



It is a pleasure to summarise the many achievements of our students over the last half-term.

INCREDIBLE RESULTS AT CAREERS CHALLENGES

Congratulations to Year 12 students - *Samer (12.6)*, *Yaseen (12.6)*, *Ahmed (12.6)*, *Sam (12.7)*, *Daniel (12.7)* and *Aidan (13.6)* for winning third place at the final of *The National Skills Challenge!*

On Thursday 28 April, the team attended the final elite competition at Staffordshire University's London campus. Competing alongside 16 high schools and Sixth Form colleges across the country, our team developed an open world game with a clear link to a ride or event at Thorpe Park. Our students wowed the judges with their exceptional creativity and strong leadership during their presentation. Throughout the competition, our students gained first-hand experience in working on projects for real-world business and strengthened their 'soft skills' which are important for their studies and future careers.

National Careers Challenge - Our Year 8 students *Hermione (8F)*, *Oliver(8F)*, *Bruno (8F)*, *Ahmed (8G)* and *Iqbal (8G)* won the selection competition for the National Careers Challenge. In July, the winning team will attend the National Finals of the competition at the ICC Birmingham alongside schools from across the country. They will present a marketing plan for a new attraction or ride for Thorpe Park. We look forward to hearing good news from the team. Best of luck!

PLATINUM JUBILEE

Drayton Manor has been invited to be part of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations by featuring in the Official Platinum Jubilee Pageant Commemorative Album which will be available from June.

To mark the achievements of our students, there will be a series of special events which will take place the week after half-term. It has been a challenging two years for our students and as we continue to return to a more normal way of life, it will be wonderful to mark the event with a range of activities, including House Piazza parties which will be held across the week.

A copy of the article can be [accessed here](#) and there will be more details to follow.

ETHIC OF EXCELLENCE AND THE SPIRIT OF ENDEAVOUR

To encourage students to always be their best and support them in achieving their goals, we regularly host celebrations to honour students who have consistently demonstrated the school values of Ambition, Character and Civic Virtue.

Ethic of Excellence



This half term, we celebrated with over 120 students at the Ethic of Excellence Awards Ceremonies held in the dining hall. The winners have demonstrated sustained excellence in a subject, a one-off outstanding piece of work or for contributing to the school community and have been nominated by their teachers.



Speaking to the awardees, they expressed how pleased they are that their hard work has paid off, and felt immensely proud of being congratulated on their outstanding performance!

The Spirit of Endeavour



We hosted another celebration with students who received The Spirit of Endeavour Award recognising students who have demonstrated excellent work ethic and worked incredibly hard to make improvements in key areas of their studies.

Students were invited to attend a celebration ceremony in Dining Hall. They were presented with certificates and enjoyed some delicious food.

YEAR 11 AND 13 CELEBRATIONS



Time flies for our Year 11 and Year 13 students at Drayton Manor. On the Thursday and Friday of the last week of half term, we hosted celebrations for Years 11 and 13 to mark their last day in their respective year groups.

It was indeed a very special day for our students. Before attending assemblies in the School Hall, students joined celebration sessions in the Dining Hall where they were greeted by tutors under an enormous balloon arch. Canapes, pizza and juice were ready to serve. Students did not want to miss a single moment to chat with their tutors and their classmates.

During the assemblies, the Head revisited school life during the pandemic and celebrated their remarkable determination and resilience despite the odds. Students were given Leavers packs which included scrolls and other memorabilia prepared by their teachers. We wish our students the very best and in particular, Year 13, who are heading on to the next stage of their journey.

Some messages from the Year 13 and Year 11 students about their achievements at Drayton Manor and their future plans.



Rathurshan (13.3) has excellent achievements in both his studies and sports. One of his best memories at Drayton Manor is getting into the U18's first team after years of constant hard work and determination. He plans to study Electrical and Electronic Engineering at Aston University.

'My two years of studying for A levels have been quite tough due to the unprecedented pandemic situation, struggling to adjust to online lessons, as well as the various government restrictions. Fortunately, the boards released advanced information for the upcoming exams and I was so relieved because this would allow me and other A level students to stay focused on preparing the exams.'

Mia (11G) feels more confident in preparing for her GCSE French exam after attending intervention sessions at school. 'I have learnt valuable skills and gained extra knowledge of the subject. I now feel better prepared and ready for my exams. Throughout my school journey, my favourite part of school life has been the friendships that have grown and developed and the support I have received from numerous teachers across different subjects. Overall, I am thankful for my experience at Drayton Manor.'

Husine (11G) plans to study at Drayton Manor to complete his A levels. 'Despite the pandemic, teachers have gone above and beyond to deliver interventions and booster sessions consolidating the year groups learning in the run up to our exams. I feel as confident as one can be. I plan on studying Maths, Politics and Economics for A levels. The Maths Department have fuelled my passion for the subject and the department is full of dedicated teachers, ready to answer any question.'

UNIVERSITY TRIPS FOR YEAR 12 AND YEAR 10

At Drayton Manor, we encourage our students to demonstrate great ambition in their academic studies and explore their options for further studies. During the half term, we organised three trips for students to visit some top-tier colleges and universities in the country, including the University of Oxford, the University of Cambridge and Royal Holloway (University of London). It was the first time we have organised trips to universities since the pandemic.

Year 12

Year 12 students will start their UCAS applications shortly. For some study programmes such as Medicine, Dentistry or

Oxbridge, students will have to kick start their applications earlier than other study programmes. To better prepare our students with their applications, we organised two trips for Year 12 students to visit the University of Oxford and Royal Holloway, University of London.



Our students visited the University of Oxford for a day on Tuesday 10 May and had a lovely tour of St John's College led by staff and students at the university. Students asked questions about the application processes and their subject choice. They also gained first-hand experience of student life when they attended a tutorial session for a critical thinking course and enjoyed lunch in the dining hall.

During the half day tour at Royal Holloway, our students learned about the application process such as writing outstanding personal statements and making subject choices. Students also joined a workshop organised by current undergraduate students about learning life skills to prepare for living in student halls and managing their finances. Students were pleased they attended university trips as they were very helpful. They could explore a range of study options at an early stage and make informed choices about their studies and careers.

Year 10



Students who aspire to study at the University of Cambridge attended a one-day tour of the university on Tuesday 26 April. Thanks to the fine weather, students had a wonderful time visiting the beautiful and historical campus of Jesus College, discussing university life with

student representatives and gaining tips on how to study at one of the world's leading universities. Our students got the opportunity to experience what it is like to attend a lecture for an undergraduate study course when they attended an academic taster session on 'Human – Computer interactions'.

There will be many more trips of this nature in the coming months to give all of our students the opportunity to benefit from visits to universities.

STEM DAY FOR YEAR 7



Explore the fun of doing Science experiments! As a part of the school's Careers Education, the Science Faculty hosted a STEM Day for Year 7 students on Friday 22 April.

Students were asked to complete an iodine clock experiment. Working in groups, they had to find the right amount of potassium iodine solution and water so that the mixed solution would change its colour within exactly 60 seconds. It was very exciting!

Ameya and Alicja (7C) said the experiment was interesting and it built up their investigative skills. 'We mixed solution A, which stayed the same with each test run with solution B, which had our independent variable – water and potassium in. After conducting several tests, we found 35ml of water and 65ml of iodine solution are the exact amount of solution B that changed the colour in precisely 60 seconds!'

WOMEN IN STEM





Thanks to our wonderful Year 12 students for establishing our Women in STEM club for Year 7 and 8 students.

Beth (12.4) and *Tiyonne (12.8)* created the club as they wanted to build a supportive environment for girls to gain confidence in studying STEM subjects and make friends. *Beth* explained, 'I questioned whether I was capable when selecting Physics for my A level. We hope the club will make a difference to the number of students signing up to do STEM subjects at A level and contributing to science nationally and internationally!'

Students have great feedback for the club. *Minnie (7I)* said 'I wasn't sure if the club would just feel like doing lessons in my free time. I signed up anyway, and I am so glad that I did. It's super fun. I would recommend the club!'

Bethany (7J) said 'The club has not only been enjoyed by all but has also allowed us to look at STEM subjects in a different way.'

GREEN STEM COMPETITION



In early May, Drayton Manor STEM Hub members from Year 12 took part in the final stage of the interschool Green STEM competition organised by Imperial College London. The competition has taken place over several rounds and over five months.

Beth (12.4) and *Dilvir (12.8)* took part in the competition. They teamed up with students from two high schools and were tasked with researching an innovative approach to improve green living across the UK. They completed a project report and presented their research findings to a panel of scientists from the Imperial University.

Beth and *Dilvir* think the competition helped them to develop essential skills such as teamwork, project management and perseverance - important skills for their studies and careers.

Beth (12.4) said 'Our team proposed to use endophytic tablets, which are biodegradable tablets filled with useful bacteria, to increase nutrient levels in soil in areas suffering from drought, which causes nutrient deficiency. It was a very rewarding experience when we presented our ideas to scientists from a world leading university and answer their questions. Our team worked together to think on our

feet. This was a great experience and we all had lots of fun.'

JUNIOR MATHS CHALLENGE

On Thursday 28 April, Year 7 and 8 students participated in the UKMT Junior Maths Challenge (JMC) 2022 and achieved incredible results. Out of 32 students who participated in the Challenge, 26 of them received an award from the UKMT. Students who achieved a Bronze Award are within the top 40% of participants in the country. Students who achieved the Silver Award within the top 20% of participants while those awarded Gold are within the top 7% of participants. Well done to the following students who did a fantastic job in the Junior Maths Challenge 2022!

Bronze Award - *Eva (7H)*, *Aamir (7G)*, *Grace (7G)*, *Ahmed (8G)*, *Alfie (8G)*, *Vishvendran (8L)*, *Sebastian (8I)*, *Ishaq (8K)*, *Parisa (8K)*, *Quratulain (8E)* and *Ruhi (8I)*.

Silver Award - *Adil (7I)*, *Lincoln (7I)*, *Futura (7E)*, *Navitha (7L)*, *Idrys (7I)*, *Elizabeth (8H)*, *Muhammad (8L)*, *Tristan (8I)*, *Reuben (8E)*.

Gold Award - *Minnie (7I)* (Best in School), *Mikyle (8K)*, *Max (8H)* (Best in Year), *Harrison (8E)*, *Adam (8K)* and *Louie (8I)*.

Max (8H), *Harrison (8E)*, *Adam (8K)* and *Minnie (7I)* are qualified to enter the national follow-up competition of Junior Kangaroo which will be held on Wednesday 15 June.

Thank you to all the students who took part in the competition and the Maths department for running the competition at school.

WINNING WITH PERSISTENCE AND DETERMINATION



Early this year, the U18 Football Team won their first trophy in a three-team tournament against Cardinal Wiseman and Greenford. Team captain *Daniel (13.2)* ascribed the win to impressive perseverance and determination of the team. He wrote about the team's efforts in the competition.

'The team shocked Greenford in the first game with our quick passing, clinical finishing and strong defense, which led us to a confident

3-1 victory with two goals from *Malik (13.1)* and one goal from *Mostafa (12.7)*. The second fixture in the afternoon saw Greenford, clearly frustrated by their loss to us, surprise Cardinal Wiseman with fast-paced attacks and high pressing. Within minutes Greenford took the lead and never looked like relinquishing it for the duration. The final fixture of the afternoon was a difficult game for both our team and Cardinal Wiseman, with several chances being narrowly missed. As the game drew on, neither team was able to take the lead, causing nerves amongst both sets of players and those there to support.

Initially, it looked like our team would have to settle for a draw, which would be enough for us to lift the trophy. However, the team persevered and were resolute in our pursuit for outright victory, showing great determination and grit all the way to the last minute of the game. Consequently, in the final few seconds, we won a free kick close to the Wiseman goal. The free kick was taken quickly, before Cardinal Wiseman could set their defence. *Omair (13.2)* got the time to produce an amazing strike that would claim victory with the last kick of the game.

The win put Drayton Manor at the top of the league table by three points, making us the inaugural winners of the Paine/Patel Shield. Moreover, this was the first trophy won by the school U18 Football Team in seven years. We are very proud of that.'

SPORTS

This summer term, we resumed our Athletics, Rounders and Cricket clubs which we had to pause for two years due to the pandemic. We are excited to see our students heading back to field and track and flexing their muscles in a range of competitions in this season.

Athletics Club

On Friday 29 April, our Junior (Years 8 and 9) and Intermediate (Years 10 and 11) athletes had a strong performance in the Wilkinson Sword competition - the Ealing Borough Trophy for the best overall school in athletics. The Junior Girls, Intermediate Girls and Intermediate Boys came first in their competitions. Our five athletes - *Naimah (8F)*, *Elizabeth (8H)*, *Ashiya (11K)*, *Katharine (11K)* and *Adam (11I)* with exceptional performance have qualified to represent Ealing in the Middlesex Schools Athletics Championship which will be held on Saturday 18 June.

All the best to our Year 7 athletes who will compete for the Wilkinson Sword competition on Tuesday 21 June.



Rounders Club



Year 7 to 10 students will take part in the Borough Rounders Leagues and Tournaments this summer. With high turnout in Rounders Club each Tuesday, all teams are looking to be successful this season.

On Tuesday 17 May, the Year 9/10 teams played their first League fixtures against William Perkin and Cardinal Wiseman.

Unfortunately, they took two narrow losses from both schools. However, the team was able to overcome the initial defeats and won their match against Northolt in dominant fashion.

Well done to the Year 9 team for their great performance in the Borough Tournament held on Thursday 19 May.

They have qualified for the semifinal so we will keep you updated!

The Year 7 and 8 teams are training well every week and they look forward to their first League matches.

Cricket Club

We are pleased to see good attendance at the Under 13 and Under 15 Boys cricket trials held in April and May. It was the first time since summer 2019 we have been able to recruit for teams and it was exciting to see so many keen players.

Our Under 13 Boys produced a great win when they faced Twyford in their first match of the season. They beat their opponent by 55 runs. Their upcoming fixture with Ealing Fields will be held on Monday 13 June.

The Under 15s also played their first match, unfortunately losing to a strong William Perkin team.

Netball

This year's Borough Netball League results have been settled. Our Year 7 team placed third in their division.

The Year 8 team were unbeaten throughout their League matches and took home the gold medals. The Year 10 and Senior teams both placed second overall, only losing one League match to familiar rivals Twyford.

Boys Football

It was a busy and short season for the Under 13 and Under 15 teams. They played three matches in the same week. The Under 13 Boys started strong with a 9-4 win against Brentside. However, the team suffered three losses before their second win of the season against Ada Lovelace. They ended their campaign with a 2-2 draw to Elthorne Park and took third place in their division.

The Under 15 Boys had a tough first match against Twyford, losing 3-0. However, they bounced back and secured four consecutive wins until their last match with Elthorne Park. It was a tense 90-minute match with no goals scored by either team at the final whistle.

The Under 15s placed second overall in their division. Well done to all involved!

Results of other sports activities in the half term are below:

Date	Fixture	Result
11/05/22	1st XI Football v Holland Park (Friendly)	Win 6-2
17/05/22	Year 9/10 Girls Rounders v Cardinal Wiseman	Loss 6-6½
17/05/22	Year 9/10 Girls Rounders v William Perkin	Loss 4½- 5½
18/05/22	Year 9/10 Girls Rounders v Northolt	Win 17 ½ - 9 ½
18/05/22	Under 13 Boys Cricket v Twyford	Win Drayton 93-4 Twyford 38-6
19/05/22	Year 9 Girls Rounders Tournament	Semi-finalists

Thank you for your support. We will bring you more updates on activities after half term.

We look forward to seeing students return on Monday 6 June.

PARENT AND CARER BULLETIN

Half Term Break
Monday 30 May - Friday 3 June

EVENTS

June

Year 12 GCSE Exam
Monday 23 May - Friday 10 June

Year 10 Medical Activity Days (Kings College London)
6 - 7 June
9am - 12pm
Rooms C115 & F111

Year 10 Elite Skills Academy (British Army)
Thursday 9 June

Year 12 Work Experience Week
13-17 June

Hanwell Trail for Year 7 (details to follow)
Tuesday 14 June & Wednesday 15 June

House Captain Meetings
Friday 10 June & 8 July
8:55am
Library

Year 6 Induction Meetings
Monday 27 June - Tuesday 28 June
Hall

Year 12 UCAS Results Assembly
Monday 27 June

Lunchtime Music
Tuesday 29 June

UCAS Parents' Evening
Wednesday 29 June
5pm - 6.30pm

July

Year 6 Induction Day
Friday 1 July

WWI Battlefield History Tour
1 - 3 July
Belgium and France

UCAS Preparation Day
Monday 4 July

Year 11 into Year 12 Induction
Monday 4 July - Tuesday 5 July



Enrichment Day
Monday 4 July

Careers for Year 10
Tuesday 5 July & Thursday 7 July

Sports Day
Friday 8 July

Art Summer Showcase and School Production
Wednesday 13 July

Year 8 Fun Day
Thursday 14 July

Swimming Gala
Friday 15 July

FOR ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK OF 6 JUNE, [PLEASE CLICK HERE.](#)

GOVERNORS

From time to time, the school needs to appoint new Governors. It is helpful to keep a list of those who might be able to serve in this way. Therefore, if you think that at some point you or someone you know might be able to serve, and have relevant skills, experience or potential, please contact the Clerk to the Governors at the school, who will make arrangements to obtain relevant information the Governors require.

In making appointments, the Governors will have particular regard to the balance of skills and experience on the Governing Body at the time and their forthcoming activities. Therefore, those who might prove good governors might not necessarily be appointed at a particular time, but their details will be kept on file.

