



It has been another busy term at Drayton Manor. Our students and staff have all been very busy with a range of activities, as well as dedicated schoolwork, and strong demonstrations of the values of ambition, character and civic virtue. Our Year 11 and 13 students have studied hard to prepare for their exams, and we wish them all the very best luck for the results later in the summer. We are proud of all our students, and hope that they, and you, have an enjoyable summer break.

**THE DESCENDANTS AWARD - TIYONNE YEAR 13**



Here at Drayton Manor, we encourage students to embody the school values of ambition, character and civic virtue. Throughout their time with us, they are given opportunities and encouragement to set big goals for themselves and work hard to achieve them, to look for ways they can help their wider community, and to develop the resilience, courage and determination to overcome the challenges life in the modern world can send them. It is with immense pride that we introduce Tiyonne, who has just left us after completing her A Levels this summer, who is a perfect example of how students achieve this. Tiyonne is one of the founders of the STEM club. Along with her friend Beth, Tiyonne wanted to promote further STEM subjects and study. They set up a STEM club at the school and have been encouraging younger students to take up the subjects with a particular focus on encouraging girls to participate. Adopting a peer support approach, they created a welcoming, nurturing space where the students who attended felt comfortable to ask questions and pursue ideas. They can access resources to pursue their scientific interests and form good working relationships

and friendships across the year groups. Tiyonne's changemaking, community driven spirit has made her an inspiring leader within the school community, and it was with great pride that staff were able to nominate her for the prestigious Descendants Award. The Descendant's Award is a celebration of the achievements of young people from African and Caribbean descent who live in the Ealing borough. Tiyonne was one of many other inspirational young people who were given their award at the 18th annual Awards ceremony in the Hilton Hotel in Ealing on Saturday 8 July. Tiyonne told us that she was inspired by the stories of other award winners, in particular a year 2 boy who had battled cancer, and was excelling at his schoolwork, and was kind and helpful to his community. She was also deeply impressed by a Year 5 girl who had written a book in both English and Portuguese, had visited parliament and was a proficient martial artist. Tiyonne enjoyed the ceremony and was very proud to be among such inspirational company. Tiyonne is looking forward to a gap year, when she is going to travel to Japan, get a new job, and hopes to return to Drayton Manor to continue to support the student community. She is waiting for her A level results next month, and hopes to either move into science, medicine or computer science. We know that Tiyonne has a great future ahead of her and will continue to be an inspiration for all who meet her. Congratulations Tiyonne, we are hugely proud of you!

**WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY**

World Environment Day is an annual global event organised by the United Nations. Its purpose is to raise awareness of the environmental problems affecting the world. The theme for 2023 was a call to beat plastic pollution. To mark the occasion, students were given the opportunity to create a poster using recycled materials, to share what they have learned about:

- What is happening with the environment
- Why we should take action
- Ideas and tip for what we can all do to take action



Posters were submitted to the Humanities office - the best one received a prize and will be shared with the wider school community. The standards of posters produced were incredibly high, and choosing a winner was very hard. After much deliberation, *Aysha (7H)* was chosen as the winner, congratulations Aysha!

**EALING 2 BROADWAY**



On Wednesday 12 July, the Arts Department was abuzz as 35 Drayton Manor students headed off to perform in Ealing 2 Broadway. The Event held at the at the Ealing (ECC) Christian Centre, hosted a 500 strong audience and showcased the musical and drama talent of six different schools across the Borough as students performed hits from musical theatre shows from across the ages. Drayton Manor was assigned the musical 'We Will Rock you' and our students sang and danced to an impressive standard as they dazzled the audience with their performance of hits such as 'We Are The Champions' and 'Somebody to Love'. There was also a special solo performance from Mia in Year 7 who wowed the audience with her beautiful rendition of I dreamed a dream.



Congratulations to all the participants and thank you to all the parents and carers who came along to support.

### ICE CREAM CELEBRATION



At lunchtime on Friday 14 July, students were delighted when Mr Whippy's purple and yellow, Drayton Manor coloured van parked outside the downstairs gym to reward some of our sports winners. The Drayton Manor Wilkinson Sword winners and the victorious rounders team players lined up proudly with their ice cream vouchers. The students have had a fantastically successful season and fully deserved their ice cream treat. Hopefully some of those looking on will be inspired to join our successful rounders and athletics clubs next summer season.



### ARTS SUMMER SHOWCASE



The Drayton Manor High School Summer Showcase was back this year, highlighting the great work done throughout the school. Students from English and Drama expertly delivered monologues in the sunken garden, and an intimate crowd were treated to pop-up slam poetry in the bridge overlooking the piazza.



The Art Department was transformed by the current Year 10 GCSE Art cohort into a rich and vibrant display of sculpture, paintings, photography, and more, made by all year groups. Nearby, board games were taught and played in the media suite, where student coursework films were screened.

The Design and Food Technology Department provided cupcakes and popcorn, while displaying a fantastic array of beautifully designed products and inventions. In the Dr Evans Building, the Humanities Department displayed histories and perspectives on the British Empire, alongside Extended Project Qualification presentations. It was a real feast of scholarly discussion and knowledge sharing.



A room of painted miniatures was also a big hit with guests, who enjoyed learning how to paint and decorate tiny but detailed plastic

miniatures from the Warhammer universes. Throughout the evening, the many musicians of the school thrilled listeners on the piazza's Main Stage, with performances ranging from acapella to full-on funk bands and rock-and-roll. The climax of the night's performances was an earth-shaking rendition of We Will Rock You by the school's Ealing2Broadway musical ensemble.

If that's not a great send off for the summer, we don't know what is. Glastonbury eat your heart out.



### YEAR 8 FUN DAY



On Thursday 13th July, Year 8 took part in their annual Fun Day to celebrate their achievements and efforts throughout the year. Students completed a series of inter-house events, including rounders, tug of war and football.

Year 12 students led the events and provided students with face painting. Everyone worked hard to win events and gain house points - well done to all students! However, there could only be one winner, and that was Caladrius!



To cool down from the warm weather and activities, all staff and students were treated to ice cream from an ice cream van! Students displayed exemplary manners and politeness when collecting their ice cream. A special thank you to our fantastic PE staff for organising the day, tutors for building team spirit and the Year 12 students for their support.

### THE BRITISH MUSEUM



Year 7 students have been studying the Parthenon in their Classics lessons this term. On 19 June, a group of 30 Year 7 students headed to the British Museum for an afternoon exploring their collection of related artefacts and discussing the Parthenon. They attended a lecture by experts on the Ancient Greek world, and really impressed the museum staff with their in-depth knowledge of the Parthenon's history, the purpose it was built for, and the artwork on the Parthenon Marbles.



After the lecture, students then made their way into the galleries, where they had the opportunity to view the Parthenon Marbles close-up. They also enjoyed a 'treasure hunt' in the other galleries to look for characters they had been studying in their Classics lessons, including Odysseus and other stories from mythology.

### OXFORD UNIVERSITY TRIP



On Tuesday 11th July, 14 Year 9 students represented Drayton Manor High school at the Oxford University Inspire event. Students displayed outstanding ambition and character throughout the day.



Activities included a lively debate on whether AI can produce authentic art. The organiser told staff that in all her years at Oxford she has never seen a group of students debate with as much intelligence and intensity as our Year 9 students.

### YEAR 7 CHOIR

The Year 7 Pop Choir has been very popular this year, and choir members have enjoyed performing at a number of school events throughout the year. In the spring and summer terms, rehearsals have been great fun as students learn to sing and perform songs from some big hit musicals, such as 'Colours of the Wind' from Pocahontas (a Disney classic), as well as 'When I Grow Up,' from Matilda the Musical. The students have been working really hard to perfect their performance and were really excited to share this with the community at the Summer Showcase on Monday!

### WW1 BATTLEFIELDS



From Friday 30 June to Sunday 2 June, 41 year 9 and 5 year 12 students visited the historic battlefields of World War One in France and Belgium. This educational journey offered them a unique opportunity to deepen their understanding of this pivotal moment in history and pay homage to those who sacrificed their lives for future generations. The trip included visits to the Ypres Salient in Belgium, Tyne Cot British and Langemark German cemeteries as well as Vimy Ridge, Lochnagar Crater and Newfoundland Park. The students marvelled at the sites and listened intently to stories of bravery and sacrifice from their guides. We are very proud of our students for their respectful, exemplary behaviour, and are grateful to the teachers who led the trip. We hope that this experience has instilled in our students a passion for history and a desire to preserve the lessons of the past.





**YEAR 11-RIVER CHESS FIELDTRIP 20 & 23 JUNE 2023**



Year 10 Geography students at Drayton Manor showed their geographical and personal skills during a fieldtrip to the River Chess located in Amersham, Buckinghamshire. In fine weather, the students investigated changes in river channel characteristics along the course of the river. They worked very practically, standing in the river to collect primary data, using their quantitative and qualitative skills through various field methods, and working well as part of a small team.



*Layan (10E)* said enjoyed the occasion to apply what he had been learning in class to the real world. *Aarya (10J)* said she had a lot of fun standing in the river with her friends and collecting primary data in her Wellington Boots. At the end of the day, based on all the hard work and evidence collected, all students were able to successfully conclude that the river characteristics studied do in fact change downstream. Well done to our fantastic geographers!

**WELLBEING AMBASSADORS' CELEBRATION**



The school's Wellbeing Ambassadors are a valuable part of the school community, and work hard to promote positive mental health and well-being among their peers. A celebration event was organised on 23 June to recognise and celebrate their efforts and contributions of the school's Wellbeing Ambassadors. The celebration highlighted the importance of their role in fostering a nurturing and supportive atmosphere within the school community, creating a lasting impact on the well-being of students.



Our Wellbeing Ambassadors were invited to the Dining Hall where they received commendations and refreshments for their civic virtue, good character and ambition in contributing to the life of the school.

**UCAS DAY**

The personal statement is an integral part of the university application form, and one that students need to get right to be accepted into their university of choice. Year 12 UCAS Day took place on Wednesday 7 July, to support students in producing a powerful personal statement for their UCAS application. Students were welcomed with hot chocolate

and pastries before a full programme of talks and activities. Highlights of the day were a presentation from the University of Exeter outreach team on preparing an excellent personal statement, and a talk from a University of Bath student ambassador on the reality of university life. There were also information sessions for students who will be applying for Oxford and Cambridge universities and for students planning to study medicine, dentistry, veterinary science, nursing and midwifery. Students found it extremely valuable to have dedicated time and support to draft their personal statements using the guidance provided.

**YEAR 10 RESULTS ASSEMBLY**

In June, Year 10 students took their first set of Mock GCSEs in preparation for the GCSE in year 11. Students and teachers worked hard prepare for these exams, as this was their first opportunity to gauge how close they were to reaching their targets for Year 11. On Friday 7 July, after much anticipation, we had our results assembly. The students were both nervous and excited to see how they had performed. Many were happy to see that they had done well and were on track to reach, if not exceed, their target grades. Others were able to gather vital information on the areas and subjects where they must improve in order to reach their targets. Students left the assembly motivated and prepared to work hard over the next year so that they can achieve their goals.

**PARENT EVENT**

At our latest parent event on Tuesday 4 July, our Child Protection and Safeguarding Lead Mrs Guitane led interactive discussions focused on staying safe on social media, and suggestions for communication strategies. Our Pastoral Support Assistant, alumni Ms Sakr presented a range of free and discounted activities available in the summer holidays for young people in the local area. We received very positive feedback from attendees and look forward to organising more events like this in the next academic year.

**Y8/12 PAIRED READING**

A group of year 12 reading mentors have each paired up with a year 8 buddy in the long-running paired-reader programme aimed at boosting the confidence of year 8 readers. The students spend one tutor hour per week reading together in the school library. The success of the paired reader programme has been measured through pupil voice as well as additional testing of students' reading



ages. The results clearly show that the year 8 students involved not only improved their reading, but also in their confidence and enjoyment of reading! The year 12 students involved have enjoyed the opportunity to support the younger students and develop their mentoring skills. We look forward to opening the programme to a new cohort of students next year!

**READATHON**

On Thursday 29 June, the library was host to our annual charity Readathon. 70 students applied to take part in a literary challenge which had students reading from 9am until 5pm. Following a rigorous selection process, 28 year 8 students were chosen to begin their fundraising. Students raised funds for a charity called Read For Good, a charity that encourages reading for pleasure, and aims to improve access to books for pleasure for children across the UK. The charity organises the Readathon to raise money to provide books and storytellers for children in hospitals so that for they can enjoy reading during their stay. The charity has enjoyed the support of many famous authors since its creation in the 1980s, such as the legendary Roald Dahl. Students were grateful for the opportunity to take part in an event that allowed them to spend time reading for the day whilst also raise money for charity. They made some excellent book choices, and enjoyed engaging discussions about the books they read through the day. Students were rewarded for supporting each other during the event, showing excellent civic virtue. Students who persevered through difficult texts and stayed focussed over the course of the Readathon were also celebrated for their ambition and character. Well done to all students who took part!

**12 YEAR WORK EXPERIENCES**

At the end of June, year 12 took part in a week long work experience placement. Students showed great ambition by finding a range of fantastic opportunities from Rolls Royce, Thames Water, BT and many other local charities, businesses, schools and healthcare settings. We are proud of year 12 for showing commitment, resilience, and civic virtue in their hard work. They are now one step closer to the world of work.

**SUMMER 2023 SPORTS REVIEW**

As you will know, we have a strong tradition of sporting excellence here at Drayton Manor, and are fiercely proud of the athletes who pass through our doors. Participating in sports is about more than the game. The skills, qualities and values that sports help to develop are a vital part of how we guide our students to live the school values of character, civic virtue and ambition. Sporting excellence requires commitment, communication, team work, drive, discipline and self motivation. Traits that our students have in spades, and that will serve them well as they move into their adult lives. Sports are a great way to foster pride and community, and to develop leadership skills that will allow our students to guide and lead others to achieve shared goals. We see this clearly demonstrated in our student coaches, who we profiled in our School Leadership newsletter earlier this year. Many of them are hoping to go into sports themselves, or are planning to use the skills they have developed as sports coaches to help them achieve their academic and career goals. We've had a fantastic sporting term and are delighted to share the many achievements of our sports teams.

**ATHLETICS**

The Wilkinson Sword which is the most significant trophy of the summer term is a real team effort. All the PE staff attend athletics club to coach and encourage our best athletes throughout the summer and it works, the students love their clubs and they turn up in massive numbers. It's been a really successful year all round. Athletics club has been hugely popular this term, with over 100 students attending our Thursday club nights, honing their skills and developing their athletic prowess. The athlete's dedication has paid dividends in the Wilkinson Sword Athletics competitions, where athletes from Years 7 to 10 participated, displaying great skill, determination and sportsmanship. The boys took 1st place over all other Ealing schools. And for their exceptional performance, 21 of our athletes qualified to represent Ealing in the Middlesex Schools Athletics Championship at StoneX Stadium on 26 th June. Over the Intermediate, Junior and Year 7 competitions, our athletes performed consistently and once again retained the

Wilkinson Sword - the Ealing Borough Trophy for the best overall school in Athletics. This is the twelfth time in fourteen years that the school has won it.

**ROUNDERS**

Rounders club has also been very popular this term, with students from Years 7-10 meeting every Tuesday to practice and prepare for tournaments and leave matches. Our teams have played over 25 matches this season and the hard work from all our players has resulted in our best ever rounders season. The tournaments in particular proved to be real nailbiters. All tournaments are entered by most of the 15 schools in the borough meaning players have to be focussed throughout the afternoon when fielding and batting. Our teams played magnificently, and confidently won all their matches. What a fantastic achievement for all! On Tuesday 23rd May we hosted the Year 10 rounders Ealing Borough tournament at our playing fields. Due to the number of schools entered, the tournament was played in a round robin format with the winner being decided on points. The Year 10 team confidently won all their matches and were awarded the gold 1st place medals.





**CRICKET**

Both the Under 13 and Under 15 cricket clubs have been well attended this term. The Under 13 team played friendlies against four other schools in the Borough, with their only recorded win against Brentside HS. The Under 15s had a positive start to the League season with two wins against Featherstone and Brentside. However, the team came against strong competition in the latter half of the season and lost to William Perkin and Ada Lovelace.

**FOOTBALL**



We were one of the few schools who managed to complete all our fixtures this year. We are very proud that the U13 boys team finished as runners up in the Ealing league, and were presented with silver medals in assembly at the end of term.

With only one defeat throughout the season the U14 Girls football team qualified for the league final where they met Brentside. They scored in the first minute and went on to beat them 6-0 making them league winners. The girls were also presented with gold medals in the assembly.

**INTER-HOUSE BASKETBALL COMPETITION**

Throughout June, years 7 to 10 took part in an inter-house basketball competition led and organised by Coach Black. The competition provided an opportunity for students to showcase their skills, teamwork, and sportsmanship in a friendly and competitive environment. With each event, the enthusiasm and energy of the each house participants grew, fostering a sense of camaraderie and healthy competition among the houses. Well done to all students involved.

The results were as follows:

**Year 7:**

- 1st - Pegasus
- 2nd - Phoenix
- 3rd - Griffin
- 4th - Caladrius

**Year 8:**

- 1st - Griffin
- 2nd - Phoenix
- 3rd - Caladrius and Pegasus

**Year 9:**

- 1st - Griffin
- 2nd - Caladrius, Phoenix and Pegasus

**Year 10:**

- 1st - Caladrius

**TERM DATES FOR 2023/4**

**AUTUMN TERM 2023**

Monday 4 September (staff training day)  
**STUDENT TERM DATES**  
 Tuesday 5 Sept to Tuesday 19 Dec  
**HALF TERM**  
 Monday 23 Oct to Friday 27 Oct  
 Friday 24 Nov (staff training day)  
**CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY**  
 Wednesday 20 Dec to Friday 5 Jan

**SPRING TERM 2024**

Monday 8 Jan (staff training day)  
**STUDENT TERM DATES**  
 Tuesday 9 Jan to Thursday 28 Mar  
**HALF TERM**  
 Monday 12 Feb to Friday 16 Feb  
**EASTER HOLIDAY**  
 Friday 29 Mar to Friday 12 Apr

**SUMMER TERM 2024**

**STUDENT TERM DATES**  
 Monday 15 Apr to Wednesday 24 Jul  
**MAY DAY** Monday 6 May  
**HALF TERM**  
 Monday 27 May to Friday 31 May

**HAVE A GREAT SUMMER**

