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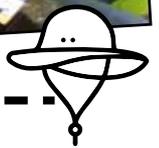
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MICHAELMAS TERM

Archaeology Digs

Being so close to school, we were very lucky to be able to make good use of visiting the recent excavation site at Carlisle Cricket Club. To tie-in with their Romans topic in History, J1 visited the ruins, 'dug' for artefacts and handled some of the things that had been found on site!

Our new Archaeology Club also visited the site where they got a guided tour. We also had a group of VI Formers who were lucky enough to be given the opportunity to participate in the dig themselves under the watchful eye of the Mayor of Carlisle!



Lockerbie Manor

Junior 4 pupils enjoyed a fabulous week at Lockerbie Manor in September. They challenged themselves in lots of activities including high ropes, abseiling, climbing, raft building and paddle boarding. Not everyone managed to stay dry though! All the pupils showed great teamwork and support for each other - it was a great week!



SENIOR SCHOOL HOUSE MUSIC FESTIVAL

In October, we took our hats off to every performer, either individually or in the House Shout, during the Music Festival. It was wonderful to see all pupils perform again in the singing competition after not being able to last year. Clare House won the title of House Music Champions this year whilst Stafford House were victorious in the House Shout!



1st Form Residential

Our new 1st Form travelled to Brathay near Ambleside at the start of the academic year for three days of adventure and fun on the 1st Form Residential. They spent the time challenging themselves and supporting their peers whilst getting to know each other and their form tutors. They reflected on what it means to be part of the Austin Friars community and how our core values of Unitas, Veritas and Caritas can play a big part in their daily lives. The weather was fantastic; the pupils were a credit to themselves, their parents and the School.



ANCIENT EGYPT

Transition participated in an Egyptian workshop at Tullie House where they were able to handle artefacts from the ancient Egyptian era, dress up as an ancient Egyptian and act out the mummification life after death ceremony.



Diwali

Kindergarten and Pre-School had lots of hands-on activities learning about Diwali, the Hindu festival of light.

Between the classes, the pupils made Rangoli patterns, sculpted Diva lamps out of clay and painted them, created firework paintings and wrote poems about fireworks. There was also a delicious Indian food-tasting, including some coconut barfi which the pupils had made.



Nativity

The Infant classes accomplished 2 fabulous performances of their Nativity in December in the School Chapel. It was a wonderful re-telling of the Christmas story and there was some excellent singing to go with it. We were very proud of them.



Children in Need

The Junior School raised £242 and had lots of fun dressing up for Children in Need. Some of the costumes were out of this world and it was all for a good cause.



GREASE

Each and every single member of the cast and crew of the Senior School musical, Grease, did an amazing job in December getting show-ready and creating a fantastic production. For 3 nights, parents, friends and other pupils were blown away with the very hard work that had clearly gone into all the rehearsals and performances; it was a fantastic way to round off a busy term.





“ The school’s drive to encourage and develop mental toughness and resilience ”



ADVENTURE LEARNING RESIDENTIAL

As part of the expansion and improvement of Adventure Learning activities at school, an Adventure Learning Residential was held for pupils in 2nd Form and 4th Form in October at Patterdale Hall Outdoor Education Centre in the Ullswater valley.

The 2nd Form pupils’ activities intended to promote the school’s drive to encourage and develop mental toughness and resilience.

The 4th Form adventurers’ course focused on the development of leadership skills. Both achieved these aims through various activities including a mountain day, canoeing, gorge walking and climbing and it was an enjoyable and successful trip!

PANDORA’S BOXES

This year, Junior 3 studied Greek mythology in some of their Classics lessons and all felt that the world had a bad deal when Pandora opened her box of terrors. So, they each created their own box of thoughtful hopes and wishes to release instead to balance this out and made some really thoughtful choices.



Lent Term

Chinese New Year

Across the School, there were lots of celebrations for the Chinese New Year. In the Infants, Transition sampled some Chinese food, made tiger masks, wrote their names, practised using chopsticks, listened to Chinese pop music and made red lanterns decorated with yellow stars to represent the Chinese flag! The pupils also had a guest Zoom presentation from some of our Chinese pupils in VI Form. Kindergarten and Pre-School made Chinese fans, created dragon and tiger pictures and Pre-School did some dragon dancing too before ending the week with a big Chinese tasting banquet!



Beamish

Pupils in Junior 4 enjoyed their trip to Beamish in the Lent Term, despite experiencing first-hand a strict Victorian school lesson to learn the 3 Rs! The pupils got to view all the exhibits, ride the tram and talk to all the characters to find out what life was really like back then!



Senior House Cross Country

We had a great afternoon of weather for our Senior House Cross Country in February. No rain, and just cold enough to be challenging! There was some great House spirit on show as the pupils ran their courses around the school site, earning valuable points for their House, followed by hot chocolate and flapjacks, to re-fuel and warm up!



World Book Day

Our 'curl up with a book' theme for World Book Day in March led to lots of cosy scenes in both the Junior and Senior Schools; from roaring fire backdrops during silent reading, to comfy clothes and hot chocolate during shared reading between Junior 4 and the Infants. It was a day to celebrate all the joys reading can bring!



WALBY FARM PARK

Kindergarten had a wonderful day at Walby Farm Park where they saw some lambs being born! Farmer Nick showed the pupils all the other animals and they got to groom the pony, collect some eggs, feed the guinea pigs and have a ferret race! Everyone also enjoyed playing in the soft play and castle areas. A fabulous day and lots of fun had by all!



Malham Cove

The 3rd Form travelled to Malham Cove and White Scar caves to see the limestone features that they had been studying in their Geography lessons. The caves were 'dripping' with stalactites and stalagmites and dramatic flowstones and pupils heard from the guides stories of their discovery and formation. After lunch they continued to Malham Cove which was created at the end of the last ice age and enjoyed a superb view down the valley from the Limestone Pavement on top of the cove.

PTA Detectors

In the Lent Tern, pupils from Archaeology Club were able to take their new metal detectors out on their maiden voyage after a very generous funding grant from our PTA. Although the finds so far have been relatively modern it has been, nonetheless, exciting to locate and excavate items...all good practice for the future 'big discoveries'!





Hockey Dinner

On the day our Seniors played their House Hockey competition back in March, it was a joy to be able to host the first Hockey Dinner in three years later that evening with a delicious dinner, speeches, awards and a look back at the season. The refectories were unrecognisable, and the pupils all enjoyed the celebration.



SUMMER TERM



Chess Off!

There was an inaugural meeting of minds in the Summer Term when members of the Senior School Chess Club visited the Junior School to pit their skills against members of the Junior School Chess Club. Pupils from Junior 1, all the way up to VI Form, shared their love of the game with some great wins from each side in a fun afternoon.



Stocks Wood

There was an action-packed day of forest school activities for Kindergarten and Transition at Stocks Wood in the Summer. With pond dipping, a woodland walk, lighting a fire and toasting marshmallows, it was a great outdoor adventure for everyone!



Junior House Music Festival

Our Junior School pupils all did a wonderful job of representing their Houses at their Music Festival. There were lots of individual entries from pupils of all ages, some of whom had not been learning their instrument very long at all. At the House Singing Competition, which concluded the day in Chapel, all three Houses sang 'Consider Yourself' from the Musical, 'Oliver'. Aidan House were crowned winners of the Singing Competition, and Bede were announced as overall winners of the Festival.



Cool Creatures

Kindergarten, Transition and Preparatory had an exciting visit from Claire's Cool Creatures. The animal encounter involved a royal python called King Julian, an Australia green tree frog, a tortoise, a millipede, a chicken, a leopard-spotted gecko, a Guinea pig, a skinny pig, an African land snail, a hissing cockroach, and a hedgehog! The pupils had the opportunity to handle the animals, learn about creatures and ask many questions.



Glenridding

The 2nd Form had beautiful weather for their Geography field trip to Glenridding. They were focusing on how tourism has influenced the local area and finding out how the river changed from the source to the mouth. Pupils particularly enjoyed measuring the river width, depth, bedload and the velocity - which involved going into the water!



Senior School Sports Day

Clare House took the overall win at an eventful Senior School Sports Day this year. There was some fierce competition and lots of friendly inter-house rivalry to make for a great atmosphere where everyone supported and cheered for each other in our usual Friars way! Well done to all pupils who represented their House.



Jubilee Celebration

To celebrate Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee, the Junior School had a special day of celebrations just before the May half-term. Pupils dressed in red, white and blue, and spent time doing crafts and quizzes in their classes across the morning. After lunch, they gathered to sing together in the playground for visiting parents before heading to the Astro for a range of royalty-themed races, including a hobby horse and crown race. Once they had expended enough energy, it was back to the playground to partake in a delicious afternoon tea. A fabulously fitting way to round off a busy half-term and get in the spirit for more Jubilee celebrations over the Bank Holiday weekend!



Eskdale

Our L6th students headed to Eskdale Valley in June as part of their Prefect Training and threw themselves into the challenges of ghyll scrambling and paddle boarding, showing great team spirit and leadership skills which will help them in their roles of responsibility next year.



Sponsored Walk

There was an incredible effort from our Junior 4 in May when they completed a sponsored walk around Place Fell, near Patterdale, to raise money for Jigsaw, Cumbria's Children's hospice. Their 7.5-mile circular loop raised a total of £2,227.05 which would be enough to pay for one whole day of services (and then some!) at Jigsaw. We were thrilled to be able to present the total amount to the Hospice and hear about how it will be used to help the children accessing their service.



Lower School Ball

Pupils in 1st - 3rd Form enjoyed their first Lower School Ball in June. There was dinner and games, followed by music and dancing. It was a great way to blow off some steam after internal exam week!



Summer Recital

On the evening before Speech Day in May, we held a Summer Recital in the Chapel and were treated to an evening of our pupils' musical endeavours from the year. There were ensembles, instrumentalists, singers and choir pieces all performed to a captivated audience of family and friends. It was a very special evening indeed.



Speech Day

Professional violinist and former Britain's Got Talent finalist, Victoria Lyon was the guest speaker at our Speech Day this year and pupils, parents and staff were treated to two mesmerising performances, with Victoria playing both her electric and acoustic violins at the event. For the first time, the annual prize-giving ceremony was held in the School's chapel and awards were presented to Senior School pupils for academic excellence across a wide range of subjects, as well as achievements in sport, music and drama, and special awards for diligence, endeavour, House spirit and for embracing the School's Augustinian values. Victoria spoke to the students about her own experiences and the excitement of working within the music industry and encouraged them to persevere in working hard to fulfil their potential, in whichever profession they chose to pursue.



Junior School Prizegiving

At the Junior School Prizegiving on the last day of the year there were Form, Effort and Progress prizes presented for every year group, as well as individual awards for all Junior 4 pupils. The Head Boy and Head Girl, and their deputies, made a fabulous speech looking back at their time in the Junior School and honouring their classmates. The new School Captains for next year were announced and Junior 4 treated us to a Mary Poppins medley following their stand-out production the week before. It was a lovely final morning in Chapel before the summer holidays!



Duke of Edinburgh Awards

There was some remarkable resilience, teamwork and map-reading skills shown from our Bronze, Silver and Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award students this year over their practice and qualifying expeditions. In various weather conditions, they enjoyed stunning scenery, sunsets and sunrises and great camaraderie as they trekked through the Lake District National Park and set up camp. At times dealing with sunburn, blisters and heavy backpacks, we are sure that they all took away some great memories (and not just blisters!) from the wonderful outdoors that is right on our doorstep.



Pirates and St Bees

Transition and Preparatory had a wonderful time and some lovely weather on their trip to The Beacon Museum in Whitehaven and St Bees Beach. At the museum, the children explored the pirate themed activities, and they were very creative in making sandcastles on the beach – although there was more than one pair of wet feet as they collected water for the moats! It was great to get out of the classroom, into the sunshine and fresh air, and extend their learning outdoors.



Tri-kidz Triathlon Taster

Despite the mini heatwave, our Junior School pupils did incredibly well in their TriKidz sessions, where they learned about Triathlons and got to experience moving from discipline to discipline, giving it their all to collectively complete the Lakesman Triathlon distances!



Mary Poppins

The Junior School put on two 'Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious' performances of 'Mary Poppins' just before the end of the year, with every single pupil from Junior 1 to Junior 4 treading the boards. Remarkably, there was even two different casts with each performance was 'Practically Perfect'. A huge well done to all the pupils, and a big thank you to Mrs Bedford, for all their hard work in putting on such a great show of our pupils' talents!



Formula 24

Our Engineering Club saw the culmination of a year-long project, which placed them on the podium at the IET Formula 24 Greenpower Electric kit-car Race at Croft Circuit near Darlington at the end of June. In their after-school club, pupils had been designing and making an electric Formula 24 racing car to take part in the North-East Greenpower racing event and after an eventful practice lap that broke the car's motor, the team quickly climbed the leader board, race after race, to end up finishing 3rd on the podium! An amazing achievement.



JUNIOR SCHOOL SPORTS DAY

After having to postpone TWICE due to rain, we were thrilled that the sun eventually graced us with its presence for our Junior School Sports Day and that the pupils got the chance to represent their Houses after all their hard work practising their events. It was a lovely morning and the pupils all tried really hard to earn valuable points for their House.



FUN AM

On the last morning of the school year, pupils in the Senior School took part in 'Fun AM', a multi-event House team challenge. House teams, consisting of pupils from mixed year groups, competed in various activities including a team-building water challenge, a communication-based blindfold challenge, a creative task, a quiz and a low-ropes session. It was a great way to spend their last few hours in school after a very busy year!



Prague

In the last week of term, three of our 4th Form pupils took part in an event that is the first of its kind: a coming together of European Augustinian Schools in Prague to renew old connections with our exchange schools, and forge new friendships with other Augustinian Schools. The pupils experienced walking tours, ice-breaking activities, reflections about our school, cultural activities such as lace-making and Slavic dancing, and even a mini 'Augustinian Olympics'! It was such an enriching opportunity and was wonderful to meet with other pupils and teachers from our international network of Augustinian Schools.



JUNIOR SCHOOL HOUSE REPORTS

AIDAN HOUSE

First and foremost, I would like to thank Isabella Stockdale, Hugo Pennington and Alistair Hetherington for their efforts and dedication in leading Aidan House this year. All three House captains were supportive and committed to their role, along with the other members of the House in their Junior 4 roles of responsibilities.

The first main House event of the year was the House Athletics Competition. This year the focus of the competition was on the 'live maths' element of the website. The children worked hard and, once again, Aidan demonstrated strong teamwork to come out as the overall winners of the competition. Alistair Hetherington was 1st and Isabella Giddins was 3rd in the Junior competition. George Waning was 3rd place in the Infant competition.



In December, we had our House Hockey and Rugby matches and Aidan gained a win in the U9 Hockey.



Our House Music Festival was back with a bang in March! The House song this year was 'Consider Yourself' from Oliver. With the help of Evan Bailey-Tupper singing some solo lines as 'Oliver', Aidan House were victorious once again in winning the House Song cup. There were many wonderful performances from Aidan children across the school – many stepping out of their comfort zones to perform in front of others. In the infants this included Olivia Jenkins, Spencer Sowerby, Evelyn Laidlaw, Phoebe Bull, Ruby Cundall and Aurora Cavalier d'Esclavelles (who sung in French!). From the Juniors we thank Isaac Stockdale, Lucas Tod, Isabella Giddins, Oli Sowerby, Evan Bailey-Tupper, April Thompson, Nicholas Laidlaw, Liberty Bull, Hugo Pennington, Toby Irving, Adam Stevens, Poppy Bull, Caleb Wilson, Helen Allison, and Keira McCartney for their great efforts.



March also saw the return of the Carlisle and District Music and Drama Festival. Some of the Aidan pupils who came back with a 1st place in the festival include George Waning, Ingrid Nedelea, Liberty Bull, Isabella Walby, Hugo Pennington, Poppy Bull and Toby Irving.

The U9 and U11 House Cricket and Rounders competitions took place in June. Aidan House were the overall winners in both U9 and U11 Cricket.

All pupils put great effort into their races at Sports Day with some really impressive results. Some of the Aidan pupils with a win on Sports Day included Olivia Jenkins, Spencer Sowerby, Oscar Hutchinson, Ingrid Nedelea, Isabella Giddins, Liberty Bull, James Jenkins, Poppy Bull and Isabella Stockdale, as well as many more gaining 2nds and 3rds, all of which added up and helped Aidan to become the winners of the Sports Day Trophy once again!!



During Junior Prizegiving on the last day of term, it was announced that the winners of the House point trophy for the year was a joint result for the first time ever, with both Aidan and Bede sharing the win. Well done to all the pupils in Aidan and Bede.

Miss Simpson



BEDE HOUSE

Life in Bede House has been particularly busy this year and we have enjoyed participating in far more events than the previous two years, whilst proudly led by our House Captains Emilia, Isla and Olly.

We all know that Bede House love a challenge and are regularly seen as the underdog when it comes to competition. However, this year our enthusiasm, determination and team spirit have led us to a great number of victories across the School.

On the hockey pitch, the J3 and J4 girls triumphed, thanks to their effective use of space and careful passing, with Emilia and Luisa claiming players of the match. Meanwhile over on the rugby field, the boys were not to be beaten with both the U9s and the U11s confidently claiming the win.

Later in the year as the weather tried to improve, we moved onto the netball court where the U11 girls fought hard and, despite Holly's performance as goalkeeper and Isla's great skills, we were sadly pipped at the post. In true Bede House spirit, the U9 girls fought back and between them they scored the most goals throughout the competition.

In the Summer Term the boys did us proud on the cricket field as the J3 and J4 boys took the well-deserved top spot to end the year on a high, demonstrating both their impressive skills and collaboration on the sports field. Not to be outdone, the U9 girls also took the win on the rounders pitch, whilst demonstrating some excellent batting and fielding skills!

Back in the classroom and the children of Bede House are keen to remind us that the sports field is not the only place they can thrive, as the blue ribbon has been elegantly wrapped around the House trophy throughout the summer term. This sits very proudly beside the winning shield for the overall participation in this year's House Music Festival! A successful year all round!

Finally, I would like to say an enormous thank you to the pupils in Bede for all that you bring to our House. I wish our Junior 4s the best of luck, they will be greatly missed, and we wish them well for the future. Thank you for being excellent role models throughout this year!

Miss Donoghue



CUTHBERT HOUSE



This academic year began with the announcement that Ben, Hugo, and Keira would be our House Captains. They have been great role models and have always been supportive and enthusiastic to their 'House mates'.

Out on the sports field we have had some great successes, particularly in the girls' events across the Juniors, where Cuthbert achieved 2nd place in both the J1/2 and J3/4 categories for House Rounders. More recently, the Junior boys have been focusing on Cricket and the J1/2 boys were awarded 2nd place which was an excellent effort.

In the classroom, Cuthbert pupils have also been working hard on their Maths skills and managed to achieve 2nd place in the November Athletics challenge, with an average score of 673 points per pupil. A special mention goes to Henry Webley in J4 as he was one of the school's top scorers!



Cuthbert also had great success in their recent LAMDA examinations with all J3 and J4 children who took part receiving merits and distinctions in their awards.

The House Music competition was a fierce one this year and all the children put on superb performances. Cuthbert gave a fantastic performance in the singing competition and should be very proud. Despite not being crowned the overall winners, we were given brilliant feedback and told that we were the House that produced the best sound! You could tell that Cuthbert thoroughly enjoyed the experience as we smiled all the way through our performance.

Cuthbert started off the Sports Day competition in style and were joint first in the field events.



Our pupils were very enthusiastic in their races and were sure to give each other lots of encouragement. It was fantastic to see the children having so much fun and showing such determination in their races.

Finally, some thanks are due to our House Captains. To Keira, who has always taken the little ones under her wing and shown great qualities as a leader. To Hugo, for always giving everything he has in sporting events and showing his passion and House spirit positively with his teammates. And to Ben, for being a natural leader and always thinking tactically!

Miss Boyd



SENIOR SCHOOL HOUSE REPORTS



CLARE HOUSE

It has been a hugely successful year for the members of Clare House and we welcomed Mr Jardine, who has joined our team of amazing Clare staff.

The House Music Festival, in the first half of the Michaelmas term, is always a standout event of the academic year, and this year was no exception. Five of our pupils achieved a win in their category: James from 1st Form, Nathaniel from 3rd Form, Amy and Alexa from 4th Form and Georgia from L6th. A huge number of Clare pupils took part this year in the individual events and thanks to all their hard work, Clare won the Music Festival overall for the second year running. Unfortunately, our House Shout performance did not quite bring us the win this year but plans by next year's U6th are already afoot to ensure our long-awaited success in this part of the Music Festival!

At the end of the Michaelmas term, it was also fantastic to see a large number of Clare pupils taking part in the Senior School production of 'Grease'. We had Georgia and Arabella taking major roles and I know that lots of hard work went into the supporting dancing roles, having had my own pre-show performance given by the members of 1st Form Clare! It was a fantastic performance by all involved.



Outside of sports, Clare House also performed exceptionally well academically. Clare House pupils have worked extremely hard on their studies over the course of the academic year, with several of our students picking up academic awards at Speech Day. The high level of effort Clare members consistently put into their work was rewarded this year with us winning the merits and credits trophy, a symbol of our persistence and determination to do well in all aspects of school life.



Over the course of the year, we have participated in several Inter-House sports where all of Clare House have tried their best, whether we were competing at Rugby, Basketball, Hockey, Netball, Rounders, Cricket or Tennis. I have been so proud of their enthusiasm and determination to win. The House Captains, Archie and Abbey, have been fantastic in their roles, supporting the teams regardless of whether the games were played during the week or on Saturday mornings. Abbey particularly demonstrated great House spirit, supplying all the Clare participants with sweet treats!

We had some fantastic performances by individual pupils in the House Cross Country with Evie and Bella taking 1st and 3rd place respectively for the Junior Girls, and Rudy taking 3rd place in the Junior Boys' race. In the Intermediates, Imogen took 2nd place in the girls' race, with George and Kyle taking 1st and 2nd place respectively for the boys. The successes kept coming in the Senior races with Beri taking 1st place for the girls, and Kai and Ben taking 1st and 2nd places in the boys. A fantastic performance!

On Sports Day, all Clare pupils, without exception, contributed to the day and we out-performed the other Houses to win the overall trophy. I was delighted to see the House spirit demonstrated by Clare over the course of the afternoon; in any event where we were short of representatives, there were always other pupils ready to step into the breach. We cheered each other on, whether we were coming first in an event or last. In their last appearance as House Captains, Abbey and Archie led the House fantastically, motivating everyone with their enthusiasm.

I would just like to end with a massive thank you to my fabulous team of Tutors and to all the members of Clare House. Without your effort, determination and input, the House would not be what it is. A fantastic year for Clare - very well done!

Mrs Evans





LINCOLN HOUSE



What a privilege it has been to witness Lincoln House in full force this year and flourish in every aspect during House events. We started off the year 'Livin' on a Prayer' in the House Shout and some lyrics seemed very fitting: "Hold on to what we've got/ it doesn't make a difference if we make it or not/we've got each other and that's a lot for love/ We'll give it a shot."

Despite our best efforts singing the chorus of Living on a Prayer with all our might, and our hearty attempt at Magne Pater Augstine, we unfortunately, did not win but Lincoln certainly did "give it a shot!". I must commend 1st Form with their rendition of Wake Waka and their confidence to jump right into the musical festivities. 11L not only sang, but danced to Mamma Mia which was a great performance, and 12L and 13L joined together to perform Chasing Cars. I must also make a special mention to a few individuals from Lincoln who won in their categories: Emily Storr (Piano), Dillon Nixon (Trumpet), Freya McCall and Anastasia Palmer (singing ensemble) and Olivia Beckett (cornet). A special thank you goes to Olivia who also helped coordinate our House Song.



In our sporting events, the Senior girls won the House Hockey and Netball and our Junior girls won the Hockey and Rounders, as well as coming joint-first in Cricket. A superb hat trick!

The boys have also had a stellar year. In the intermediate House competitions, Lincoln won in Basketball, Rugby, Hockey and Cricket! As if that was not enough, Lincoln also went on to win the intermediate House Tennis Tournament - well done to Kate Irving and Oliver Spedding for being top scorers for Lincoln, as well as Ben Coulthard, Jess Riddick, Sam Routledge and Beth Baikie who helped us achieve the victory.

We had some great results in House Cross Country. In the Juniors, Laura Shannon and Quentin Shaw-Larkman came 2nd. In the Intermediate race, Kate Irving came in 1st, and in the Senior heat, Melissa McIntosh finished 2nd and Anastasia Palmer was 3rd. We also had the highest participation rate at 94%, demonstrating fantastic House Spirit. Every single member of Lincoln House matters... "We've got each other...".

Lincoln took the win in many Sports Day events to finish 2nd overall. Oscar Davidson, Joe Coulthard, Nina Brady, Hattie Spedding, Olivia Palmer, Henry Sayer, Oliver Spedding, Josh Hope, Freya McCall, Anastasia Stone, Lily Shannon, Millie Reay and Anastasia Palmer all came first in their events. A special mention must also go to Kate Irving who won three events and set a new school record in Shot!

As for our Caritas, 12L created an 'Escape Room' for the younger years to raise money for Carlisle Food Bank. And House Captain Alex Briggs took the initiative to organise a fundraising cake sale in aid of Ukraine as a joint venture with Stafford and Clare House. I must personally thank Anastasia Stone and Alex Briggs for their efforts this year. They have been exemplary House Captains, and the whole of 13L will be greatly missed. I wish you every success in your future endeavours.

Some may say our new Lion mascot has been our lucky charm, but from the side lines, it would appear that fantastic teamwork, encouragement, sporting/musical skill and a generous sprinkle of Lincoln House Spirit went a long way. Congratulations to every member of Lincoln House - we just need to "hold on to what we've got!".

Miss Beattie





STAFFORD HOUSE

This year has been happy and successful for Stafford House and there have been many star moments! Oscar Roberts and Celeste Clark-Maxwell were active and well-organised House Captains, and we were delighted that George Skeer was chosen to be School Captain.

We always take the House Singing Competition very seriously in Stafford and worked hard to give our best performance of the rejuvenated school song Magne Pater Augustine and of Counting Stars. Our endeavour paid off and, with lots of input from Miss Turner and excellent conducting by Finn Evans, we won for the third time in a row!!

In the Michaelmas Term, we enjoyed our first House Boys' Basketball Competition, with the Juniors winning and the Intermediates gaining second place. More success followed with the Junior House Rugby team winning their competition and the Junior House Hockey team achieving second place.

The school production of 'Grease' was a fantastic success in December and many Stafford pupils played their part on and off stage. Oscar Roberts was a super cool Keneckie, Josh Pasa acted a great goofy Eugene, Finn Evans (Sonny) and Lucy Ulyart (Cha Cha DiGregorio) were a joy to watch too. Lucy was also a key choreographer. There were many Stafford dancers and angels, and Evie Stobart was the radio singer! Well done to Oliver Mounsey who oversees the props.



Lent Term brings the House Cross Country and this year we were the overall winners! Freddie Turnbull won the Junior Boys' Competition, Alice Roberts and Dylan Simpson came third in the Intermediate Competitions and George Skeer crossed the line third for the Seniors. Congratulations to the Senior Boys and Intermediate Girls who both won their competitions.

We have some excellent Netball players and both the Juniors, and the Intermediates, won their competitions with the Seniors playing well in close matches to gain second place. Our Girls' Hockey Competitions were more challenging, but the Senior Boys triumphed in theirs!

There were lots of star performances at Sports Day too! For the Junior Boys, Jacky Xie won the 400m race and Discus, Bertie Glaister the 800m race and Shot and Freddie Turnbull the Mini Marathon and Javelin. A win for the Junior Boys overall! For the Junior Girls, India McCartney won the High Jump. For the Intermediate Boys, Rauri McGauchie won the Shot and for the Intermediate Girls, Alice Roberts won the 100m. In the Senior competition, Robbie Tiffen won the 200m, Ben Tiffen the 400m, Oscar Roberts the Shot and Harry Hurren the High Jump. In the Senior Girls competition, Beth Britton and Molly Skeer came first in the 100m and 200m races respectively, Myesha Pearson won the Shot and Emma Wilson, the High Jump.

A series of sporting events concluded the school year with Stafford winning both the Senior and Junior Cricket. The girls enjoyed their Rounders and Pairs Cricket, with the Inters winning both tournaments and the Juniors were joint first of their Pairs Cricket competition. Many congratulations to Claire Sweeney who has been selected to play for the Under 18 Cumbria Cricket Team.

On the last day of term, we all enjoyed getting to know each other better in mixed-aged teams, competing in a range of activities during FUN AM! Which House showed most House spirit and won overall? Stafford, of course!

This year we said goodbye to Mr Judge from Stafford. He was a true asset to our House. Mr Thornton spent seventeen of his eighteen years in Stafford, mostly as a highly respected VI Form tutor. He was a constant presence at lunchtimes in the ref and had a great rapport with all pupils. We wish him a healthy and happy retirement.

I would like to thank all the Stafford Tutor Team but above all, a big thank you to all pupils in Stafford House. Your talents and spirit make our House the great one it is. So, Stafford - next school year let's work hard and dream about the things we can be! There is no doubt we will be counting stars! Go Stafford!

Mrs Boyling



JUNIOR SPORT REPORT



Hockey

Our U9 girls played well when we hosted Hunter Hall for a hockey match. It was very close, and all the players improved as the game went on. The star of the show was Francesca who scored all 4 goals for Friars. Hunter Hall scored 5 so we were just pipped to the post.

In October, our U11s travelled to Penrith Leisure Centre to meet Hunter Hall for a mini-Hockey festival. The teams were mixed so that players were able to play continuously and play with, as well as against, pupils from Hunter Hall. Four teams were created, and all teams played each other in 10 minute matches. This created a sporting and friendly atmosphere, though still competitive, with one team finishing undefeated which included Isabella S and Emilia M.

Netball

When our U11A and U11B Netball teams played Hunter Hall, the A match was very close with Friars taking the win, 7-5. There were some great tips and interceptions made by Emilia and Isabella S and Maisie in defence. Isla, Keira Mc, Isabella W and Luisa worked the ball well through the mid-court to our shooters. Poppy was shooting confidently. Maisie was coach's player of the match. Although the U11B team lost their match, there was some great play and determination from the whole team. Edie and Kittie-Mae, who were both coach's player of the match, were excellent in defence. They made interceptions and stopped goals being scored, as well as feeding the ball up court to Isla G, Helen, Holly and Alexa-Rose who were able to feed into our shooters of Ceriyn and Kiera N.

Football

Our U11 Football team were crowned Champions at the Cumbria Small Schools Football Tournament held at Harraby Sports Campus. The team began confidently in their group stages winning all 3 matches to earn themselves a place in the quarter finals. Another convincing win here put the team into the semi-finals where they played St Matthews School from Westnewton. A dominant first half saw the boys 3-0 ahead and a further goal was added in the second half to complete a 4-0 win and earn us a place in the final against Warwick Bridge. Playing with a strong wind at our backs, Friars held a slender 1-0 lead going into the break. Despite our opponents coming back into the game, we managed to score another goal towards the end of time to complete a 2-0 win and claim the trophy. To win the trophy, win all 6 matches and never concede a goal is a great achievement!



Rugby

The U9 team got their season under way with a friendly against Hunter Hall. It was the first game for the majority of the boys and they all played extremely well, both in defence and attack. Our two Junior 1 boys stepped up very well and were comfortable playing against older opposition.

Our Under 11 team have travelled far and wide this season. Their first fixture was the Mowden Hall Rugby Festival. This was the first fixture for a long time for these boys and they performed

exceptionally well. It showed there were certainly areas for the team to work on, but it was a great start to the season. At Giggleswick's mini-Rugby Festival, the boys won all 5 of their matches including an 8-0 win against Stonyhurst's B team! The team were undefeated again at Sedbergh's annual Rugby Festival taking the win against Sedbergh (twice!), Scarisbrick Hall and Hunter Hall whilst holding Kirkham School to a 2-2 draw.

They were equally successful in their 7s season which started at Durham Choristers School with the annual Stephenson's 7s Festival. This was an excellent day for the boys, winning 4 out of 5 matches, and one in which they will have learnt a great deal. At the final presentation Matthew C was voted one of the players of the festival and was presented with a match ball! At Giggleswick's Christmas 7s event, the team stepped up to win all 5 of their matches again. At the Newcastle School for Boys 7s, the team produced some exceptional Rugby against some very strong opposition. They won their first four games beating Kings Priory 5-3, Dame Allans 4-3, Newcastle Prep School 8-1 and then NSB 6-2. The next game saw a narrow 3-2 defeat to RGS but the boys bounced back to win their final match, 5-3 against Durham Choristers meaning they finished 2nd overall but, perhaps more importantly, they were awarded the Sportsmanship Award at the end of the festival. The boys then rounded off their season by winning 6 out of their 7 matches at Mowden 7s Festival. It was a very impressive season from all the boys.





Cross Country

On a glorious sunny day, teams from Transition, Preparatory and Junior 1 took part in a Cross-Country competition at Mowden Hall School where all of our runners did outstandingly well. The vast majority finished comfortably in the top half of their races, and several had top ten finishes.

Our U9 and U11 teams travelled to Casterton to enter the annual Sedbergh Prep Invitational Cross Country event. First home in the U9 girls' races was Liberty who ran extremely well to finish 4th and the team finished in 5th place overall. Thomas was the first of our boys to finish in their U9 race and the team finished in 11th place overall. In the U11 girls' race, Ceriyn was our highest finisher in 14th place. James was first home for Friars in the U11 boys' race and the team finished in 6th place overall. James repeated this success at The Rawthey Run held at Sedbergh School and some strong other results meant the boys' team here also finished in 6th place, as did the girls team with Isabella S coming home first in 11th position. Isabella repeated this success at the Catteral Hall Cross Country event held at Giggleswick School by finishing in 10th place and our girls finished in an excellent 5th place out of the 19 competing schools. Hugo P ran a strong race in the boys' event to finish 24th, with the other boys all putting in extremely determined efforts to place a very pleasing 8th overall out of the 20 schools competing.



Cricket

Our U11 Boys are County Champions! Our U11 team were crowned County Champions at the annual competition held at Sedbergh. The team went into the competition full of confidence and this was fully justified as the boys produced exceptional cricket throughout the day winning all their matches, including the key victory over Sedbergh by 18 runs. A massive well done to all the team, who trained really hard, on winning this trophy for the 1st time!



Gymnastics

Our J4 team competed in Key Steps 3. The team of Maisie Awde, Luisa Bandoni, Keira Nixon, Poppy Bull and Isla Love managed to finish in 2nd place - our highest ever result at Key Steps. In Step one the girls finished in 3rd place and in Step two they finished in 8th.

The U11 and U9 teams were also in action at the County Novice Competition at Carlisle Gymnastics Club in April. This was the first time we had U9s performing in this competition. Both teams medalled with the U11s just missing out on Gold behind Stanwix and the U9s claiming a well-deserved Bronze in their age group.

The English Schools Novice Acrobatic Pairs in Stoke concluded the gymnastics competitive season, with the U11 team consisting of Maisie Awde, Luisa Bandoni, Alexa-Rose Jackson and Annabelle Harrison. The girls learned a lot from the experience competing in front of commonwealth and international level judges and finished a respectable 15th place.





SENIOR SCHOOL GIRLS' SPORT REPORT

Hockey

This season, 96.3% of girls represented the School in Hockey - from U12 through to 1st XI with 57.8% playing at Northwest level or higher, 50% of the girls played for local clubs and we had the most individual players ever at the England Hockey Performance Centre. We continued to have 4th Form players in the 1st XI and Junior 4 players experiencing U12 competitive fixtures on a Saturday for the first time. The U13s, U15s and U19s entered the Smile Independent Schools Cup for the very first time where both the U13s and U19s got to the final 8 of the Plate.

1st XI

The 1st XI enjoyed the most successful season in the history of Austin Friars.

The season started at the Invitational Pre-Season tournament in Rugby and Friars took the largest squad yet. The first game was against Rugby School and it could easily be described as one of the best displays of Friars hockey seen. The girls took the win, 1-0, with an impressive goal from Beri aided by Tess, in her first competitive game in goal, who made a vital save at 12 minutes to keep us in the lead.

The girls finished 3rd in their group and managed a very fatigued win against Ipswich in the play-offs to finish 5th overall.



The least said about the first fixture of the calendar, against Barnard Castle, the better, but it was pivotal in terms of a learning curve for the team.

An early highlight of the season was against local rivals Sedbergh where an end-of-game goal from Beri to tie the score, 1-1, meant cheers from the sidelines could be heard echoing around the school grounds.

As the fixture programme continued there were some impressive wins over Giggleswick, Stonyhurst, Dame Allans

and Rossall, with a couple of losses to Barnard Castle and Kirkham.

The experience of these early fixtures meant that the team won the County T4 competition comfortably to progress to represent Cumbria in the North Championships, which they also won by beating Merchant Taylors, and King William College. This victory meant Friars finally had a team who made a National Final for the first time in the school's history!



The National Final was played at Nottingham Hockey centre and our first group game against Notting Hill and Ealing got off to a shaky start, but the girls held them to a 0-0 draw. Next, they played the overall gold medallist team, Bromley High. This was a very physical game, but the girls showed true grit. A following win against Worksop placed the team in the 5/6th place play off against Oxford which they won, after a comeback goal from Abigail, to finish 5th overall. This was a fantastic achievement considering it was the team's first experience at that level against some much larger schools.

The girls also made history in the U19 ISI Plate. After making the quarter finals, the team were knocked out, 2-1, by eventual winners, RGS. They were highly complimentary about our play and their coach even mentioned that it was the best he had ever seen a Friars side play against them.

Indoor Hockey is now a permanent addition to the girl's fixture calendar, as the different playing style means learning a whole new set of skills for our players. Tess showed how receptive she has been to coaching during the indoor training sessions and Anastasia P particularly excelled at this style of play. The North of England round of the Indoor Competition was held at Rossall School. With many National Finalists in our group, it was perhaps not too disheartening to lose all but one of our group games, as the girls left the tournament having learnt a lot about the game and about their fitness levels! It is hoped that next season, the new Indoor sticks kindly provided by the PTA will improve on our performance.



We concluded the Senior Season with our 7s fixtures. At our own Austin Friars competition, our first game against Nelson Thomlinson was a surprising 1-1 draw, however, we managed to rectify this in our other group games, meaning we topped the group and made the Cup Final for the first time in the tournament's history where we faced Kirkham. At this point, fatigue had well and truly taken hold of most players and we ended up runners-up.

Despite not making it out of the group stages at the last tournament of the season – the Glasgow 7s, the U6th nevertheless enjoyed their final competitive experience in a Friars shirt.

2nd XI

The 2nd XI, coached by Mr Bradbury, have enjoyed an extensive fixture programme this season and, despite not getting a win, many of the results do not reflect the standard, enthusiasm and commitment they have shown on the pitch each Saturday. They have had some close games and have shown true resilience, representing the School with passion, determination and true Friars spirit. The 2nd XI has been an integral part of the Senior squad and pushed the 1st team players at times to challenge for positions, improving the strength and depth of Senior Hockey every fixture.

1st XI AWARDS

Colours Awarded to:

Anastasia Stone

Beri Brown

Ruth Atkinson

Abbey Steel

Players' Player: Tess Percival

Most Improved Player: Ruth Atkinson

Player of the Season: Beri Brown

Genius Loci: Emma Wilson

Graham McKendry Award

2021: Anastasia Palmer

2022: Molly Skeer

Coaches' Player: Anastasia Stone



U12-U15

The U12s had a very successful season winning the North County Tournament and beating teams from Rossall, QEGS, Ardvreck, Dame Allan's and, Giggleswick throughout the season. The U12B team played in some competitive matches this season and they finished 3rd in their tournament. Some of the U12s also played 'up' in the U13 ISHC squad, which was fantastic experience for them, playing at that level at such a young age.

The U13s won the North Final and finished 4th in County after drawing with the eventual winners. They had a successful run in the ISHC, beating RGS and Withington Girls to make it through to the last 16 in the Plate against Queen Ethelberghs, which they narrowly lost, 3-1.

The U14s won the North Round of the County Cup, beating Trinity and Caldew. The standard of play in the County Finals was high. We drew, 0-0, against QEGS in our first match and drew 0-0 and lost to Kirkby Stephen to finish joint 3rd. The girls in the U14 team are very keen and love playing Hockey – so much so that sometimes they also played in the U15s team on the same day!

The highlight for the U15s was winning the North Round of the County Tournament and qualifying for the Finals where they finished as runners up. A few of the girls were also invited to attend Senior training and to play for the 2nd XI team.

Ten girls were selected to play for Cumbria this season and many were rewarded for their outstanding play in the end of season County Awards. In the U13 team, Anastasia Williams was awarded the trophy for Players' Player, Olivia Palmer was awarded the trophy for Coaches' Player and Hattie Spedding was awarded a Captain's trophy. In the U18 team, Myesha Pearson received the Coaches' Player trophy and Anastasia Palmer picked up the Most Improved Player award.



Netball

The U12, U13, U14, U15 and U16 are ALL current reigning City Netball Champions!! This is the first time ever that Friars have held all the titles at once. The U12s dominated their tournament scoring over 40 goals and only conceding 1! Both the U14 and U16 teams qualified for the Netball County Finals and were more competitive than they have been before. Six Senior players received their Netball Colours having been the core of the team - never giving up when under pressure and really digging deep when playing some very talented teams. These were Abbey Steel (Captain), Anastasia Stone, Ruth Atkinson, Emma Wilson, Beth Britton (V-C) and Abi Irving. Kate Irving and Claire Sweeny were selected to play for Cumbria.



Gymnastics

Frairs' competitive Gymnastics is still an emerging team and individual sport, but the Senior Gymnasts took part in the U14s County Novice Competition in November and finished with a team Bronze. Imogen Irving made the individual podium, also with a bronze medal.



MIXED SPORT SECTION



Athletics

At the Intermediate and Junior City Championships both girls' teams finished 3rd overall. At the County Championships, George Tiffin-Lowe and Kai Hatcher came 1st and 3rd respectively in the 1500m, and Kate Irving was 3rd in the shot. From this competition Kai and George were selected to represent Cumbria in the 1500m at the Inter-Counties and, following this, George was selected to compete in the English Schools Track and Field Championships.

Seven Year 7 pupils were selected to represent Carlisle after the City Championships. The Year 7 Girls team finished 3rd overall and Joe Coulthard finished 5th in the Discus.



Tennis

The Tennis fixtures were very competitive this year. The U13 Boys played in Division 1 and beat QEGS, 8-4, and Sedbergh Prep, 10-7, after going to a tie-break. The U15 Boys team beat Keswick and Netherhall to then face Ullswater in the Cumbria Final. Jack Baikie (Captain) and Kyle Windle held their nerve to win 10-8 after a very tense tie-break. Both teams will go to Regional Finals next term.

The U13 Girls played in Division 1 and successfully beat QEGS in their first match. They then faced stiff competition from Sedbergh. Although all games were close, we lost the overall match. The U15 girls played Keswick and Trinity and although there was some good tennis played we, unfortunately, lost both matches.

Cross Country

In the Year 7 County Cross Country Championships our boys and girls teams finished 8th and 10th respectively out of 22 teams.

At the City Cross Country Championships, the Year 7 Girls team finished joint 2nd overall. The Junior Girls team came 3rd and both the Intermediate Boys and Girls teams won! George Tiffin-Lowe won the Junior Boys race and Kai Hatcher won the Intermediate Boys race.

16 pupils represented Carlisle in the Cumbria Schools Championships and based on their results Melissa McIntosh, Kai Hatcher and George Tiffin-Lowe went onto represent Cumbria in the Inter-Counties. George and Kai were then selected to run in the English Schools in Kent.



SENIOR SCHOOL HOCKEY AND RUGBY TOUR

The 1st XI Hockey team and 1st XV Rugby team travelled to Northern Ireland on a Sports Tour in October half term. The tour was originally supposed to be to South Africa, then to Portugal but, due to travel restrictions still imposed by COVID-19 we could not travel abroad, and Northern Ireland was chosen - what a destination it proved to be! It was a fantastic opportunity to bond, play new teams and have some fun. Outside of their fixtures, the group enjoyed some surfing (though most spent more time in the sea than up on the board!), Archery and Orienteering at Clearsky Adventure Centre and a sightseeing tour of Belfast and the Northern Ireland coastline. Pupils also had a coached session by former Irish International players where they learnt some new skills and tactics.

The Hockey girls won two out of their three matches against Carrickfergus Grammar and Foyle College. The game against Dalriada was the best of the tour but, unfortunately, the opposition took the game, 1-0, in the final 2 minutes.

The Rugby was a perfect standard and they played Dalriada in the first fixture. Despite a fantastic length of the field try, the team could not quite secure the win. The second game was against Foyle College and it was another incredibly close affair...and this time the team prevailed. The euphoria at the final whistle after a superb rear-guard action showed just how much it meant to the players.



SENIOR SCHOOL BOYS' SPORT REPORT

Rugby

1st XV

This season lived up to the expectation that, despite our small size, we would go toe-to-toe with some of the largest rugby-playing schools in the North of England (and beyond) and not only compete, but win. There is a well-known quote that "Sports do not build character, they reveal it." This season revealed the character of the boys to be something special when faced with both success, and failure.

The first test was in the pre-season game against Liverpool College, which was the day after the VI Form Leavers' Ball for the U6th! After what was surely a full night's sleep for some, a very physical opposition gave the team a scare, but the team eventually secured the win. Unsurprisingly, it was the L6th who were particularly to the fore this match, with Jacob and Jonathan leading the way defensively. A run of tough games followed, leading up to the tour to Northern Ireland, but the U6th showed that the team was packed full of leaders. Through word and deed, Archie and Finn's performance against Durham was a highlight and at Dame Allan's, George nearly inspired the team to victory. After giving Giggleswick a real scare in the National Vase, with Christian proving to be a real handful, the team faced Loretto. The Loretto team were probably the biggest set of boys that have set foot on the Friars pitch but our boys once again demonstrated their absolute refusal



to take a backwards step. Time and again Jack H and Mahdy took the fight to Loretto and no matter how often they were knocked down, got straight back up and demanded the ball. The first post-tour match against Kirkham Grammar was a somewhat fractious affair. Toby and Ben belied the myth that half backs shy away from the rough stuff, and both were a thorn in Kirkham's side all game. Not one Friars player blinked first in the contest, and this was perfectly summed up by Callum's huge tackle late in the game. The Silcoates Tournament was up next, where the team was able to overturn an early season loss to NSB with Oscar landing the winning penalty with an amazing kick from well inside his own half. The next home game was against Sedbergh which the medical staff there dubbed the "massacre" as 4 of their players needed a trip to A&E. It is a measure of the resilience of the "Brown" that despite this setback they fought to the end but could not prevent an excellent Friars win. A new addition to the calendar this year was the Headmaster's Cup on the day of the Rugby Dinner. The Captain's side faced the Headmaster's side and a fantastic afternoon of Rugby preceded a wonderful Rugby Dinner. This was a fitting end to the 15-a-side season and long may this fixture continue.

Revenge is a dish best served cold, but also hot if it is in the final of Friar's 7s tournament against Kirkham! Despite the stakes, the team displayed their usual calmness under pressure to secure the win and lift the trophy for the first time in several years. To a man the squad excelled themselves, where Tom was a threat all afternoon even though he was coming back from injury, Jack M scored tries at crucial times and Josh H scored the try in the final that turned the tide.

The momentum continued onto the prestigious North of England 7s, where the team defeated Shrewsbury and Rydal Penrhos Schools in the group stages and defeated Harrogate Grammar School in the quarter final of the plate competition, losing narrowly in the semi-final to the eventual winners, Kings Worcester. Oscar was outstanding all tournament, scoring long range tries at will and working equally as hard in defence. His captaincy through both word and deed, supported magnificently by Ben, was impressive all season and both will be an incredibly hard act to follow.



U15

It has been a largely successful season for the U15s which concluded in them winning the County Plate. The game against Dame Allan's proved that all the boys possessed bags of determination and when the ball was moved to the wide channels, it invariably led to tries by our speedy backs, in particular Lewis Windle and Henry Sayer.

The team enjoyed early successes in the National Plate competition, defeating Ullswater 44-12, QEGS 35-17 and Trinity 28-22, before bowing out in Round 3. Nevertheless, the County Cup run was a little more straightforward and the team outplayed St Benedicts in the final to win the game comfortably. Man of the match for this game was Matthew Wilson who, probably, made the biggest improvements throughout the entire season.

Oliver Spedding led the team superbly well, demonstrating tactical nous and toughness. Sam Routledge developed nicely as a scrum-half and his decision making improved with every game. Logan Jamieson (3rd Form) is one to watch for the future. Rauri McGauchie proved a real handful for our opponents, and Lewis Gladwin and Charlie Vale Burke used their strength to secure and turn-over ball.

U13

Despite the statistics of 2 wins, 2 draws and 3 losses, a true reflection cannot be shown through mathematics alone. If we talk about character and enjoyment, we won handsomely. Most games were fought until the bitter end with true Friars spirit throughout. Luca, Rory, and Freddie were unafraid to drive the ball forward. Theo, Oliver, Will and George were always on hand to provide the gas with Dillon, Alex, Edward, and Gabriel providing much needed back up. Jonty was in the thick of it multiple times with Zach, Oscar and Tom being reliable and courageous throughout.

Luca was always vocal making insightful comments whilst Euan, Aaron and David played their way through the opposite team's defence. Having Drew and Stefan make an appearance for Friars was another great moment to see. It may not have been our season, but the boys played their hearts out in every game.

U12

With 4 wins from 4 matches, this team are the one to watch for the future! No matter the conditions, this team oozed Friars spirit. Bertie as Captain led from the front with Joe C always willing to get stuck in. Oliver, Jake and Nye were always there with support and played important roles in all matches. Oscar was always ready and willing on the wing to run tries in when needed. Having Kastor, Joe W and Ewan to help bolster the defence meant the team were complete. It was also great to see Piers on the pitch after a lengthy absence with injury. A big shout out must go to Matthew, Olly and Toby for putting themselves forward and playing up a year group, putting their bodies on the line throughout.



Hockey

Boys Hockey has increased in popularity and now, a full half term is dedicated to coaching and playing fixtures. Our results against some of the more established Hockey schools do not reflect the advancements made and the boys have shown very pleasing progress. This was best demonstrated in the U15s 2-1 victory over Rossall, which came about mainly through a dogged determination to scrap for possession. Superior speed on our flanks, through Ranulph Turton and Henry Sayer, were able to create opportunities for Oliver Spedding and Sam Routledge to pepper the goalkeeper and give us the much-deserved victory.

The U14s played with huge enthusiasm and determination throughout. Logan Jamieson and Ed Chambers are fiery defenders and have an ability to frequently re-gain possession (sometimes legally!!) George Tiffin-Lowe and Theo Squires used their pace to good effect and often glided round players to set up our attacks, whilst our stand-out player, David Awde, demonstrated superior stick work and was our most potent attacker.

The U12s and U13s also enjoyed a good set of fixtures against Rossall, Sedbergh, Newcastle and Barnard Castle and there were plenty of excellent moments recorded throughout these matches. The U12s recorded a very impressive 3-1 victory over Barnard Castle and a thoroughly entertaining 8-7 win against Newcastle RGS. This team has some real superstar Hockey players including Nye Lavery (who was also selected for Cumbria U13s a year early) and Piers Sweeney who is very nimble with the ball at his stick. Oscar Davidson in attack and Bertie Glaister and Joe Coulthard in defence also caught the eye. The U13s also had some great moments in all their games and were most competitive against a strong Newcastle team, despite losing 7-2. Oliver Sewell played with great composure and skill throughout the season and was heavily involved in creating opportunities, scoring goals and tracking back to help out in defence! Will McClure, Jonty Reay and Freddie Turnbull worked effectively in the midfield and Rory Irving and Drew Harrison also showed promise.



Cricket

Our 1st XI, unfortunately, lost 2 of their 3 games to the weather this year but did manage to play their annual fixture against the MCC and earned a very creditable draw. MCC batted first and scored 188 for 3 and, in response, Friars batted out for the draw finishing on 132 for 7.

Our U15s had a successful season reaching the County Cup semi-final and had many convincing victories with the highlight being an impressive 27 run win over Barnard Castle.

The U14 team improved as the season progressed showing more discipline with both the bat and ball and finished with a comprehensive victory in their final game.

The U13s had a winning season, producing many good performances and finishing in 3rd place in the City 8-a-side competition.

The U12s had a fantastic season, winning all their matches on the way to being crowned County Champions. Four victories in a row took the team to the County Final where they met QES Kirkby Lonsdale at Penrith Cricket Club. Posting an impressive 129-4 batting first, we then backed this up with a great performance in the field to win by 18 runs and claim the County Cup!

The following players were selected to represent Cumbria this year: Piers Sweeney, Claire Sweeney, Sam Routledge, Oliver Spedding, Dylan Simpson and Xander Vasey.





CHAPLAINCY

This year it has felt a little more like normal, but then again, perhaps normal was never a thing! Nonetheless, we have returned to more of the traditional features of chaplaincy in school.

There continues to be a significant range of worship and prayer opportunities in school, clearly indicating that the Augustinian values on which our school is based still remain central to our community.

Worship and prayer have continued and grown. We have been able to hold whole school assembly again and singing was reintroduced during the Lent Term and fully in the Summer Term. It has been a joy to hear the whole school coming together for worship in this way again.

At Christmas we celebrated in style, with the Junior School taking a lead on Carol Services and Nativities. Senior School were able to move a step closer to hosting our traditional end of term Carol Service in the usual manner again this year.

Our Easter season started with Ash Wednesday service which is always well received by pupils and staff alike. There were a series of lunchtime Lent reflections which allowed staff and pupils to enjoy some quiet time in the chapel. Many enjoyed the gentleness and peace of these sessions.

Father Paul from our Lady and St Joseph's led a whole school mass which was the first time we had been able to come together in this way for almost three years.

Lunchtime Anglican Communion returned and were received by staff from across the school. Father Ian also led a Lunchtime Holy Mass.

The Junior School were able to return to their usual Friday afternoon Chapel service and we were thrilled to be able to invite parents again. The delight of the Junior School sharing worship and celebration in the stunning setting of the School Chapel is always wonderful to be part of.



A special Leavers Assembly was held for the U6th, focusing on the impact of their time at Friars, both personally and as a community. Each of them received a wooden holding cross to support their continued prayer life and, as a small reminder of the Austin Friars Community, of which they have been such an important part.

Both staff and students have been able to enjoy retreats and Augustinian experiences. 2nd Form experienced a two-day in-house retreat focusing on our Augustinian values and, for the first time in almost three years, we were able to resume our staff retreat to San Gimignano when a small group of staff made a pilgrimage to the Il Convento di Sant Augustino, where they were able to develop a greater understanding of the life, teachings, and spirituality of St Augustine himself.

Another important part of the chaplaincy in school this year has been relationships and fellowship. Staff and pupils alike are encouraged to talk and listen to one another. Revd. Ian, as Chaplain, delights in the number of steps he is able to count on the days when he is in school. It means that he is out and about meeting staff and pupils, wherever they are in school.

And so, example is set that talking and listening to one another is important. It demonstrates care and love. As a community the values of Unitas, Veritas and Caritas are central to all we do and we do those best when we are with one another, listening, caring, and acting out of love for one another.



2022 U6th LEAVERS



The U6th Class of 2022 recorded an Advanced Level overall pass rate of 98% with 69% of all grades in the top A*, A and B categories.



Notable performances include: Leah Donald (A*A*AA), Mungo Mann(A*A*AA), Joshua Pasa (A*A*A), Oona Roberts (A*AAA), Anastasia Stone (A*AAA* [EPQ]), Oliver Robinson (AAA), George Skeer (AAA), Edward Thomas (A*A*BA [EPQ]), Beri Brown (A*A*B), Ben Tiffen (A*AB).



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