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## Dear All

Dear Parents

2020 is almost at an end.

"Thank Goodness for that!" I hear you cry.

Who could have foreseen, twelve months ago, the challenges that the

world would face this year.

2020 was supposed to be a special year for Frewen. We had planned all sorts of special events to celebrate our 110th anniversary, including a reunion and a summer fair, and we - with your help - had raised enough money to get the swimming pool up and running again all ready for the summer.

As the coronavirus, or covid-19, grew ever close and started to affect our lives more and more, it became clear that none of this could happen. There was no fun run, sports day, summer term concert, or firework display, and there will be no pantomime, carol service, or Christmas concert.

We knew that this term would be difficult, and, as you know, at various times, under the guidance of Public Health England, ended up sending various combinations of students and staff home to self-isolate or work from home. At the time of writing we are looking forward to welcoming all year groups and staff back before the end of term, but we have learned never to take anything for granted. I would like to thank everyone for your understanding and patience through this, and your support in making it all go smoothly.

All this uncertainty and adapting has been tiring for students and staff. Everyone is tired and looking forward to the Christmas holidays - not so that they can go anywhere, but so they can have a break and recharge their batteries.

On behalf of everyone at Frewen, I wish all of you and your families a happy and safe Christmas



holiday, and all the best for the new year, 2021.

Let's all hope that it will be a good year. Perhaps we will even get to celebrate Frewen's 111th anniversary - or eleventy-first birthday, like Bilbo Baggins.

We look forward to seeing your children back in school for the first day of term, Tuesday 5th January.

**Mr Nick Goodman**

**Principal, Frewen College**



## PREP NEWS by Sally Welch

We have had a busy half term at the Prep.

We all enjoyed the duck racing event which we had in aid of Children In Need. Congratulations to Seren and Mr Goodman who both backed the winning duck in this exciting race. Pupils also made a coin snake which went up and down the hall nearly 4 times. All together the children raised £70. Well done everyone.



We also enjoyed wearing odd socks for the whole week at Prep to highlight anti-bullying week. Pupils had several assemblies about this important topic and participated well by making lots of thoughtful contributions.



Christmas was upon us before we knew it and pupils have been working very hard to learn their parts for the Christmas screen play which staff have written especially for Frewen Prep. Despite working remotely this week, we are hopeful of

returning in the final week to film some parts of the play so that the children's hard work can be shared with parents.

Pupils have been working hard on key skills this term and have been really getting to grips with the four operations in Maths. Learning through experience is vital in creating a better understanding of key skills and it was wonderful to see pupils so keen to be counting up the money we raised with our coin snake.

Now that we are learning from home, pupils have been completing work from their quarantine packs. Teachers have been meeting pupils on Teams and offering group and 1-1 help as and when needed. I would like to thank all the teachers and parents for being so adaptable during these tricky times. Keep the photos coming in, we love to see what the pupils have been up to.

We are all excited to be returning to school in time for Christmas dinner and Christmas jumper day.

## SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

### Science by Scott Wassell

Term 2 in the Science department began promisingly with the Year 7s getting to grips with measuring current and voltage in circuits in the ever-popular Electricity topic. Running at the same time the Year 10s were also doing Electricity as a topic. However, they had the addition of having to recall and rearrange 6 equations and remembering the Current/Voltage graphs for 3 new components. What a difference a few years make.

Unfortunately, our department had to cease practical experiments after going into the second lockdown when our technician had to shield. Only the Year 11s doing their 'core' practicals had any experimental work. We hope to have everything back to normal in the new year as it is an important part of Science.

## SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

### Food and Nutrition by Claire Beaumont



It's been a busy term in the redesigned classroom. A new island, sink and cupboards were put in during the summer and have been well used. The extra cupboards and space have been brilliant, ... although, sometimes, we all struggle to remember where things have now been put!

This term students have been busy stirring, baking, frying and simmering to produce lovely dishes. There's now a significant number of Year 10 and 11 students who have chosen to take this subject and they have been learning to make healthy and tasty home-cooked dishes .

There's always some Christmas cooking that takes place at this time and all year groups have made something appropriate from polar bear peppermint creams to cheesy biscuits and mince pies.

As we are heading towards Christmas, I would like to end with some, admittedly very cheesy, jokes (how appropriate for a food-based subject!)

**Why was the turkey in the pop group?**

Because he was the only one with drumsticks!



**Who hides in the bakery at Christmas?**

A mince spy!



Enough!' I hear you cry! So, I'll save the rest for my Christmas crackers.

### English by Neil Stanley

Back to the 80s in Mr Stanley's Year 10 English class! The group has been studying Alan Bennett's play, 'The History Boys'.

Set in 1980s Sheffield, eight students, having completed their A Levels, return to school to prepare for Oxbridge examinations.

To give their answers more 'polish' than was provided by Mrs Lintott's history lessons, the boys pursue a General Studies course delivered by the older Mr Hector, and new teacher Mr Irwin.

The boys also provide vivid contrasts, from the confident and promiscuous Dakin, the boyish Posner and the priestly Scripps.

The play highlights the differing values of the time, explores the themes of teaching, education, growing up, identity and truth.

Blessed with farcical moments and razor-sharp dialogue, the play delivers a poignant ending.

For our students, the contrasting good and bad qualities of many characters, especially Irwin and Hector, gave them the opportunity to reflect on moral ambiguity and a human being's well-rounded yet often contradictory characteristics.

### Arts Faculty Art by Duncan Sangster

On the 16th November, a week after the 140th birthday of the designer of the iconic British phone box, Sir Giles Gilbert-Scott, the once defunct telephone box at Frewen was re-purposed as our very own socially distanced art gallery.

Staff, students, and visitors will be able to enjoy work made by students from





## SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

### Arts Faculty Art continued..by Duncan Sangster



across the school from a safe distance from others and interact with the work in such a unique space, that was once a fully functioning phone box. I've been wanting to find an interesting space to showcase the amazing work that is done here for some time and it's been staring at me in the face for the past five years - I see it out my classroom window every day! I do hope everyone enjoys the work, which will be rotated every few weeks. Currently the work on display are Year 10 s experimental scrapbooks.

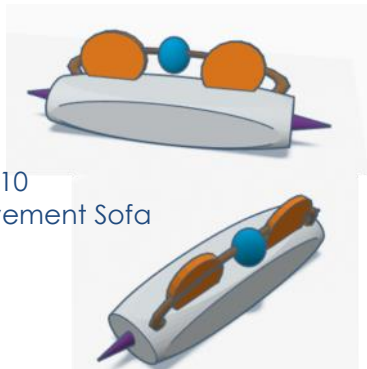
Please remember, when visiting the phone box; only one person at a time, wear a mask, respect the work, wash hands on exit, and tall visitors please be wary of the hinge as the door closes.

### Arts Faculty D&T by Rebecca Forbes-Gower

#### 3D Printer

Thank you to everyone who supported us with buying a 3D printer, this is now installed and Year 11 students have started to produce models to help them visualise their GCSE coursework.

One of the advantages of our 3D printer is that we can control it remotely, Stefan, our technician has been printing out work for our Year 11s from home whilst isolating and our Year 11s have been able to collect their work in school and still progress their design work.



Mack G, Year 10  
Memphis Movement Sofa

#### Laser Cutter

We are continuing to Fundraise to purchase a laser cutter; the use of technology such as CAD/CAM is particularly helpful to our students with dyspraxia and knowledge of how these systems work is an exam requirement – there is nothing like taking part in a process to understand it!

Masks are still being sold and are available from Annabel's office.

### Arts Faculty Music by Ian Barnett

During this epidemic, many of our students have received individual instrumental tuition online.

Mr Barnett has been really pleased with the way in which the students have engaged with the lesson and improved their instrumental skills.

He says "I am very proud of their tenacity and willingness to learn."

#### Year 10 and Tinkercad

Whilst students have been working remotely, they have been learning how to use Tinkercad to model their ideas for Memphis Movement Furniture. If you think these are whacky then search up ' Memphis Movement'!



Noah A , Year 10  
Memphis Movement chair

## SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

### Arts Faculty Drama by Claire Jackson



How to do practical Drama in these strange Covid times? That was the challenge we were facing in September. Our students have responded with real maturity and have been instrumental in constructing very thoughtful methods to engage with the practical work and stay safe.

Year 7s have shown a real aptitude for the basics of Drama and are making good progress with their first assessment pieces. They have produced some hilarious Pantomime ghost gags, discovering the joys of a much missed Christmas tradition! Year 8s have been very impressive, participating in stage combat and sword fighting workshops, learning key health and safety rules as well as choreographing their own fight sequences... no mean feat! While our Year 9s have explored the power of mask work and puppetry as ways of telling stories.

The Year 11s are showing real resilience as they continue to work hard towards assessments, despite all the interruptions and Year 10 have immersed themselves in all the ins and outs of *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller.

It's been a real test for everyone to continue to learn and stay positive which our Frewen students have done in abundance. We hope to see everyone coming back into school for a summer term proper big brilliant drama production! Fingers crossed.



#### Frewen Film Club

Due to popular demand we have brought back Frewen Film Club! The students are democratic in how they choose the films they watch, engaging in deep debates as they want to make sure the film they choose has some merit and challenge. This term they have watched *Peanut Butter Falcon* and *Jojo Rabbit*. Both have gone down a storm and provoked keen discussions about the issues raised in them as well soon starting to looking under the bonnet of how films are made. Hopefully we will start to have our own young filmmakers who understand how a film is constructed and make their own. Can't wait.



# SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

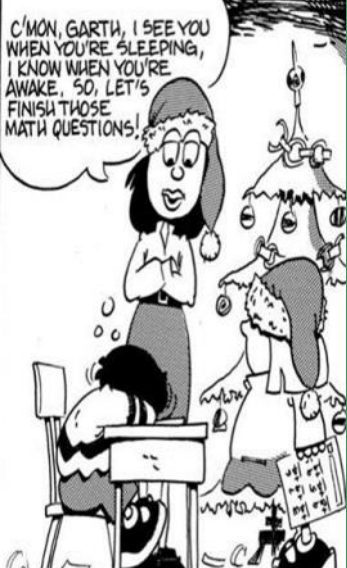
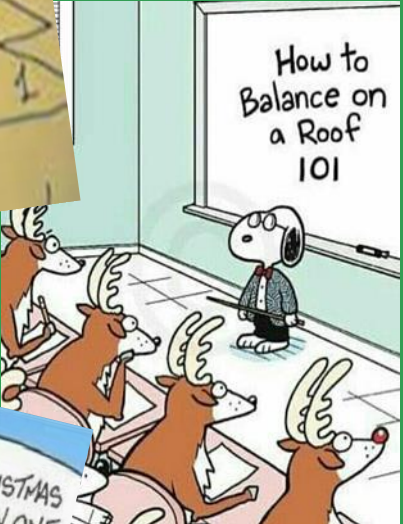
Maths by Graeme Rawlings

**MATHS ZONE**

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**Season's Greetings & Best Wishes from the Maths Dept**



**Ha  $\pi$  Xmas**



## SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

### Humanities by Louise Payne



This term, the Year 7s have been learning about Medieval life and castles, for Humanities. They have enjoyed engaging with Medieval life, such as how Medieval people lived their lives, including how they washed, treated illnesses and their religious views. The Year 7s have also enjoyed participating in a competition to make the most realistic Motte and Bailey castle, showing all the features. The winners are yet to be announced!

In Year 8 Geography, the students have enjoyed participating in work on population, including global and UK population, an individual city study and population and migration. They have engaged very effectively with ICT and used geographical skills, to produce population bar charts, find the most up to date live population data and google maps, to map global and UK population data.

## GAMES AND SPORT By Jo Hambleton

### DofE

We have started this term launching the new cohort of Bronze DofE. This term we will be enrolling them and getting them to start the 3 stages of DofE which are Physical, Skill and Volunteering.

The DofE programme is a fantastic opportunity to learn something new and also give something back to the local community. In DofE club we will also be preparing for our practice expedition which takes place in March 2021, fingers crossed when we hope to have less COVID restrictions

Although we are in difficult times it is great to see students trying to engage in these activities.



### Winter sports kit reminder

A reminder that as we are now in Winter it is useful for students to have enough clothes to ensure they are warm and dry during PE and Games lessons. A full list of School Kit is available at Simmonds, but alternatively plain navy tracksuits and jumpers are fine. Some students are still turning up to cold rainy lessons in just shorts and t shirts!! Brrrrr



## After School clubs by Lucas Howard

### What makes Frewen so special?

I remember my interview day at Frewen College and being shown around the main building, the auditorium and the grounds by our Vice Principal, Mr. Godin. I think it must have been lunchtime, because I remember the beautiful aromas from the kitchen, as I took in my surroundings, I felt as if I were a character from Brideshead revisited or perhaps Harry Potter. It was unlike any school I had ever been in before. As I was told more about the school, in that 'walking, talking' way you see in political dramas, I started to realise that this school had something special, far beyond the setting itself.

There were a few key pieces of information that perked my interest as a potential staff-member – aside from the obvious advantages, like a gym, free meals and a constant supply of fresh fruit.

I was delighted to hear that there would be opportunities for me to plan and host assemblies, and to lead clubs for the students after school. I could see how these would be excellent ways of connecting with the students and sharing ideas that sit somewhere outside of the national curriculum.

After working at Frewen for over a year now, I have had the privilege of seeing just how beneficial the regular assemblies and after-school clubs are. I have witnessed some expert storytelling skills from our new Head of Senior School, Mr. Stanley – who has each student hanging on his every word about things as simple as a Kitkat, or an old watch.

As for the clubs themselves, there is such a wide range of activities, and as I'm sure you all know, the students get to choose which club they attend at the beginning of each term. There are clubs that act as an extension to what they cover in class, such as the Key-Stage Four Art club with Mr. Sangster, Geography club with Mrs. Payne or the clubs provided by the Maths department. These clubs play a crucial part for strengthening subject knowledge, and provide an excellent opportunity for students to study with the help of a specialist teacher, in an informal setting. The homework clubs are also great for our students who might need that extra bit of guidance from a subject specialist.



Then there are the afterschool clubs that are purely extra-curricular activities, such as Miss Reading's board games club where every session feels like Christmas Day, or the Archery club - lead by Mr. Claasen – where everyone can have a go at being Robin Hood.

For me – the clubs have been a way of me sharing my own interests, in particular Spoken Word Poetry – which I have been doing now for almost twenty years. As I have learned over my time as a teacher, poetry is often a word that can put students off. So I set up the 'rap club' and was delighted to have an attendance of eight students straight away. We were lucky to have access to the music room where we did free association poetry, some rap battles and poetry/rap based quizzes.



I found this to be an excellent opportunity, not only for the students to learn more about me, but it was a real window into their worlds, an opportunity to share life stories and a whole range of emotions.

After a while, you get used to the building itself, but it is the opportunities for the staff and the students to really connect that makes the school such a special place to be.



## PSHE by Hazel Lawrence

As part of Parliament Week, which ran from 9th - 13th November, a group of our Year 11 students were able to meet virtually with our local MP - Huw Merriman, for a Q&A session. They were able to question him on a number of issues for example:

- Lockdown restrictions - including travel corridors, restrictions on amateur sport
- Economic impact of Covid-19
- Exams for 2021
- The likelihood of Scottish Independence
- Northern Ireland and BREXIT.
- Young People's Mental Health
- Christmas & Covid 19

Not only was this a great opportunity for students to speak with their MP, but also counts towards the AoPE qualification they are completing in Study Skills.

## BOARDING NEWS by Sarah Medcraft

This term has posed quite a challenge due to the ongoing lockdown restrictions. However, creativity is our speciality and we have managed to carry on together and enjoy a great half term.

The boarders have been busy in the art room, painting positivity pebbles, making dinosaurs and the Frewen Deer Park in clay! Christmas is also now well under way, with the boarders continuing our annual tradition of decorating the Christmas tree in the Reception.

During the week we have kept entertained with movie nights, quizzes, ruthless games of Uno, Frustration and jigsaw puzzles. We also transformed the auditorium into an indoor Nurf Gun shooting arcade, complete with loo roll Ninjas to shoot down and trophies!

At the weekend, the boarders have been cooking up a storm in the kitchen, from baking cookies to making their own dinner with a pizza

extravaganza. We have still managed to get out for our daily exercise, making the most of the schoolgrounds and we even ventured to the beach for a wintery walk with hot chocolates and marshmallows to warm up.

We look forward to welcoming all our boarders back after a very well-deserved Christmas break!



## Movember by Gregoire Godin

Dear Frewen Community,

The months of November, or shall I say Movember, went by ever so fast that at the time of writing this it already seems a distant memory. However, I did not want to let it pass by without a last update on my Frewen Mo'Bros who joined me for this very worthy cause: Mr Lucas Howard and Mr Leigh Thomas. With their help, we raised the profile of this charity and no doubt a few high brows too!

The aim was simply to start conversations about men's physical and mental health. Sadly, the latter of these subjects is more topical than ever during those very challenging times! Growing up is not easy in the best of times; making sense of what 'being a man' means can be somewhat challenging and confusing but it is far easier when one has someone to talk to during troubled times. So, if things get tough, don't wait, don't let it build up, talk to someone, help is at hand, often closer than you think.

Thank you ever so much for listening, for breaking the taboo and.... for putting up with our staches!

For more information on the Movember Foundation, or if you want to join us next year, visit <https://uk.movember.com/>



**HAPPY  
HOLIDAYS!**