneliesa Douglas, Evie Phillips, Milly Hemmings, Grace Thomas, Lucia McCosker-New and Jess Evans.



# Michaelmas Trips

## 01 Year 7 enjoy a wonderful weekend at Whitemoor Lakes

In September we took 128 pupils on a three-day programme that included fencing, canoeing, climbing, high ropes and problem solving. In the evenings pupils enjoyed team games and dancing at the fabulous Saturday night disco. It was a fantastic opportunity for Year 7 pupils to bond together as a year group. They had an amazing time and were really supportive of one another as they worked together. They showed resilience and initiative and came back into school with new friends and better able to work together as a team.

## 02 A-level Biology Field Trip visits Brandon Marsh

Across two days, 35 Upper Sixth Formers visited Warwickshire Wildlife Trust's Brandon Marsh Nature Reserve to take part in an essential field trip. The students each spent a day on the reserve collecting data and writing up two core ecology practicals. The first investigated the effect of an abiotic factor on the distribution of plant growth while the second investigated the effect of sampling technique on estimating plant density. The Sixth Formers made the most of the experience and the gorgeous weather as they carried out their practical work.

## 03 Geography Field Trip explored Shrewsbury and Carding Mill Valley

Our intrepid Year 11 Geography GCSE pupils travelled to Preston Montford, one of the Field Studies Council's specialist outdoor centres to put into practise the geographical field skills they had been studying in their lessons. Pupils spent one day exploring human geography topics, investigating urban dynamic areas in the Castlefields and Radbrook Green districts of the county town of Shrewsbury. They then spent a day investigating physical geography topics in Carding Mill Valley, near the Long Mynd. There, they surveyed the rivers, undertaking measurements and investigating the changes downstream.

## 04 Lower Sixth visit to Dearne Valley

The Lower Sixth enjoyed a fabulous few days at Dearne Valley. Their three-day trip, offered the students the chance to develop leadership and initiative skills, build personal resilience and gave them the opportunity to bond together as a group. The 74 Lower Sixth Formers took part in a variety of outward bound activities including Canoeing, Zip Wire, Night Line, Climbing, Orienteering and Archery. In the evenings they enjoyed a scrap heap challenge and plenty of camaraderie around the campfire. Everyone had fun and it was a great start to their time in the Sixth Form.

“

They showed resilience and initiative and came back into school with new friends and better able to work together as a team.

”

# Michaelmas Trips



# Prize Giving 2021

**Inspirational Prize Giving celebrates pupils' great achievements.**



**Another exceptional year of achievement, progress, creativity and contribution was celebrated at Princethorpe College's annual Prize Giving Ceremony at the Butterworth Hall, at Warwick University's Arts Centre on Friday 19 November.**

Chair of Trustees, Mrs Liz Griffin, opened the proceedings, warmly welcoming parents, friends of the College and Princethorpians old and new to the occasion and then Father Alan Whelan MSC led the assembled community in an opening prayer.

In his formal address, the Headmaster, Ed Hester, gave thanks to all those who make Princethorpe the special place it is. His warm words paid tribute to all that is done by so many in support of the College, the kindness, the compassion and the values that underpin the success stories of so many of our pupils and not just those who received prizes on the evening. He congratulated last year's Year 11 and Upper Sixth on their resilience and tenacity over the course of the last two challenging years and applauded them all.

All evening the atmosphere was joyful and celebratory and there were superb musical interludes from the school String Orchestra, Concert Band and the Year 7 Choir, whose performance of *It Must Be Love* was both enthusiastic and uplifting.

Then it was time for the presentation of the awards. Listening to the citations was truly inspiring and humbling. The talent in evidence, the grit and determination, the passion, enthusiasm and commitment were all applauded and honoured.

## Prize Giving 2021

Finally, we came to the main award, the Princethorpe Shield, the oldest and most prestigious College award presented annually to the student who is seen to embody the spirit and ethos of the College in many facets of their school life. It was a very popular decision this year, with the audience cheering a delighted and surprised former Head Girl, Abbie O'Carroll-Bailey and former Head Boy, Jack Neale who were thrilled to jointly receive the Shield in recognition of their sterling service throughout the course of the pandemic.

Then to close the proceedings Head Girl, Caitlin Mason, and Head Boy, Anthony Convey, gave an eloquent vote of thanks. They were joined by Abbie and Jack on stage who added their thanks to the College community for all they had done. The evening came to a close with the singing of the College Hymn, *Here I Am Lord*.



“

The talent in evidence, the grit and determination, the passion, enthusiasm and commitment were all applauded and honoured.

”



# Charity



01

## 01 World Porridge Day fundraiser for Mary's Meals

Pupils supported World Porridge Day raising money for Mary's Meals. Championed by Sixth Form students, pupils participated in a posse of Scottish and porridge fundraising fun. At break time pupils tucked into a pot of porridge, from the College refectory and the Scottish theme continued out in the grounds where only the brave participated in the annual William Wallace Welly Wanging Challenge. A new school record was set with two pupils tying with matching throws of 34.10m each, congratulations to Upper Sixth Former, Charlie Crean, and to Year 10, Freddie Roberts, both of Benet House. Well done to all the pupils who participated.



02

## 02 Sixth Form #WoreItPink for Breast Cancer charities

Sixth Formers celebrated 'Pink Day' on Friday 15 October. In true Princethorpe tradition, they embraced the theme and the Sixth Form Centre and College corridors were graced with fluffy pink costumes. Every pupil in the school made a cash donation to support the Sixth Form's fundraising efforts. As well as fund raising, the Sixth Form also found time today to entertain the residents of a local care home with an online bingo session. Their costumes really brightened up the residents' day.



03

## 03 113 Shoeboxes donated to Christmas Teams4U Appeal

A grand total of 113 boxes were assembled for the annual Christmas Shoebox appeal. They were packed full of little gifts and included educational and hygiene essentials, ordinary items to us but of great value to those who receive the gift. Collected through Tutor Groups, our thanks go to all the pupils, parents and staff who donated to the appeal and to Marco Rodriguez Hernandez, Alex Sykes, Jemima Teeton, Sean Birtley and Andre Barnett for supporting the appeal by assembling, sorting and packing all the boxes.



04

## 04 Pupils and Parents respond generously to Food Bank Appeal

Princethorpe College pupils, parents and staff responded generously to the seasonal challenge to show they care. The school community was asked to bring in items of non-perishable food and they did not disappoint, showing a sense of empathy, generosity and solidarity that at one stage led to the school's prayer room overflowing with boxes and bags of donations. All their gifts were passed on to the Leamington branch of the charity St Vincent de Paul Society, to be packed into hampers to be given to local families in need. Thank you to Year 7 pupils, Keira, Lola, Jessie and Roxanna for their help with organising the donations.

# Christmas

## Isla's Design takes first place in Christmas Card competition

This College Christmas card competition was won by Year 9 pupil, Isla Lacey. Her super painting featured a cheery robin and a star shining brightly as the sun sets behind the College in the Warwickshire countryside. It was the perfect choice for the College's card.



## Sixth Form Christmas Tree competition

Sixth Form House teams gathered excitedly for the annual Sixth Form Christmas Tree decorating competition. Four teams of students rolled up their sleeves and began to piece together the jigsaw of branches. Lights were artistically draped, decorations hung and then with seconds to spare, and one final stretch, stars were positioned on the top.

Judging considered the originality, appearance, environmental friendliness and the results were – in first place Fisher, followed by Austin, Benet and then More.



## Parents and staff decked the doors with Boughs of Holly

A very successful Christmas wreath making evening decked the doors with boughs of holly as 82 parents, staff and friends jumped at the chance to get arty and crafty on Wednesday 1 December. Places on the evening were snapped up like hot mince pies, and the participants armed with secateurs all enjoyed snipping and clipping away with twigs, foliage and prickly holly to produce some cracking Christmas door decorations.



## Christmas Decorations

It's certainly felt like Christmas when Year 7 DT Club got all crafty and creative making super Christmas Cottage decorations. They looked amazing all lit up!

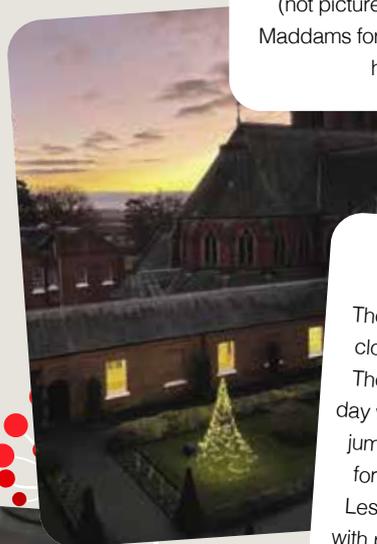


## Chapel Christmas Tree a testament to the presence of love in the world

The Christmas tree in the College Chapel was lovingly decorated with twinkling lights and hand cut stars, each holding the name of a special someone.

It's a tradition that every Christmas all members of the college community are invited to write the names of those who have touched their lives with love and have a special place in their hearts on a star. Each individual star is then carefully positioned on the tree. The many stars on the tree, a testament to the presence of love in the world.

Our thanks go to Year 7 pupils Elizabeth Burgess, Isabella Kay, Emily Knight (not pictured) Anabel Kowal and Alicia Maddams for their help with preparing and hanging the stars.



## Festive Fun

The Michaelmas term came to a close with a flurry of festive fun. The last day was a non-uniform day with pupils wearing Christmas jumpers in return for a donation for the House charity, Shelter. Lessons finished after period 4 with pupils returning to their Tutor room to enjoy a special House Christmas Quiz and take part in a short Christmas service. Then the whole community gathered outside on the playground to sing Christmas carols.

## Lent News



### 01 Visiting speakers share insights into faith

The Upper Sixth welcomed four visiting speakers in January for an Interfaith Forum. The event provided the students with a chance to hear from representatives from the Humanist, Sikh, Muslim and Christian faiths.

Ghulam Vohra, Chairperson of the Coventry Muslim Forum, Marcia Watson, representing the Offchurch Group of Churches, Jane Sault from the Humanist Association and Jatinder Birdi, representing the Gurdwara Sahib of Leamington and Warwick, spoke to the students in turn, sharing an understanding of their faith, answering questions and providing insights into their beliefs and their thoughts on the importance of faith in society today.

The Upper Sixth had the opportunity to consider how many similarities there were between the faiths and how through mutual understanding and co-operation we can all work with and respect each other in our communities.



### 02 Four Sixth Form Students awarded LAMDA Grade 8 Gold Medals

Olivia Ward, Ciaran Smith, Ishbel Kempton and Elsie Kelley were all awarded a distinction in their London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA) Grade 8 Gold Medal examinations.

Gold is the highest medal awarded by LAMDA and will have taken years of training to achieve. The four Sixth Formers took their LAMDA Gold medal examinations in November and just before Christmas they received news of their success. Achieving their LAMDA Gold Medal examinations means that all four students also accrued 30 UCAS points towards their university applications. It was a really impressive achievement.



### 03 Cambridge offers for high-flying Princethorpe Sixth Formers

Two Princethorpe College Sixth Form students were thrilled to receive offers for places at Cambridge University. Head Girl, Caitlin Mason, received an offer to read Psychological and Behavioural Sciences at Magdalene College, Cambridge while Sixth Form prefect and Fisher House Captain, Greg Burford, was offered Music at Girton College, Cambridge.

Oxbridge places are always oversubscribed and increasingly competitive, and these talented students faced a tough selection process consisting of pre-tests, intensive scrutiny of their academic and personal achievements and rigorous interviews. Princethorpe College was very proud of them both and of all our Upper Sixth students applying to study at university.



### 04 College Sixth Formers win local Rotary Youth Speaks competition

Lower Sixth Formers Pratheesh Prabakaran, Toby Pearton and Annabel Koster were the winners of the local Youth Speaks competition, the Rotary Club's well-respected public speaking challenge. The Princethorpe College students saw off stiff competition from teams of pupils from other local schools in the district round held in Warwick in February.

Youth Speaks requires a team of three students to stand up and deliver a speech on a subject of their choice. It provides a great opportunity for young people to develop the ability to speak on a public platform, carry out research and formulate ideas, improve their self-confidence and presentation skills, and work together as a team.

## Lent News

### 05 Two College singing superstars

Two Princethorpe Sixth Form students celebrated after achieving exceptional marks in their Trinity College of Music examinations. Greg Burford and Robyn Field, who both took up singing just last year, and who both played starring roles in the College's virtual production of *Jesus Christ Superstar*, were awarded a Distinction in their Grade 8 singing exam.

Greg and Robyn sang four pieces each from a set syllabus and were also judged on technical exercises and their presentation and focus. Both delivered accomplished performances in front of the examiner and achieved impressive results. Marked out of 100, Greg scored 95 while Robyn was awarded 90, a superb achievement for these talented young singers.

Their performances have delighted us all over the years and wherever their music takes them we wish them both well!



### Matilda the Musical was magical

**The College production of *Matilda Jr* was a truly magical show. The Clarkson Theatre was filled full of the smell of rebellion as our talented cast of revolting children told the story of an extraordinary girl who, armed with a vivid imagination and a sharp mind, dared to take a stand and change her own destiny.**

The fearsome Agatha Trunchbull, played by Chloe, was delightfully diabolical while Mrs Wormwood, played by Lauren, was a real class act. Miss Honey, played by Megan, was touchingly sweet and Nigel, Lavender and the kids were all just spectacular, full of vibrant energy and enthusiasm. Matilda, played by Year 7 Amelia, was truly terrific.

Congratulations to everyone involved, on stage and behind the scenes and especially to the Directors, Mr Cowlshaw and Ms Newborough.



# Lent News



## 06

### Pupils and Staff celebrate World Book Day

Staff and pupils had a great time celebrating World Book Day. One of the English department and Library's highlights of the year, it is always a great opportunity to share the joy of books. At Tutor Time the whole school community took part in a 'Drop Everything And Read Challenge', pupils pulled out their favourites and settled down to read.

At lunch there was the Big Book Swap outside the Refectory and across the day Year 7 and 8 pupils received a free book, *Boy Missing* by Sophie McKenzie or *The Last Word* by Ben Bailey Smith, their special World Book Day gifts were given out during their English lessons.

## 08

### Student success in the RSC Chemistry Olympiad

In January, three Upper Sixth Form students, Mathura Elamurugan, Robyn Field, and Tobias Lambe, took part in the Chemistry Olympiad. Designed to challenge and inspire, the UK Chemistry Olympiad, organised by the Royal Society of Chemistry, provides enrichment and a unique opportunity for students to push themselves further and excel in the fascinating field of Chemistry.

The College was delighted that all three students who took part this year received an award. Tobias Lambe was awarded a Gold certificate while Mathura and Robyn were awarded Bronze certificates. They faced tough competition in this prestigious Olympiad and we congratulate them all on their excellent results.

## 07

### A Distinction for Daniel in Oxford University Computing Challenge

Year 8 pupil, Daniel Ovens Gibbs competed in the Intermediate section of the Oxford University Computing Challenge against just over 6,500 pupils who had qualified for this year's competition. Daniel finished in the top 3%, achieving a Distinction grade for his submission. A simply super result, especially considering that Daniel was up against pupils in Year 8 and Year 9.

Head of Computer Science, Adam Depledge said, "This is a fantastic achievement by Daniel. Computational thinking is an incredibly useful and powerful skill and Daniel has shown he has mastered it to a level well beyond his years. Daniel's score was well over twice the average, and that was against the most talented pupils studying Computer Science. It's great to see his abilities recognised in such a prestigious competition and we look forward to seeing what he can accomplish in the future."

## 09

### Princethorpe shines the spotlight on science

Princethorpe took part in British Science Week, a national celebration of Science run by the British Science Association. Throughout the week pupils from across the school enjoyed entertaining and interesting activities designed to highlight the importance of Science and inspire and engage the next generation of scientists.

Pupils in Years 7, 8 and 9 engaged in Biology, Chemistry and Physics lessons that included experiments investigating action and reaction by making and testing balloon rockets, exploring photosynthesis by applying a gentle vacuum to leaf disks in solution, and investigating how changing particle size affects the rate of a chemical reaction using rockets fuelled by alka-seltzer.

Pupils also took part in a national poster competition on the theme of 'growth' with the best entries submitted into the national competition.

# Lent News

## 10 Lower Sixth take on the Physics Olympiad

The Lower Sixth had their second opportunity to take part in the British Physics Olympiad Senior Physics Challenge competition, a gruelling one hour written paper containing some of the toughest questions imaginable. Organisers state that the competition is designed to test the very best of the best and that pupils should be reminded that there really are no easy marks. Congratulations went to the certificate winners, it was a fantastic effort from the boys.



## 11 Pupils rise to the Intermediate Mathematics Challenge

In February pupils from Princethorpe College took part in the 2022 UK Mathematics Trust Intermediate Challenge. The competition is aimed at Years 9, 10 and 11 and 62 Princethorpe pupils were selected to take part. It is a demanding exercise designed to stretch and test pupils' mathematical skills.

Zach Hawkins, Ed Twyman and Joseph Newborough were awarded Gold certificates. 11 pupils received Silver certificates and 18 pupils were awarded Bronze certificates.

Six pupils performed so well that they qualified for the follow-on round, the Intermediate Kangaroo challenge where Joseph Newborough, in Year 11, was the top performing pupil achieving a Certificate of Merit and Year 10, Ed Twyman and Year 9s Zach Hawkins, Sophie Nicolls and Dylan Williams all achieved Certificates of Qualification.



## 12 Princethorpe takes on the National Reading Quiz

Enthusiastic and well-read pupils from Year 8 and Year 9 represented Princethorpe College in the West Midlands heat of the National Reading Champions Quiz. Organised by the National Literacy Trust and aimed at pupils aged between 10 and 14-years-old, the quiz included eight challenging rounds testing pupils' general knowledge on books written for children and young adults.

The competition was challenging including rounds titled, Double or Nothing, Dystopian and Science Fiction, Comedy and Horror, Author Pictures, Heroes and Heroines, Pets!, Brainteasers and Watch Me Now!

The rounds came thick and fast, and the pupils worked under pressure to answer the questions before the clock timed out. It was a fantastic fun for them all and proved just how much the pupils knew about children and young people's fiction. Both Princethorpe teams performed brilliantly, working independently they finished fourth and fifth, an absolutely super result.

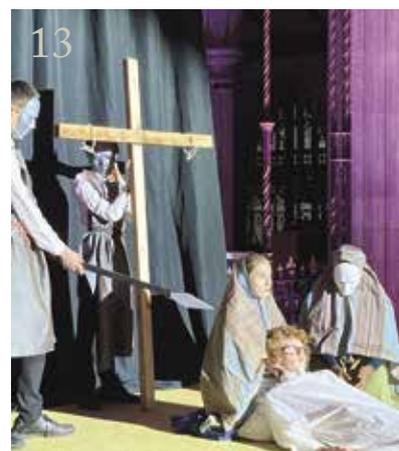


## 13 Out Of Darkness was a Lenten Reflection

Pupils from Year 7 to Upper Sixth performed *Out Of Darkness*, a Lenten reflection on the Stations of the Cross. The performance took place in Our Lady Of The Angels Chapel and included meditations through reflections, mime, music and singing.

The Stations of the Cross is a devotional commemoration of Jesus Christ's last day on Earth as a man. The 14 stations, focus on specific events of his last day. The journey from station to station is often considered as a mini pilgrimage, and at each station there is the opportunity to reflect and meditate on a specific event from Christ's last day.

The dramatic interpretation provided a poignant and moving performance, with pupils rising superbly to the challenge of portraying the stations. Congratulations to them all and thank you to the staff who supported the event.



# Lent Sport

## Plenty of hockey talent at Princethorpe

Every year we are delighted to hear of pupils' triumphs securing much-coveted places in the County Hockey squads. Earning representative honours is no mean feat. All those selected will have school and club commitments; they will have attended extra trials and training sessions before finally being chosen for the squad.

Those who win through participate in England Hockey's 'Player Pathway', a programme that provides Development Centres and Academy Centres as progressive staged steps to help all junior hockey players realise their potential. Pictured here are some of this year's contingent.



## Netball girls in the final eight of Sisters-n-Sport Plate

Princethorpe College's First VII Netball team qualified for the quarter-finals of the Sisters-n-Sport Seniors Plate competition. The girls faced Malvern College on Saturday 8 January and played superbly to win 37-20. It was fantastic effort especially as the team were also all juggling the start of term, revision, training, and their mock exams as they prepared for the match.

Team coach, Louise Harrison, said, "I was really proud of the team and how the girls all pulled together and played for each other. Their team spirit shone throughout the match and their tenacity in defence saw the most turn-overs the girls have been able to complete this season."

## Junior Boys, Junior Girls and Inter Girls are County Cross Country Champions

The Warwickshire Schools County Cross Country Championships took place on Saturday 22 January at Kineton High School. 36 Princethorpe runners, drawn from across the school, competed against the best runners from Warwickshire schools in what is always a well contested event. All the cross-country training paid dividends with another excellent set of individual and team results for the College; team placings are based on the positions of the first four runners from a school.

The Junior Boys, Junior Girls and Inter Girls teams all placed first overall claiming the County Cross Country Championship titles. Second place finishes for Ben Smith, Charlie Atkins and Martina Grace earned them silver medals and 10 pupils qualified to run for the County Team in the ESAA National Championships on Saturday 19 March at Hopwood Farm in Kent.



## U14 Boys take The Plate at the ISA National Football Championships

Princethorpe College's U14 Boys Football team were the victors in the Plate after an excellent performance at the Independent Schools Association's (ISA) National Football Championships. The six-a-side competition took place on Tuesday 25 January at Nottingham University. 19 teams travelled from across the country to take part in this year's prestigious event.

In the semi-final the boys faced Stafford Grammar School and capitalised on every opportunity for a super 1-0 win. They then took on St James Senior Boys' School in the Plate final where their tenacity and resolve helped them to another fantastic 1-0 win.

## Lent Sport



### Personal Bests for five Princethorpians at England Indoor Athletics Championships

The College was proud to see five Princethorpe pupils competing in the England Athletics Age Group Indoor Championships in Sheffield. The event took place over two days at the English Institute of Sport, with pupils representing their athletics clubs.

Their performances were all outstanding, and it was clear that these pupils had been training hard. Each and every one of them put in personal bests over the weekend, breaking school records, and we were really delighted for them all.

Well done to Year 8s, Grace McCollin and Penelope Jones, Year 9s, André Onyekwe and Olivia Monk and Upper Sixth Former, Cam McGregor.

### Five team wins for Princethorpe at the ISA Midlands Cross Country

Princethorpe's runners had an excellent outing at the Midlands Regional ISA Cross Country at Bedstone College on Wednesday 2 February, winning five out of the six team competitions. Lots of top ten finishes helped the U16 Boys, U16 Girls, U14 Boys, U14 Girls and the U12 Boys teams all place first, with the U12 Girls not far behind in second place. It was a really super set of results.

Head of Outdoor Education and PE Teacher, Will Bower, said, "It was brilliant to be back at Bedstone after the event didn't take place last year. There were lots of excellent performances and it was great to welcome some new runners to the team. We had red vest after red vest crossing the line at the front of the field; our runners took on the arduous terrain and did very well."



### Equestrian teams finished First and Second in Bloxham School Championships

Princethorpe's equestrian teams placed first and second in the Bloxham School Eventer Challenge Championships at Washbrook Farm. The eventers and their hard-working support crew of parents had been competing all winter and had been extremely successful in qualifying two teams for the series championships.

The 90cm team finished first overall an amazing result against some really experienced teams. Well done to Lower Sixth Former, Lottie Paybody, Year 11 pupils, Claudia Newman and Sophie Glover and Year 9, Jess Hedgecock. The 80cm team of Year 9s, Grace Paybody, Emily Glover, Jess Hedgecock and Year 8, Rosie Moreton, were just pipped at the post to finish in second place. It was a fantastic finish to the season.

### U18s Runners Up in ISA National Rugby Sevens

The U18 Rugby Sevens team finished as runners up in the ISA National Tournament on Wednesday 9 March. The competition took place at St James Senior Boys' School in Surrey with 11 teams from across the country taking part. Split into two groups for the first round, the boys remained unbeaten in their five group stage matches only conceding one try and scoring 178 points.

They progressed to the Cup final where they faced Finborough School. Despite another strong performance, the boys narrowly missed out, finishing as runners up overall and earning themselves a well-deserved silver medal. It was a superb result, well done to the boys.



# Lent Sport

## Excellent outing at U18 ISA National Netball Tournament

The U18 ISA National Netball Tournament took place on Thursday 10 March at Nottingham University. The girls played superb netball, showing the versatility within the team. They started off the pool with four wins from four, but their last opponent Queen Ethelburga's were a step above and despite playing well and responding to the game in front of them they went down 6-17 to finish second in their pool.

Princethorpe had qualified for the Cup semi-final where they faced Kings' High, Warwick. Despite their best efforts they lost 7-18. This set them up for the bronze medal match versus Scarisbrick where despite being up at 5-3 at half time, they couldn't squeeze out the victory and lost 6-9. The team amazed us with their tenacity and versatility, and 4th place in the ISA Nationals is a great achievement.



## U13 and U14 success in ISA National Rugby Sevens

The ISA U13 and U14 Rugby Sevens took place in March at St James Senior Boys' School in Surrey. Both Princethorpe teams played brilliantly taking the Cup and Plate respectively.

The U13s were the National Champions after a very strong performance in the group stages. They finished equal top of the group and having scored the most points they went through to the Cup final. There they saw off Finborough School to claim the overall title. The team's discipline and power in defence blending well with skill and intelligence in attack.

The U14s also played very well. They finished second in the group and qualified for the Plate final where they faced Claires Court School, there lots of effort and great teamwork helped them claimed a 17-5 win to take the Plate.



## U13 Netballers take The Plate in ISA Netball Nationals

At the National ISA Netball Tournament the girls played with resilience, drive and passion throughout the day. They finished 3rd in the Group stage which left them competing for the Plate in the afternoon. A determined team managed to secure wins in the quarter finals and semi-finals but this left the girls facing King's High in the final. In a very tight match, the girls finished on a 6-6 draw. Following the tournament rules the girls had to play golden goal - the next goal wins. The girls secured the first centre pass and worked the ball straight into our attacking D to score within minutes. A great result!



## Six top ten finishes at the ISA National Cross Country Championships

Princethorpe College's pupils achieved a stunning six top ten finishes in the Independent Schools Associations' National Cross-Country Championships at Worksop College in March.

Ten pupils had qualified to represent the Midlands team running in the Senior, Intermediate, Junior and Minor Boys events and the Intermediate, Junior and Minor Girls races against regional teams from all over the country.

Against a field of 28 runners, Year 10 pupil Felix Batty delivered Princethorpe's best finish of the day running the U16 Boys 4.5km course superbly to finish in third place. Hot on his heels was Year 11 Guy Dawkins who finished 6th. In the U16 Girls race, Year 11 Grace Darcy just missed out on a medal after finishing the Girls 3.8km course in 4th place. Running in the U14 Girls 3km race, Year 8 Lily Hunter also ran well to finish in 4th place while in the U14 Boys race, Year 8 Toby Iley ran a good race to finish in 8th place. For the U18 Open Boys, Year 11 Toby Convey ran the 5km course and finished in 9th place. Congratulations to all our runners on a great day of running.

# Lent Trips

## 01 Lower Sixth Geography Field Trip

Our Lower Sixth Geographers very much enjoyed their residential field trip. They visited the excellent Cranedale Centre at Kirby Grindalythe near Malton, in the Yorkshire Wolds, to conduct field studies on coastal places and regeneration in urban areas, both key topics for their A-level studies. The weather treated them fairly, staying dry and for the most part bright and the students worked hard to collect and analyse their data. As always, the trip was an invaluable learning experience that will assist them all in completing their coursework.



## 02 Year 7 visit Leamington Gurdwara

In February, Year 7 visited the local Sikh Temple, in Leamington Spa. Pupils had been studying Sikhism in their Religious Studies lessons, so this was a great opportunity to see Sikhism as a living faith and hear about Sikhism from a member of the local Sikh community.

Pupils listened to a talk that included the story of the Gurus who founded Sikhism, and then spent some time in the main prayer hall where the Guru Granth Sahib, the Sikh Holy Scriptures, are read out. It was an excellent, informative trip, many thanks to the Sikh community for allowing pupils to visit their temple.



## 03 Princethorpe's Parliament Trip brings A-level Studies to life

35 A-level Politics, History and Law students visited the Houses of Parliament and the Supreme Court. They explored the vast, historic Westminster Hall, once the largest of its kind, that witnessed events like the trial of Charles I, that played a huge role in shaping Britain and the world today. They enjoyed a comprehensive tour through the halls and the division lobby, saw the Speaker, Sir Lindsay Hoyle, opening the session of parliament for the day and watched the proceedings of parliament, witnessing debates on justice reform and the postmaster scandal. They met their local MP, Jeremy Wright, and asked him a number of topical questions related to their studies.

The rest of the day consisted of a walking tour around Westminster and St James's Park, seeing famous sites like Buckingham Palace and Horse Guards Parade. They also enjoyed a tour of the beautiful Middlesex Guildhall, home to the UK Supreme Court and heard about the wide range of cases brought to the court.



## 04 Year 10 enjoy GCSE Science Live

Year 10 Scientists visited Birmingham's Symphony Hall to attend GCSE Science Live a nationwide tour providing pupils with an exciting and thought-provoking opportunity to see and hear from five of Britain's top scientists, all working at the cutting edge of their specialisms.

All leaders in their field, the scientists showed that most cutting-edge research is based on the principles learnt at GCSE, in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. The speakers all used key words and scientific ideas, in thought-provoking and relevant contexts.

The day also included a very useful session from a GCSE Principal Examiner, with many tips on how to improve examination performance. It was a very useful and informative day.



# Prefects

## Princethorpe College Prefect Body and Subject Ambassadors for 2022-2023



The new Princethorpe College Prefect Body and Subject Ambassadors for 2022-2023 took on their new roles at the start of the Trinity Term. The students were confirmed in their new roles and presented with their badges at an end of term ceremony on Tuesday 5 April.

The outgoing Heads of School, Anthony Convey and Caitlin Mason, handed over the keys of office to the incoming Heads of School, Freya Mills and Pratheesh Prabakaran. The College extended warm thanks to the outgoing prefect body, they had given unstinting service over the last year.

### 2022/23 Prefect Body

<b>School Leaders</b>	Freya Mills Pratheesh Prabakaran	<b>More Captains</b>	Evie Phillips Lara Tripp-Smith
<b>Deputy Leaders</b>	Eve Farquharson Annabel Koster Edward Moon Toby Pearton	<b>Social Prefects</b>	Zoe Wallis Amber Williams
<b>Pastoral Prefects</b>	Laurel Arkesden Jasleen Birdi William Butler Amelia Greig Zara Hendy Helaina Holt Wilf Sansum Jamie Smith	<b>Charity Prefects</b>	Noella Mbanga Maddie Wilde
<b>Austin Captains</b>	Edward Foster Ruby Harris	<b>Academic Prefects</b>	Joshua Apaya Erin Arriordaz William Hawkins Madoc Williams
<b>Benet Captains</b>	Eleanor Page Grace Thomas	<b>Marketing and Communications Prefects</b>	Amber Cowie Millie Giffin
<b>Fisher Captains</b>	Will Gibson-Sexton Keira MacRae	<b>Environment Prefect</b>	Tom Paling
		<b>Games Prefects</b>	Molly Harper Mia Johnson Harry King Lucy Randall Evan Ridd

# Trinity News

## 01 Catenians Midlands Public Speaking victory

Lower Sixth Form student, and newly elected Head of School, Pratheesh Prabakaran fought off tough competition to win the Midlands regional round of the 2022 Catenian Association's Public Speaking Competition for students from Catholic schools.

Up against fifteen competitors from schools across the Midlands area, the competition took place at Newman University. Pratheesh impressed judges with his presentation on the topic of 'The biggest problem in the world today is?' Princethorpe last won this leg of the competition in 2017 so it was wonderful to have the title return to College once again.



## 02 Year 10 and 11 delve into the sewers with Severn Trent

As part of their Science studies, Years 10 and 11 were visited by Sharan Gill from Severn Trent Water's Education Team. Sharan gave a series of talks, taking pupils through the water cycle and explaining the journey water makes to and from our homes. The sessions supported pupils studies on potable water, one of the topics in their GCSE Chemistry specification.

As well as explaining how Severn Trent deliver clean water to our taps, pupils also discovered how dirty water is treated and recycled and some of the problems and strange items that Severn Trent regularly encounter in the sewers (everything from mobiles to false teeth). It was fascinating for pupils to hear about Severn Trent's sludge scientists and their sustainability work that is helping to harness the power of poo.



## 03 DCA Design give insights into careers in Product Design

Peter Kay and Aled James from DCA Design International Ltd joined us in May to share their different design career journeys with pupils. They brought along a host of products that DCA Design have helped produced. They spoke about the many roles and opportunities available in the product design industry and shared how the design team work together to develop new and innovative products. It provided a fascinating insight for pupils into the opportunities and careers available in product design.



## 04 Author Tom Palmer visits Princethorpe

Princethorpe College welcomed, award-winning author, Tom Palmer, in May. Princethorpe's Year 7 pupils had been studying Tom's compelling story, *After The War*, in their English lessons, and they were thrilled to meet the author himself.

During an absorbing afternoon, Tom spoke openly to Year 7 pupils, discussing the inspiration behind his books. He shared his journey to becoming an author and answered a host of questions from our enthusiastic pupils. His down to earth and frank manner, drawing the children in. Tom Palmer was clearly delighted with his appreciative audience and after his talk happily signed copies of his books.



# Trinity News



05



06



07



08

05

## A very successful Sixth Form Interview Day

Put together 113 Sixth Formers and 18 professionals and you get a very successful Sixth Form Interview Skills Day. Designed to perfect their interview technique, sharpen communication skills, presentational qualities and the ability to respond to feedback, during the day the Lower Sixth students each took part in a formal interview.

Taking the role of interviewer were senior professionals from a variety of different business backgrounds. All were past or present parents, with years of interviewing experience out in the working world. Feedback was very positive with many of the interviewers commenting on how impressed they were with the College's Lower Sixth students.

06

## Princethorpe pupils rise to the Junior Mathematics Challenge

In April, pupils from Princethorpe College took part in the 2022 UK Maths Trust Junior Challenge, a prestigious national problem-solving competition that recognises the best young mathematicians in the country. The competition is aimed at pupils in Year 7 and Year 8 and Princethorpe selected 84 able mathematicians to participate in this year's competition.

Congratulations to Year 8 pupil, Daniel Ovens Gibbs who was awarded a Gold certificate, and took the award for best performing pupil in school, and to Year 8s Oliver Baker, Jorja Parris and Kathryn Flegg and Year 7s Noah Cowlishaw, Tara Rodgers, Jasper Nicholls and Woody Osborn who all received Gold certificates.

24 pupils received Silver certificates and 38 pupils were awarded Bronze certificates. Well done all and many thanks to all the pupils who took part, we hope you enjoyed the challenge.

07

## Year 9 Forensic Scientists solve the Crime Scene Challenge

What a finale we had to the Forensic Science Club in June when pupils took part in a Crime Scene Challenge. Over the course of the Trinity Term, our Year 9 Princethorpe Police Department trainees had been busy learning all about different Forensic Science techniques, from fingerprinting and blood splatter analysis to footprint evidence and soil samples, as well as how to process a crime scene and handwriting analysis.

After an unexpected break in, Year 9 investigated, reviewing witness statements, examining the crime scenes and collecting and analysing evidence. All Princethorpe's trainee forensic scientists passed their assessment with flying colours, piecing together the evidence to recover the stolen diamonds. They certainly weren't fooled by the double crossing going on. Well done to all the super-sleuthing scientists who took part!

08

## Year 10 take on the Junior Physics Challenge

The Junior Physics Challenge is hosted by the British Physics Olympiad through the University of Oxford. The Challenge is an online competition where pupils answer 60 challenging multiple-choice questions across two tests in just 50 minutes. The Junior Physics Challenge is designed to engage and stretch pupils by offering a range of problems to solve. Princethorpe College's results were, once again, excellent this year, so very well done to all who took part.

Special mention to Ben Smith, Jack Fleming and Sammie Borland for achieving the highest level of 'Gold'. Pupils at the College were also awarded 14 Silver, 45 Bronze with 2 pupils received a participation certificate, both just outside the score needed for Bronze.

# Trinity News

## 09 Dr Gina Rippon speaks to pupils about The Gendered Brain

In June, Princethorpe College welcomed Dr Gina Rippon, Professor Emeritus of Cognitive Neuroimaging at the Aston Brain Centre. Dr Rippon spoke to the whole school, her talk was inspiring and revelational, informing pupils and staff that after 200 years of scientific research we now know that there is no difference between the male and female brain when we are born. It is the environment and stereotyping, both conscious and subconscious, that contribute to how the brain develops from birth.

Dr Rippon discussed gender gaps and highlighted how far the human race is away from equality and left us with the main message that our brains are all the same and that you can do anything regardless of your gender, race or background. It was a thought provoking session that challenged how we all think about each other.

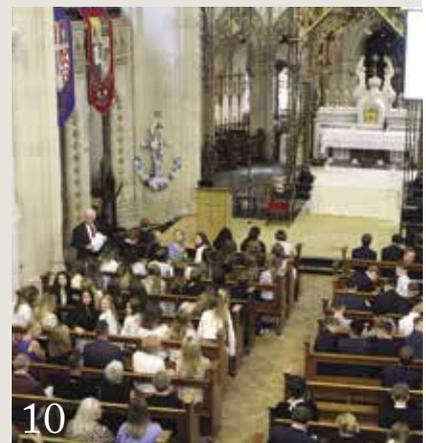


## 10 Year 11 celebrate with Thanksgiving Service

For over 130 Year 11 pupils, Thursday 30 June was an important day. With their public examinations finally out of the way, Year 11 pupils and their families were invited back to the College to celebrate the end of their GCSE year in a final Year 11 Thanksgiving Service.

Nearly four hundred guests attended the service held in the College Chapel. Father Alan Whelan MSC welcomed them all and opened the service with a hymn. A number of staff, including Heads of House and members of the Senior Leadership Team, gave emotional readings that reflected the aspirations the College holds for their future.

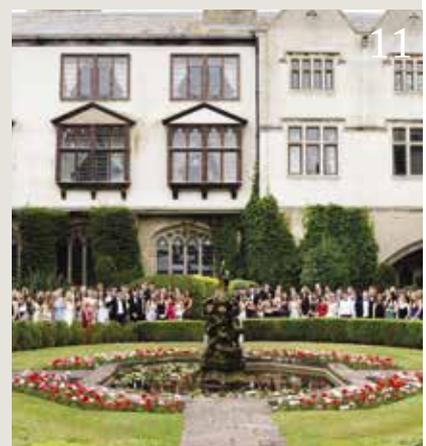
As friends, families and pupils trickled out of the Chapel towards the Sixth Form Lawn to catch up, dish out hugs and enjoy a fine spread for lunch, there was a buzz of excitement ahead of Monday evening's all-important prom!



## 11 Upper Sixth say farewell with a Thanksgiving Eucharist and Fabulous Ball

Princethorpe's Upper Sixth celebrated the end of the examination season and their time at Princethorpe with a beautiful Thanksgiving Eucharist and a fabulous farewell Ball. It was one last chance for them to gather together to reminisce over their time at the College, the friends they have made and the many adventures they have had along the way.

Parents and students enjoyed a moving Eucharist service and delicious buffet supper that took place on Tuesday 28 June in the Chapel at school and then afterwards in the Sixth Form Atrium. The Upper Sixth Ball followed one day later on Wednesday 29 June at a former royal residence, the beautiful and historical Coombe Abbey.



## 12 Another exceptional Summer Art, Photography, Design and Textiles Show

This year's Summer Art, Photography, Design and Textiles Show opened on Thursday 23 June with a special evening reception for the artists and their families, friends and guests. The displays remained on show until Sunday 26 June allowing visitors to the College's Summer Fête and Motoring Festival to enjoy the superb standard of work this year's GCSE and A-level pupils had produced.

Those who know the College will be familiar with its formidable reputation for quality Art and Design and the work at this year's show was no exception. Visitors were audibly impressed with what they saw, stopping to stare in wonder, exclaiming over the ingenuity and talent and enjoying the fine collection of work. Our congratulations go to all our GCSE and A-level pupils for producing such a worthy display.



# Trinity Sport



## Four Tennis Titles at the ISA National Tennis Tournament

Princethorpe claimed four titles in the ISA National Tennis Tournament in May.

Princethorpe's pupils were also runners up in two further events and took 3rd place in another, making for a very respectable performance from the College teams.

## Super haul of medals at the ISA Midlands Athletics

Princethorpe brought home a huge haul of medals from the Independent Schools Association's Midlands Track and Field Athletics. The event took place at the Norman Green Athletics Track in Solihull on Thursday 19 May with the College athletes joining competitors from 21 teams from across the Midlands region all aiming to qualify for the National Finals in June. In a dominant display, Princethorpe's medal haul included 23 Gold Medals, 8 Silvers and 9 Bronzes, helping the College to score nearly double the points of any other team on the day.

## Excellent results at the Warwickshire Schools Athletics Combined Events

Princethorpe College's Senior Girls, Inter Girls, Inter Boys and Junior Boys teams delivered top scoring performances to finish in first place in the Warwickshire Schools Combined Events. Hot on their heels were the Junior Girls Year 8 team whose determination led to a deserving second place overall, the Minor Boys who finished third, the Minor Girls who finished fourth and the Junior Girls Year 9 team who finished fifth. It was a super start to the athletics season at the Warwickshire Schools Combined Events.



## Fifteen medals for Princethorpe at the ISA National Athletics Championships

Princethorpe celebrated after bringing home a haul of fifteen medals from the Independent Schools Association's (ISA) National Track and Field Athletics Championships. The Nationals took place in June at the Manchester Regional Arena. Princethorpe took a team of 17 athletes to the event and it was an excellent opportunity to compete against high calibre opposition at a pre-eminent event.

Princethorpe's medal haul included five Gold medals. Olivia Monk stormed down the track to win both the Year 8/9 100m and 200m Sprints in explosive times. Then Grace McCollin won the Year 8/9 75m Hurdles and Oscar Civzelis took the Year 8/9 300m Sprint. The College's Year 8/9 Girls' Relay team also won the 4x100m Relay competition.

Claiming a Silver medal were Ben Smith in the Year 10/11 Boys 100m Hurdles and Anjola Okusanya in the Year 10/11 Boys 100m Sprint. Anjola took a second Silver running for the Midlands team in the 4x100m relay. Penelope Jones leapt a super 4.97 metres to claim Silver in the Year 8/9 Long Jump and William Smith took Silver in the Year 7 1500m.

Freddie Knott won himself two Bronze medals in the Year 8/9 80m Hurdles and the Year 8/9 Boys Triple Jump. Kate Pomerleau also won a Bronze medal in the Year 10/11 1500m while Martina Grace matched that result taking a Bronze in the Year 8/9 1500m. Louis Reynolds also took a Bronze in the Year 7 Boys Javelin.

# Trinity Sport

## Success for Princethorpe at Inter-Schools National Two-Day Event

Princethorpe College once again hosted the 2022 National Schools and Riding Clubs Two-Day Event. Run in conjunction with Stoneleigh Riding Club, nearly 200 competitors took part in the two-day competition.

Representing the College in the 80cm class were Rosie Moreton who finished 4th overall and was awarded the ISA Gold medal, Grace Paybody, who took the ISA Silver medal, Jess Hedgecock and Daisy McMurdo. Jess also had a second ride in the class and it was great to see Crackley Hall's Jasmine Staveley competing on her pony. The 80cm team took the title in the ISA team competition and finished in third place overall in the National Schools event. In the 90cm class a super effort from Rosie Moreton, Sammie Borland, Lottie Paybody and Claudia Newman saw the team finish in first place overall in both the National Schools and ISA competitions. Riding in the 100cm class was Robyn Field on Two Tone Tilly who claimed the ISA Silver medal.



## Outstanding performances at Warwickshire Schools Athletics Championships

Pupils from Princethorpe College put in outstanding performances to win 12 events at Warwickshire Schools Athletics Championships, helping the Eastern Area take both the Junior and Inter events. Two talented Princethorpe pupils, Olivia Monk and André Onyekwe were also awarded the trophies for Best Girls and Best Boys Overall Performance at the Championships.

Competing for the Senior Girls, Evie Phillips took 1st place in the 200m and 1st place in the Long Jump whilst Lucy Randall finished in 1st place in the Javelin. For the Inter Boys, Ben Smith took 1st place in the 1500m Steeplechase, 1st in the 400m Hurdles and 3rd place in the Discus, with Anjola Okusanya finishing in 2nd place in the 100m.

For the Inter Girls, Kate Pomerleau took 1st place in the 1500m Steeplechase and 3rd place in the 1500m, Grace Darcy finished in 2nd place in the 1500m Steeplechase, Sage Westbury was 3rd in the 200m and 3rd in the High Jump, while Ava Farren finished in 4th place in the 800m.

For the Junior Girls, Olivia Monk was 1st in the 100m and also 1st in the 200m. Penelope Jones was 1st in the Long Jump and 2nd in the Hurdles, Grace McCollin took 1st place in the Hurdles and 4th place in the High Jump. Martina Grace finished in 2nd place in 1500m while Evie Marston was 3rd in the 1500m, Lim Self finished 3rd in the Long Jump and Frankie Kelly was 4th in the Discus.

For the Junior Boys, André Onyekwe took 1st place in the Long Jump and 1st place in the High Jump. Sam Divers finished 2nd in the Javelin, Max Phillips-Gore finished in 2nd place in the Discus and in 6th in the 200m, Charlie Atkins finished 3rd in the 800m, Eddie Arkesden was 5th in the 800m, Jesse Elser was 5th in the 1500m and Dan Tomlinson was 5th in the Triple Jump and 8th in the Long Jump 8th.



# Trinity Sport



## Nine pupils represented Warwickshire at Midlands Combined Athletics

Princethorpe College had nine pupils representing Warwickshire in the Midlands Combined Events Championships that took place at North Oxfordshire Academy in Banbury

For the Junior Boys, André Onyekwe placed 1st taking the Midlands individual title, while Jesse Esler finished 11th overall, together they helped the Warwickshire Junior Boys team finish in first place.

The Inter Boys were an all-star Princethorpe team. They finished in second place overall just losing out to Derby, despite the Year 10 boys pulling out all the stops in the 1500m. Their individual results were Ben Smith 4th, Vincent McNevin 8th, Ollie Farquharson 9th and Anjola Okusanya 10th.

Year 10 Ava Farren was a part of the Inter Girls team, she finished in 11th place overall.

Then competing for the Senior Girls were Princethorpe's Lower Sixth Formers, Evie Phillips who finished in 4th place and Lucy Randall who was just behind in 5th. Their results helped the Warwickshire Senior Girls finish in 1st place overall.

## OP Bethan Ellis gives a Cricket Masterclass

Pupils in Years 7 and 8 were treated to a very special coaching session courtesy of professional cricketer and OP, Bethan Ellis. Bethan returned to Princethorpe College to run cricket coaching sessions with the Year 7 and Year 8 girls.

Bethan put through the girls through their paces, stressing the importance of getting the basics right, looking at grip, stance and alignment and you could see their play improve as they put her advice into practise. They enjoyed a coaching session in the nets followed by a mini match. Bethan even made time for a one-on-one session with talented young cricketer Year 8 pupil, Amy. The session finished with a Q&A.



# Trinity Sport

## More House victorious at College Sports Day

The College's annual Sports Day took place on Friday 17 June and it was a fantastic morning of friendly, but fiercely competitive sport. Field and track events took place simultaneously, so the playing fields were action-packed from the moment the starting gun fired. College staff were kept busy measuring, timing and recording all the running, jumping and throwing taking place.

House colours and flags were spread across the field and the Heads of House: Lizzie Caisey, Louisa Fielding, Adam Rickart and Faye Roberts cheered on their pupils hoping that this year their House would be victorious. In the end it was More that took the victory, followed closely by Benet, then Austin and Fisher, but it was a close-run competition where every performance, sprint, middle distance or field event counted, and the result was only decided after the very final event – the relay.



## Two Golds at the English Schools Athletics Nationals

At the start of the summer holidays six pupils competed for the Warwickshire Schools Team at the English Schools Athletics Championships. Upper Sixth Former, Cam McGregor, Lower Sixth Former, Lucy Randall, Year 9, André Onyekwe, Year 9, Olivia Monk, Year 8, Grace McCollin and Year 8, Penelope Jones travelled up to Manchester to compete in the event.

It was such a fantastic achievement for these pupils just to be selected to compete, but to have six athletes reaching the standard was super exciting for us all here at Princethorpe College and we were proud to have had the most pupils ever to be selected from one school for the Warwickshire team.

The young athletes competed in the 400m, Javelin, High Jump, 100m, Hurdles and Long Jump respectively and we were delighted that Cam ran an outstanding race to claim the Gold medal in the 400m while André soared over the bar to also take Gold in the High Jump. Lucy also threw a personal best in the Javelin. We are hugely impressed with these young people's commitment and dedication to their sports and are incredibly proud of them all.



## Show Jumping Team 5th in the Hickstead Team Showjumping Championships

Our show jumping team of Abigail Gillard, Harriet Boyd, Sammie Borland and Sophie Glover travelled to Hickstead in the summer holidays and came an incredible 5th in the NSEA Hickstead Elite Team Showjumping Championships.

It was the culmination of months of hard work by the team who qualified earlier in the season for their chance to compete over Hickstead's famous red planks.



# Trinity Trips



01



02



02



03

## 01 Computer Science pupils explore the history of computers

Pupils from Years 9 and 10 had the opportunity to visit the National Museum of Computing in Bletchley in May. The museum charts the development of computing from the ultra-secret pioneering efforts of the war through the large systems and mainframes of the 1950s, 60s and 70s, on to the rise of personal computing in the 1980s and up to the internet and mobile world of today.

Pupils took part in sessions on BBC Basic programming, Artificial Intelligence and the History of Computers as well as having the opportunity to explore the museum.

## 02 Year 8 had a fabulous time at Whitemoor Lakes

Year 8 were lucky with the weather when they enjoyed a wonderful three-day programme at Whitemoor Lakes Outdoor Residential Centre. 116 pupils took part in an itinerary that included fencing, canoeing, climbing, high ropes and problem solving. In groups they rotated around the different activities, working together to complete the challenges they were set. In the evenings they enjoyed team games and singing round the camp-fire. All in all it was a fabulous weekend with plenty of old-fashioned fun.

## 03 Year 7 and Year 8 visit to National Space Centre

29 pupils from Year 7 and Year 8 were offered the opportunity to visit the National Space Centre in Leicester in June for their effort and achievement in Science over the year. The visit began with a workshop titled *Our Earth Under Threat* where pupils worked together in teams to assess the threat of an approaching asteroid. Pupils then enjoyed the planetarium show *Astronaut Education*. It was a rollercoaster ride that began inside the bloodstream of an astronaut in a rocket on the launchpad as the countdown to take off commenced. A live Science Show looked at propulsion in space, with a good dose of Newton's Laws of Motion, explosions and fire thrown in too and there was also a self-guided tour of the galleries that included many artefacts that have been into space.

# Trinity Trips



04

## 04 Motoring inspiration at Girls in STEM Workshop

21 girls from Year 8 to Year 10 visited the British Motor Museum on Wednesday 29 June to take part in a special Girls in STEM Workshop. They enjoyed an exclusive keynote presentation and Q&A with Louise Reynolds, Vehicle Line Director at Jaguar Land Rover and then enjoyed a Women In Motoring guided tour that included how women were instrumental in the development of the first combustion engine powered car.

Pupils then became 'Engineering Apprentices' removing and replacing a wheel of a remote-control car in a race against time – one group achieved an impressive time of 10 seconds, beating the current Museum record by a whole 3 seconds! Armourers from MoD Kineton set a challenge to build a crane with pulley system to lift ammunition with, which the pupils had varying success at achieving. The day culminated with a special presentation from members of the all-female driver line-up of Laser Tools GB4 Racing team.



05

## 05 2022 Summer Music Tour to Belgium

At the start of the summer holidays, 32 talented tourists from Princethorpe College's Music department took part in a musical adventure when they embarked on a long-awaited performance tour of Belgium. Pupils from Year 7 all the way up to the Upper Sixth came along for the ride.

Their five-day action-packed itinerary included the chance to perform in three fantastic locations, as well as a visit and audio tour of the Musical Instrument Museum in Brussels. They also visited the Menin Gate in Ypres and were honoured to perform at the internationally renowned Last Post Ceremony. Their trip included a day in Bruges and a super visit to a chocolate factory, as well some time to explore the beautiful city of Brussels.



06

## 06 Year 8 Battlefields Trip

Year 8 pupils enjoyed an interesting and thought-provoking five-day visit to the battlefields of World War One. There they discovered how the war was fought, and what life was like in the trenches. Pupils began by visiting the German Langemark cemetery and were reminded of how ordinary German soldiers also gave their lives fighting for their superiors. Then it was on to the Allied cemeteries where they started with a poignant visit to the grave of V. J. Strudwick who was aged just 15 when he was killed.

Year 8 also visited the Passchendaele Museum where they explored the recreated trench system to give them a taste of trench life. Their trip also included visits to Vimy ridge and the chalk tunnels that were used by Canadian soldiers during the battle, Beaumont Hamel, the Ulster Tower and Lochnagar Crater. It was a great introduction to their history studies in Year 9.



06



06

## Charity



### Valentine's Day flowers support British Heart Foundation

Individual red and white carnations were hand delivered by Sixth Formers to classrooms across the College in celebration of St Valentine's Day. In the preceding weeks Princethorpe's Sixth Form students had been busy promoting the charity fundraiser in aid of the British Heart Foundation. This year the Sixth Formers raised £280, all of which was donated to the British Heart Foundation.



### Upper Sixth walk 40 miles for Mary's Meals

On Sunday 3 April, a small group of Sixth Form students and staff took on the Coventry Way Challenge and walked an amazing 40 miles in just one day.

Their route circumnavigated the city of Coventry, starting in Meriden at 6.00am and walking through Kenilworth, Stoneleigh, Wolston Brinklow, Bedworth and Corley Moor before finally returning to Meriden at 8.53pm.

The superhuman team of walkers were raising funds to support our longstanding commitment to providing a daily meal in school to the 675 children at Makalanga School in Malawi.



### Sixth Form support Blue Day

The last day before Lent Half Term is traditionally Blue Day here at Princethorpe College with our Sixth Formers wearing blue for charity. Once again this year the Sixth Form were supporting The Graham Fulford Charitable Trust. In true Princethorpe tradition, they wholeheartedly embraced the theme and the Sixth Form Centre and College corridors were graced with snazzy blue costumes.

Out on the courts the Rugby boys played the Netball girls in a friendly that was fiercely competitive and every pupil in the school made a cash donation for the non-uniform to support the Sixth Form's fundraising efforts.



### Sixth Form walked 24 miles in 7 hours for Mary's Meals

On the last Sunday of the Trinity Term over 40 Sixth Formers and 12 staff laced up their walking boots and took on the challenge of walking 24 miles in 7 hours for the charity Mary's Meals.

Starting at the Queen's Head Pub in Meriden they followed the official Coventry Way route for 17 miles to Ryton before finishing with an eight-mile loop back to Princethorpe College. Thankfully the weather remained clement on the day, so conditions were kind to our wonderful walkers.

First over the line was recent OP and Estates Assistant James Walker, completing the distance in seven hours on the dot, he was followed swiftly by Ben Hardy, George Landreth and Oscar Page. They were followed home by a procession of weary but jubilant walkers.

## Achievers Celebrations

### Achievers Lunches recognise pupils' outstanding contribution to college life.

**So many of our pupils commit in extraordinary ways both in and outside of College, rising to the challenge of the College's ethos.**

They do their best, rise at dawn to train, excel in sport, spend hours in rehearsal rooms, perform to audiences, complete charity runs, go over and above for their tutor groups or show diligence, improvement and commitment to their studies. Pupils are always modest about their achievements and often surprised by the attention they received, not realising the commitment, motivation and tenacity such success demands. It is just such qualities that the Celebration of Achievement Lunches reward and over the year pupils from across all year groups were nominated by members of staff and invited to the College Roundhouse by Assistant Head Co-Curricular, Neil McCollin.

	Michaelmas Achievers	Lent Achievers	Trinity Term Achievers
<b>Year 7</b>	Isabella Card and Harry Turvey	Marley Adnitt, Theo Clegg, Noah Cowlshaw, Seb Darch, Charlotte Gower, Amelia Hunt, Rafferty Jones, Emily Knight, Louis Reynolds, Henry Ruddy and Harry Turvey	Myles Bowley, William Harvey, Josh Olnor, Louis Reynolds, Freddie Rodd, William Smith and Elwin Williams
<b>Year 8</b>	Sam Grindal, Ben Jones, Euan Nelson, Ewan Pearce, Lucas Summers, Delilah Teeton and Bella Ward	Kathryn Flegg, Sophie Gambling, Daniel Ovens Gibbs, Alexa Holland, Jessica Johnson, Penelope Jones, Grace McCollin, Ewan Pearce and Bella Ward	Kathryn Flegg, Daniel Ovens Gibbs, Ajunee Gill, Toby Iley, Penelope Jones, Alex Lloyd, Jimmy Loftus, Grace McCollin, Rosie Moreton, Jess Sarkies and Lauren Tebbatt
<b>Year 9</b>	Sean Birtley, Max Black, Adam Chambers, Amelia Chard, Jess Lane, Lucy Hardy, Joe Heritage, Abigail Mandava, André Onyekwe, Emmi Parmenter and Carla Shayler	Eddie Arkesden, Bobby Chapman, Theo Coles, Ally Forinton, William Gower, Wilf Grindal, Martha Harris, Sam James, Frankie Kelly, Ignacy Librowski, Lorna McLoughlin, Olivia Monk, Liam Mutukwa, André Onyekwe, Ned Roach and Eleanor Thomas	Eddie Arkesden, Amelia Chard, Murray Endenburg, Jesse Esler, Emily Glover, Max Phillips-Gore, William Gower, Jess Hedgecock, William Hughes, Henry Jeffries, Freddie Knott, Jess Lane, Olivia Monk, André Onyekwe, Grace Paybody, Poppy Pullen, Lim Self and Charlie Wilcox
<b>Year 10</b>	Sammie Borland, Jayden Carr, Kobby Enyimayew, Ollie Farquharson, Theo Knight, Vincent McNevin, Rhys Milestone, Freddie Roberts, Ben Smith, Matty Thomas and Sam Verity	Felix Batty, Alex Bonsall, Louise Gambling, Charlotte Gledhill, Freddie Hadley, Raul Camargo-Jones, Raphi Kane, Joshua Mogg, Lampros Papadogiannakis, Megan Shipton and Emily Slinger	Sebastian Bainbridge, Evie Berger, Harriet Boyd, John Burston, Matthew Carr, Ruby Clark, Ollie Farquharson, Ava Farren, Dylan Hopkins, Lottie Hunter, Ida Kelley, Vincent McNevin, Anjola Okusanya, Milla Onions, Kate Pomerleau, Rosie Reeve, Ben Rose, Harriet Sharpe and Ben Smith
<b>Year 11</b>	Bongneh Bibi, Jess Evans, Sophie Gray, Alexander Hammond, Tilly Houghton, Noah Kemp, Charlotte Lewington, Finn Osborn, Simran Sandhar, Alice Whittaker and Izzy Wright	Lauren Bach, Chloe O'Carroll-Bailey, Grace Darcy, Ophelia Dibden, Alexander Hammond, Molly McGrory, Joseph Newborough, Dina Parmenter and Isy Williams	Sophie Glover, Claudia Newman and Archy Walker
<b>Lower Sixth</b>	Corin Alford, Amber Cowie, Eve Farquharson, Ben Hardy, Molly Harper, Mia Johnson, Annabel Koster, Jess Mackenzie, Oscar Page, Eleanor Page, Toby Pearton, Evie Phillips, Grace Thomas, Lara Tripp-Smith and Amber Williams	Alex Allison, Issy Bunting, Annabel Koster, Keira MacRae, Eleanor Page, Oscar Page, Toby Pearton and Pratheesh Prabakaran	Laurel Arkesden, Erin Arriordaz, Toby Collett, Amelia Greig, Ruby Harris, Harry Hewitt, James Maclean, Keira MacRae, Noella Mbanga, Eleanor Page, Tom Paling, Lottie Paybody, Evie Phillips, Pratheesh Prabakaran, Lucy Randall and Henry Walker
<b>Upper Sixth</b>	Harpreet Birdi, Greg Burford, Seb Dibb, Anneliesa Douglas, Mathura Elamurugan, Conor Fernandez, Milly Hemmings, Tobias Lambe, Lucia McCosker-New, Molly Minshull, Max Passantino, Joshua Rawlings, Izzy Riley, Emilia Scimeca, Ethan Smith, Sophie Tudor and Remo Volpe	Harry Bromwich, Greg Burford, Amelia Burgess, Alastair Caris, Joe England, Robyn Field, Aniela Green, Archie Hancock, Daniel Hatfield, Elsie Kelley, Mairead Kelly, Mary Lomas, Cam McGregor, Izzy Riley, Pablo Scopes and Ethan Smith	Jessie Crawford, Robyn Field, Caitlin Mason and Lucy Watts

## Duke of Edinburgh



### Another year of Duke of Edinburgh success

**Despite all the challenges pupils at Princethorpe College continued to participate in and successfully progress their Duke of Edinburgh's Awards.**

Unaccompanied and self-sufficient, pupils trekked and camped their way across Snowdonia (38 Gold), the Dark Peak (53 Silver) and the Cotswolds (54 Bronze A and 59 Bronze B), working together in teams to achieve their expedition objectives.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Awards are recognised as the world's leading youth achievement award. They provide young people with the opportunity to get involved, explore new interests, discover talents and make new friends and they are a big part of life here at Princethorpe.

Will Bower, Head of Outdoor Education, said, "I am very proud that so many of Princethorpe's pupils continue to embrace the challenge of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award. They take the opportunity to develop skills and try new experiences, pushing themselves both mentally and physically to live up to the College's ethos and be the best they can be and all with such commitment and enthusiasm. This year 274 pupils completed a Duke of Edinburgh's Award expedition, amounting to a total of 39 days of in school training and trips."

A huge well done to everyone who has taken part this year.



# Duke of Edinburgh



## OPs presented with Gold Award at Buckingham Palace

In May, twelve OPs were invited to Buckingham Palace in London to be presented with their Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award. In the first award ceremony since the pandemic thousands of young people gathered at the Palace to celebrate their achievement. Weather was true to form but walking through the gates of Buckingham Palace and into the gardens to be met by music from The RAF Squadronaires and The Band of the Coldstream Guards, the rain was soon forgotten at the joyful festival-style celebration.

His Royal Highness The Earl of Wessex, a Gold Award achiever himself, congratulated all those that had completed this challenging award, commending them on overcoming the many obstacles that they had encountered over the past two years. He reminded them that many of the skills they had acquired would remain with them for life.

Receiving their Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award were: Freya Barnett, Leah Dunkley, James Fletcher, Will Hedderwick, Alys Hemmings, Anthony Lock, Sion Murphy, Isabelle Simpson, Katie Shorten, Cara Wallis, Louise Way and Jake Wilson.





# 01

## Sixth Formers take on the House Ready Steady Cook challenge

Princethorpe's Sixth Form students put their culinary skills under the spotlight in the College's latest inter-house competition, Ready Steady Cook. The students were presented with a set of ingredients and challenged to produce an omelette in just 20 minutes. What's more they had to cook, clean and tidy their workstation before presenting their dish. The plates of food were judged on four criteria - taste, texture, appearance and creativity.

The finished plates of food were lined up along the table and, under the watchful eyes of the competitors and their supporters, the judges carefully taste-tested the dishes. The results were close with just a few points separating all the Houses. This year first place went to Fisher, closely followed by Austin and Benet in joint second place and then More.

# 02

## Planet Princethorpe House Pledges

House Activities Leader, Jess Newborough, challenged pupils to make a difference environmentally in the House COP26 Environment Challenge.

Tutor groups shared their Planet Princethorpe pledges on Teams with the best awarded House points as part of the annual House challenge. They pledged to plant trees, go litter picking, turn off lights, shop environmentally, use environmental search engines, shop locally, eat less meat, walk instead of drive, recycle more and buy second hand. Pupils had lots of fantastic ideas to inspire us all. The House team awarded five House points to every entry but chose the following as the overall winners: 1st place - Rafferty Jones, 2nd place - Faith Katanda and 3rd place - Elwin Williams.

Adding together all the points, Austin House were the overall winners of the COP26 Environment House Challenge.

# 03

## Greg Burford won the House Talent Show

The House Talent Show did not disappoint providing yet another sensational evening of entertainment for the College community. The final was held in December in the Clarkson Theatre in front of an audience of enthusiastic supporters. 12 acts of talented, inspirational and brave pupils stood forward to represent their House.

The performance was filmed, and the recording then shared for the community to vote on with 144 votes cast when the voting closed. The results were announced on the last day of term. In first place, for Fisher, was Upper Sixth Former and House Captain, Greg Burford, for his sensational performance showcasing his unique song-writing skills with *Someone Thought It Would Be Fun*, written and composed on the night. Taking joint second place this year were, Year 8, Isabella Ward, for Austin, and Year 10, Chloe Henderson, also for Fisher.

A huge well done to all and thanks to everyone who worked so hard to put together this year's spectacular House Talent Show.

# 04

## Fisher victorious in House University Challenge

Fisher were crowned champions of the annual House University Challenge, after winning all their matches in this year's competition.

Princethorpe's University Challenge is a popular annual House event, based on the long running TV quiz show. In the College's University Challenge, teams are required to have representatives from each year group and the pupils face questions on subjects that include science and nature, music and popular culture and food and drink. Across two weeks the House teams took part in three matches as they faced each other in turn. The final results were as follows: 1st Fisher, 2nd More, 3rd Austin and 4th Benet.

## House News

### 05 Fantastic Fisher finish first in the House Cup

Fisher House celebrated after winning the most hotly contested competition in school, the House Cup. Their victory was announced by House Activities Leader, Jess Newborough, in the Prefect Inauguration ceremony at the end of the Lent Term. The House Cup was presented to the outgoing Fisher House Captains, Greg Burford and Elizabeth Boyes, as jubilant Fisher pupils cheered across the school.

Before announcing the result, Mrs Newborough spoke of the challenges of the last year, her delight at how Princethorpe pupils had responded and the camaraderie and sense of community that the House activities provide. Across the year it was a steady and consistent performance that helped Fisher pupils amass their huge total of points and finish first across the line but well done to all pupils across the school who participated in the events so enthusiastically. The final results this year were: 1st Fisher, 2nd More, 3rd Austin and 4th Benet.



### 06 House Bake Off celebrated Platinum Jubilee

House Bake Off was, as always, a popular competition with a tantalising display of 44 creative entries lined up for the judges in the College's Food and Nutrition Room. The 'Platinum Jubilee' theme produced an incredible array of 'royal' themed bakes with fabulous flags, classy crowns and even a cute corgi.

Mr Hester took on the arduous job of judging all the entries, supported by Mr Cowlishaw with Mrs Newborough and Ms Scott on hand to help, they considered presentation, taste and relevance to the theme. Well done to everyone who took part.

The final overall house placings were: 1st Fisher, 2nd Benet, 3rd Austin and 4th More.



### 07 Pupils jetted off on a Gap Year for House Activities Day 2022

Princethorpe pupils jetted off on a 'Gap Year' travelling the world in a series of themed activities for this year's House Activities Day. Held on Friday 1 July, the biggest event of the House year is always a real favourite with pupils who go all out to win the house points up for grabs.

After an introductory briefing from Captain Jess Newborough, pupils set off in their form groups to work on a series of activities and challenges all around the school. From Camp America's obstacle course to making masks in Mardi Gras, being put through their paces at the Samba Stop Over or crossing the alligator infested river in Up the Creek to even creating their own mocktails in Mocktail Madness or getting ahead of their fellow travellers in the First Aid Frenzy or the Gap Year Fashion Challenge, it really was a non-stop day full of fantastic fun.

After all the challenges had been completed, the school came together for a finale or Ibiza Party on the Close. A fantastic day was had by all.

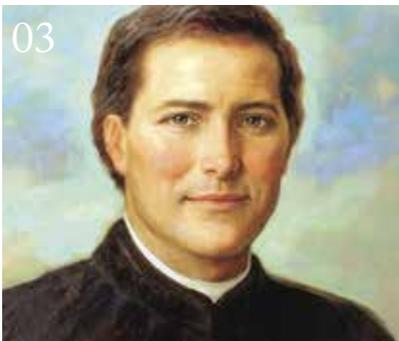


### 08 New Junior House Leaders

This year we introduced Junior House Leaders who were appointed to support House Activities Leader, Ms Newborough, the House Activities Co-ordinators, and the House Prefects. The new leaders went through a rigorous selection process and are working hard to encourage and engage their peers in House activities.



# Chaplaincy



## 01 Hope was Chaplaincy Theme for the Year

Princethorpe College pupils and staff marked the start of the new academic year by participating in an online Assembly where Father Alan Whelan MSC introduced the whole school theme of 'Hope'. Father Alan explained that hope is a powerful force for good and one that is especially appropriate in pandemic times. The theme for the year was symbolised by an anchor, a sign of strength and security and in his prayers Father Alan reminded pupils that 'Lord you are our hope, our anchor and our harbour of safety'.

## 02 Poppies Symbolise College's reflections on Remembrance

During November, the College reflected on the theme of Remembrance. The month commemorates all those who have departed from life. It begins with the Feast of All Saints, a tribute to the saints, and is followed by the Feast of All Souls, when we pray for those who have died, particularly our loved ones.

The Junior Chaplaincy Prefects cut out over 1,000 poppies, enough for every member of the school community. Form Tutors shared the poppies with their Tutor groups and encouraged pupils to record their remembrances. The poppies were assembled into a prominent and impressive display in the Limes building.

## 03 College Feast Day gives thanks

Friday 10 December was the College's Feast Day, our annual celebration involving the whole of the College community, marking the day back in 1854 that the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart were founded. Feast Day celebrates Princethorpe's special ethos and spirit of family and to mark the day the whole school came together to listen to Father Alan Whelan MSC remind us that Feast Day is about giving thanks.

During the ceremony, awards were presented to pupils from across the school and the assembly also included a number of musical interludes, showcasing the performing arts.

## 04 Epiphany Services reflected the importance of Hope

In January, pupils took part in an online service to celebrate the Feast of Epiphany, the feast that marks the arrival of the three wise men to pay homage to the new born king

In his service, Father Alan Whelan MSC spoke about the meaning of Epiphany, how it offers a revelation, an insight into how the birth of Jesus was a journey from darkness to light, a journey of hope. It was inspiration for us all to reflect on our hopes, and on all who bring hope, light and encouragement through their work.

## 05 Ash Wednesday services reminded us that Lent is about Forgiveness

Princethorpe College pupils and staff were invited to mark the beginning of Lent in a series of Ash Wednesday services that offered an opportunity for contemplation and reflection.

Father Alan Whelan, MSC, led the services, reminding us that Lent is a time for Christians to reflect, pray, fast and think about others, and that an overriding theme to Lent is the importance of forgiveness. He spoke about the period of Lent and how the 40 days is a time for Christians to reflect and put their faith into practice.

# Chaplaincy

## 06 College celebrated Whole School Eucharist

Princethorpe College came together on Wednesday 27 April to celebrate a whole school Eucharist, the first time for two years. The school gave thanks that we could once again gather as a community and remembered that the greatest gift of Easter is hope. Pupils listened to readings from the Easter story and the hope of the resurrection and joined together in prayers of hope.



## 07 New Junior Chaplaincy Prefects announced

On Tuesday 5 April, in the end of term assemblies, the new Junior Chaplaincy Prefects for 2022-23 were announced. Appointed this year were: Year 7s: Michelle Gichiri, Isabella Kay, Emily Knight, Annie Kowal, Alicia Maddams, Carrie Roberts and Ruby Terry, Year 8: Marco Rodriguez Hernandez and Year 10: Jemima Teeton.

The Junior School Chaplaincy Prefects play an important role in school taking on responsibility for supporting the work of the Chaplaincy team.



## 08 MSC Superior General visits Princethorpe College

Princethorpe College was delighted to welcome Fr Absalón Alvarado Tovar MSC, Superior General of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart, to school on Tuesday 3 May.

Father Absalón was visiting from Rome, and he met with Father Alan Whelan MSC and Ed Hester, Headmaster, before speaking with pupils and staff. At Tutor Time, Fr Absalón met with the Junior Chaplaincy Prefects and was presented with a College Prayer Book.



## PTA

### Plenty of festive fun at the PTA Christmas Fair

Princethorpe's popular PTA Christmas Fair took place on Sunday 28 November marking the start of the festive season. Hundreds of visitors descended on a College resplendent in decorations, and to add to the excitement there was even a dusting of snow. There was festive fun for all the family. Father Christmas and his elves made their usual stop off at the Fair, and there was musical entertainment, hot drinks and delicious mince pies.



### PTA Summer Fête was a great success

The College's annual Summer Fête and Motoring Festival is always a delightful afternoon. So much hard work goes into organising the event and the College is hugely grateful to our dedicated PTA who do such an excellent job every year. Sunday 26 June was no exception. The Orchard was transformed and the British weather remained warm and dry, allowing organisers and visitors to relax and enjoy themselves.

## New Science Centre

### January

#### Green Light Given For Princethorpe's New £8 Million Science Centre

At the start of the Lent Term, Trustees of the Princethorpe Foundation gave the go ahead for work to commence on Princethorpe College's new £8m Science Centre. Featuring 10 brand-new, state-of-the-art Science laboratories, it will ultimately transform the College's entire campus allowing other areas to be redeveloped and departments clustered within the main school building.



### February

#### First Signs Of The Science Build Commence

Friday 4 February, marked the formal end of lessons in the portacabins. The Geography, and Business and Economics departments relocated to new homes as the College prepared for the construction of the new Science Centre to begin. After nearly twenty years it was the end of an era for the portacabins.



### March

#### Turf Cutting Marked The Start Of New Science Centre

The start of work to create a brand-new state-of-the-art Science Centre was officially marked with a turf cutting ceremony. Headmaster, Ed Hester, and incoming Heads of School, Pratheesh Prabakaran and Freya Mills, donned hard hats and hi-vis jackets to perform the official ground-breaking ceremony.



### April

#### Science Centre Foundations Finished

Thanks to plenty of fine weather the foundations were finished during April with the take-offs for the steels also completed. Work continued with excavations for the new netball courts and the dumper trucks were kept busy in the holidays relocating 1,500 tonnes of spoil elsewhere on site.



## May

### Steels Fabrication Commenced

Foundation Assistant Head, Alex Darkes and Trendgrey MD, Nick Henderson, visited Warwick Steel in early May to see the fabrication of the steel frames. During the visit, Alex and Nick were given a tour of the company's three workshops.

The steels for Princethorpe's Science Centre had mostly been sourced from western Europe, will provide a durable, strong and flexible frame for the new building.



## June

### New Science Centre Steel Framework Takes Shape

The new Science Centre started to take shape as the building rose up out of the ground. Watching the crane manoeuvring each section into place was impressive but an even larger crane was required to lift the concrete floor blocks into place.



## July

### Final Bolts Tightened On New Science Centre Steelwork This Week

By the end of term the steelworks were complete and Headmaster, Ed Hester, visited the Science Centre construction site for his first official tour of the new building. He was accompanied by Trendgrey Construction MD, Nick Henderson, Princethorpe's Project Manager, Foundation Assistant Head, Alex Darkes, along with, Head of Science, Emma Cooper, and two Sixth Form Science Subject Ambassadors, Hannah Lawrence and Tom Dodsley.



## August

### New Science Centre Making Great Progress

Thanks to the hard work of the construction team, work on Princethorpe's new Science Centre continued to make great progress and by the end of the summer holidays the project had reached week 26 of the build and was almost halfway through.



**Our thanks go to** all the donors who have contributed so generously to the fundraising for the project, our Science Campaign Board, the Science Working Group, our professional advisors, AT Architects, Ainsleys, Richard Strauss Associates and Couch, Perry and Wilkes, the lead contractor, Trendgrey Construction Limited and all their sub-contractors, and of course the Senior Leadership Team especially Foundation Assistant Head, Alex Darkes, for all their hard work in supporting and delivering this important project. We can't wait to see it finished!



## Old Princethorpians



### OPs Sports Day kicks off the College's sporting calendar for the year

It was lovely to see so many familiar faces at the OPs vs College Sports Day that traditionally kicks off the College's sporting calendar for the year.

The staff and leavers of 2021 football team started with a great victory over the older OPs. Honours were split in the hockey with the College winning the girls' match and the OPs coming out on top in the boys' match. The OPs showed their experience in the netball with a high scoring performance beating the College.

In the OPs v College 1st XV (John Shinkwin Trophy match) the teams, OPs (leavers of 2020 and 2021) and the College played the newly formed version of Ready for Rugby, with the OPs having a fast start and ultimate victory with the College always chasing the game.

At the After Match Awards, the OPs proudly raised both the Alex Wallis Memorial Shield and the John Shinkwin Cup.



### OPs October London Meet a great success

A fabulous time was had by all at the eagerly-awaited OPs London Meet. The venue, Le Grand Salon Prive, on the first floor of French restaurant, Balthazar in London's Covent Garden proved to be very popular indeed with some 45 OPs in attendance.

Past pupils from the 70s, 80s, 90s, 00s and recent leavers mingled and chatted happily together, reminiscing about Princethorpe and their time at the College. Tall stories were swapped, old friendships rekindled and new friendships made as the guests caught up with each other over some delicious food and drink courtesy of the OPs Committee.

Longstanding Assistant Head, form tutor and Physics teacher, Alex Darkes, who had travelled down from Warwickshire, was kept very busy all evening, chatting to his former pupils. Just before ten o'clock the Princethorpe contingent, including Peter Rollason, Chair of the OPs, said their farewells before making a dash to the train for their journey home.



### Popular OP Local Meet returned

Our annual local meet took place in Rugby on Friday 4 March. We had a good turnout for our first face to face Local OPs Meet at Inside the 22 in Rugby.

A lovely mix of OPs from across the generations attended plus a sprinkling of Old Crescentians for good measure. All enjoyed great company, delicious tapas and a drink or two, courtesy of the OPs Committee. We were delighted to finally be able to return to our normal schedule of events.

## Old Princethorpians



### Careers Carousel helps the Lower Sixth figure out their next move

As part of our Sixth Form CoRE programme we welcomed a number of Old Princethorpians speakers into school in February to talk about their journey post-Princethorpe and the different career paths they have taken.

The 'Careers Carousel' offered the Lower Sixth the opportunity to broaden their awareness and knowledge on a range of careers relevant to their interests and aspirations and the event was designed to help students make more informed decisions about their future work options.

Our thanks go to all the OPs who supported the event Harvey Broadbent, Ben Oliver, James Ireland, Jacob Stone, Carmen Simpson, Zoe Hyland, Etienne Callaghan, Charlie Rooney, Lucy Coulson and James Carney.

### A very warm welcome to Fernham for the VSOPs

A small group of former St Mary's Priory Old Girls, or VSOPs as we like to call them, received a very warm welcome when they visited the former convent of the Benedictine nuns in Fernham. The community of 33 nuns, led by Mère Benedict, moved to Fernham in 1966 after they sold the estate at Princethorpe to the MSCs. Over the years they extended the property to include a Chapel and additional nuns' cells, but when the property became too large for their needs, the remaining sisters joined various other communities.

The house, still named St Mary's Priory, has undergone significant changes since the nuns were in residence and is now the family home of well-known impressionist Rory Bremner and his talented sculptor wife, Tessa Campbell Fraser. The Bremners could not have been more welcoming and friendly and were delighted to show the group around the grounds, the nuns' graveyard (where 24 of the nuns are buried) and inside their beautiful property.



### Gorgeous sunshine greets OPs for Bluebells and Brunch

Sunshine greeted attendees of our OPs Bluebells and Brunch event in May. The occasion attracted a lovely mix of OPs, former staff and former parents from the late 70s to the early 2020s. The group happily mingled in the Refectory over coffee and tea and after a warm welcome from Headmaster, Ed Hester, sat down together for a delicious brunch.

Our catering team put on a super spread as ever, with a Full English on offer, plus fruit salad and pastries to round off the meal. With appetites well and truly satisfied there was the option to walk off brunch with a tour of the College and a wander around the Mile Walk to see the bluebells. Visitors enjoyed seeing the College's heritage before moving onto newer additions. They even got a sneak preview of how work is progressing on the new Science Centre before enjoying a leisurely stroll up through the bluebells and round the leafy Mile Walk.

## Old Princethorpians



### Summer Supper Reunion returns

Representatives from the classes of 1982, 1992, 2002 and 2012 returned for their respective 40th, 30th, 20th and 10th anniversaries, along with a smattering of OPs from other years including the 1970s and former and current staff. Guests had travelled from across the country and as far afield as Canada, Germany and Dublin to attend.

The evening started with an optional tour of school visiting areas such as the Chapel, the Library, the cloister corridors, Roundhouse, the newer Limes Building and Sixth Form Centre before venturing out to see the site of the new Science Centre which is currently under construction just off the Lime Walk.

After a glass or two of Pimms in the Quad, the group was warmly welcomed by Headmaster, Ed Hester and invited to take their seats in the Refectory. Fr Alan Whelan, MSC, said Grace and the refectory became a hubbub of chatter and laughter as sat in their year groups or decades the gathered OPs happily caught up and reminisced over a delicious three course meal.

### Our Alumni are all around the World

The Princethorpe Foundation alumni network stretches across all four corners of the world as the visual mapping of the alumni we have addresses for shows. Wherever former pupils, staff and parents are now based, they remain a valued member of our alumni community and we are always delighted to hear news of or about them.

Our highest concentration of OPs is not surprisingly in the UK, with London and the Midlands being hotspots. Overseas we have a sprinkling of OPs living and working across Europe with Ireland and Spain among the top locations. Further afield Australia and the US have the highest number of OPs followed by Hong Kong. Some of the most unusual locations where we have OPs based currently are Mauritius, Barbados, Malawi and Taiwan.



### Princethorpe Connect

Princethorpe Connect, the Foundation's online alumni community portal, was launched back in the summer of 2019 and some three years later now has over 1,200 members. Aimed at past pupils, past parents and former staff, Princethorpe Connect enables you to find and network with old friends and former colleagues from across the Foundation schools and keep up with news and events.

Over the last year we have been developing the portal to meet the needs of our growing alumni community. The news pages have had an overhaul with new sub-sections added to allow our alumni to find the news stories that interest them the most. As well as Top Stories and Most Read, there are now news sections dedicated to Old Princethorpians News, Foundation Archive news, School News, Events News, Support Us News, Old Crescentians News, Old St Joseph's News and even Landscape and Nature News.

There is also a new Publications section which can be found on the main site tabs. In recent years we have introduced annual reviews for all the schools and electronic copies are now available within the Publications tab. Over the years they will build into a wonderful collection providing a lovely memento of school life.

## Staff hellos and goodbyes

**A school, of course, is only as good as its staff and we are tremendously fortunate to have such a large number of hard-working, caring and dedicated professionals. We would like to thank them again for all that they do for the pupils in so many ways.**

### During the 2021/22 school year:

#### We welcomed:

Sinead Birks, Dekk Brain, Luke Brotherton, Hayley Chaplow, Lewis Clarke, Kyle Crompton, Tom Crowfoot, Will Crowfoot, Eleanor Cullen, Chella Franklin, Jess Frogley, Molly Geehan, Christine Hawley, Robert Heath, Derek Hunt, Elyse Hyland, Kate Ingram, Lynda Jaco, Suz Jeffery, Miranda Kihlstrom, Helen Knight, Catherine Lewis, Daniel Lumb, Greg Lyttle, Jack Parker, Pam Phull, Jess Proudlock, Alef Rosenbaum, Sanj Sharma, Michael Spencer, Emelia Tubb, Isobel Turner-Pryce, James Walker, Sam Warne, Laura Wilford, Sam Wincott-Thomas, Neil Wotton and Sara Young.

#### And we said goodbye to:

Amraize Ajaib, Karen Bannister, Christina Baxter, Sinead Birks, Katrina Brittain, Luke Brotherton, Clare Callaghan, Lewis Clarke, Nuno Dos Santos Alves, Anna Fennell-McLoughlin, Rebecca Forde, Jess Frogley, Louise Harrison, Paul Higgins, Caroline Houghton, Elyse Hyland, Lamorna McNevin, Helen Morgan, Gill Price, Janette Ratcliffe, Sally Ritchie, Rob Rollason, Bill Tennant, Emelia Tubb, Michael Turns, Alan Wickett and Sam Wincott-Thomas.

We wished Lou Harrison well in her new role as Assistant Director of Sport and Head of Girls' PE and Games at King Henry VIII Senior School, after 15 years at Princethorpe as a Teacher of PE and Girls' Games and latterly Head of Academic PE.

We said goodbye and good luck to Christina Baxter from the Mathematics Department, as she joined the Warwickshire Schools Foundation. Then in the English Department, we sent Becky Forde our best wishes as she took on the Head of English role at The Kingsley School.

At the end of term, we said farewell to much loved peripatetic percussion teacher, Alan 'Sticky' Wickett. Over the years many who walk along the Music Corridor have been 'deafened' (we jest) by Alan's pupils in their lessons. Alan will be much missed by all.

During the year we also said goodbye to Janette Ratcliffe our fantastic Foundation Archivist who left us for a full-time post at De Montfort University. Janette had been with the Foundation since August 2017 and had dealt with a vast range of enquiries from all of the Foundation schools.

We also said goodbye to our Trainee Teachers Catherine Morrish, Bethany Rees and OP Rob Rollason; and wished them well in their future careers.

We wished Kat Brittain, Learning Support Assistant, well as she left to start up her own business. We bid farewell to our outgoing TAs Elyse Hyland, Imo Butler, James Walker and Tom and Will Crowfoot - all recent OPs - who have each done sterling work in so many areas of the school.

Becky Underhill, our Assistant to the Director of Studies moved on after nearly seven years at the school supporting the academic team and we also said farewell to Helen Morgan who left after 13 years of service, most recently as Assistant Registrar. Pastoral Secretary, Caroline Houghton, also departed with our very best wishes. At the end of the year we also said goodbye to Special Projects Officer, Gill Price, who retired after a 19 years of service.

We thank all our leavers for all they have done at Princethorpe and wish them all well in their future careers and projects. At the end of the Trinity Term, it was lovely to have a short outside event to celebrate our longstanding members of staff as well as those leaving the College this year for pastures new. Long service awards were made to Adrian Moore, who has been a piano and organ peripatetic music teacher for 30 years at the school along with Paul Hubball, Head of Art and Photography and Carmel Hopkins, Office and HR Systems Manager for 20 years of service each.

**Thank you and best wishes to them all.**



### Grove du Toit appointed as New Head of Princethorpe College

In April, Grove du Toit was appointed as the new Headmaster of Princethorpe College with effect from January 2023 when current Headmaster Ed Hester will take on the dedicated role of Foundation Principal. Announcing his appointment, Chair of Trustees, Liz Griffin, commented, "The Foundation Trustees were unanimous in the decision to appoint Grove to be the next Headmaster of Princethorpe College. His passion for education and young people shone through throughout the selection process. He has immense vision and energy combined with a wealth of experience and leadership skills, but most importantly his personal values marry perfectly with the ethos of the College. We are delighted to welcome him and his family into the Foundation."



# Results Day



## Princethorpe College celebrated another year of excellent exam results

**In the Sixth Form, 45% of all A-level grades achieved were A\* or A with overall 95% of grades at A\* to C. Impressively, 34 high-flyers achieved three or more A\* or A grades; special mention to Freya Caine, Sebastian Dibb, Caitlin Mason, Ben Scares and Ciaran Smith who all achieved four A\*s.**

At GCSE Princethorpe pupils also performed well, over half (54%) of all entries received the coveted 9, 8 or 7 grades and 39 Year 11 pupils achieved eight or more 9, 8 or 7 grades. There were many exceptional personal achievements, with stand-out performances from Oliver Llewellyn, Dina Parmenter, Amy Hogg, Joseph Newborough, Harry Kelly and Daisy Southgate, who all achieved an outstanding seven or more grade 9s.

Ed Hester, Headmaster, commented, "We were delighted with the excellent results our pupils achieved against a backdrop of unprecedented challenges over the past two years. Their results reflect their hard work and perseverance, all credit goes to our pupils and staff for their commitment and hard work. We congratulate them all on their well-deserved success."

# ISI Inspection



**Following an inspection in April, Princethorpe College received the highest possible ratings across all criteria from the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI). The report consisted of two elements, a focused compliance inspection, encompassing statutory standards, and an educational quality inspection evaluating the achievements of pupils, including academic performance and their personal development.**

Headmaster, Ed Hester, commented "We were delighted with the report, it was a ringing endorsement of everything we do here at Princethorpe and reflects a huge team effort.

He continued, "Pupil achievement and personal development are the two key benchmarks for any successful school and being graded as excellent in both of these broad areas demonstrates the incredible talent, dedication and professionalism of our staff, the outstanding attitude and approach of our pupils and the support of our parents."

During the inspection, the ISI inspectors observed that, 'Pupils have very positive attitudes towards their work and are highly focused in lessons', that they 'achieve a high level of results, exceeding predictions at every level' and they 'benefit significantly from an atmosphere in school which is positive and one where learning and trying one's best are celebrated'.

Referencing the extensive co-curricular programme, the inspectors commented that 'pupils embrace wholeheartedly the many opportunities to participate in a myriad of activities and many enjoy substantial success' and are able to 'find their own unique passions and relish taking part in them, broadening their perspective on life'.

Pupils' personal development was also judged as 'excellent' with inspectors recognising that 'pupils have a strong sense of moral responsibility, encouraged by an environment in which there are the key rules of Be Kind and Do Your Best'. The vertical tutoring system was mentioned with older pupils described as 'excellent ambassadors and role models serving as examples that younger pupils aspire to'.

Looking onwards to the wider world the inspectors found that pupils were 'active in promoting an environmental awareness, reflected in their Planet Princethorpe project' and that 'the extensive range of charity work provides a social compass which guides all pupils in their thinking'.

The ISI Inspectors also noted feedback from parents that, 'commented positively on the strength of the children's learning and how this reflected the commitment of the teaching and the direction provided by the school's leaders and trustees'.

Mr Hester concluded, "At Princethorpe our aim is to create a caring and supportive environment where pupils can develop to become well-educated, articulate young people, ready to take their place in society with a true sense of values and purpose. I was delighted that the ISI Inspectors so comprehensively recognised this in their report."

The ISI is the Government-approved body responsible for the inspection of independent schools and they consider every aspect of the provision.

“ Pupils have very positive attitudes towards their work and are highly focused in lessons. ”



## 50 Golden Princethorpe Years

At the end of the Trinity Term, a special milestone event took place at the College when we celebrated Alex Darkes' 50 Golden Princethorpe Years.

Alex is our very own 'Mr Princethorpe' and in the summer he celebrated his 50th Princethorpe anniversary, seven years as a pupil (Class of 1975) and 43 years as a member of staff, most recently as Foundation Assistant Head.

Family, trustees, former and current colleagues, former and fellow pupils and friends from his many and varied involvements with the College and wider Foundation gathered in the Quad for a reception in Alex's honour.

Headmaster, Ed Hester presented Alex with a specially commissioned commemorative picture depicting him and his many experiences at the College.

We thank Alex for all he has done and continues to do for the College and Foundation and the instrumental part he has played in its success.



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