



Frewen Focus

Spring term 2025

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Message from the Headmaster

Dear parents,

As we near the end of term, the lighter nights signal spring has begun, and summer is around the corner.

Our end of term pizza party, chosen by the students as part of our reward system, heralded the start of the Easter break and the end of a busy term – with the grand opening of our Sixth Form Centre, mock examinations, open mornings, sporting fixtures, music recitals and external examinations. There was also our annual Ofsted inspection for boarding, and, at the time of writing we are awaiting the final report – I look forward to sharing this with you, once it has been received.

For many of our students, the Easter break will have been be a time of revision and consolidation in preparation for their exams this summer – I wish them the very best with these. Time spent now will yield dividends in the summer. The end of this term also means a sad goodbye to Miss Katie Skinner, who will be leaving Frewen

College after two and a half years. Katie will be taking up an exciting new post as a lead educational specialist within the NHS paediatric team in Kent, supporting schools with the neurodevelopmental pathways. I would like to thank Katie for all her hard work and dedication during her time at Frewen and we wish her the very best on her next adventure. We are currently in the process of recruiting a new Deputy Head (Pastoral) and I look forward to sharing updates in due course.

Finally, I hope you all had a relaxing and enjoyable Easter break.

With best wishes

Mark Loveday

Headmaster

The Prep school have had a busy term again, as always.

The topic of this term was based on the geography element of focusing on a local area. This involved a day out in Battle, when pupils asked members of the public, as well as shop owners, about the effects of various elements on Battle. The main enquiries were centred around whether graffiti, litter or empty

shops have an effect on peoples' experiences of Battle. Responses and observations were collected using a range of different techniques including Likert questioning, Tallys, photographs and sketches. These were then interpreted by our pupils, who presented their findings using voice-over PowerPoint, written reports or a video presentation.



The art of science

In science lessons, pupils have been looking at different types of drugs, their effects on the body and whether they are legal or illegal. They also celebrated National Science Week with a themed day full of experiments and investigations - some of which had practical applications, whilst others had more reactive outcomes. They were all great fun though!

Poetry in literacy

The focus in literacy this term has been poetry, specifically haikus and poems about the children themselves. Some lovely poems with very touching verses have been written.

the first letters of each line form a word vertically (which can often act as the theme or message) - to perform during the Easter Service at Northiam Church, alongside their peers from Northiam Primary School.

Pupils have also utilised their poetry skills to create an Easter-themed acrostic poem - a style of poetry where

Sporting endeavours

The focus this term has been on team sports and PE skills, as the pupils enjoyed playing football and basketball. Both sports require similar skills, where finding space and passing to teammates are key principles.



Information and communications technology (ICT)

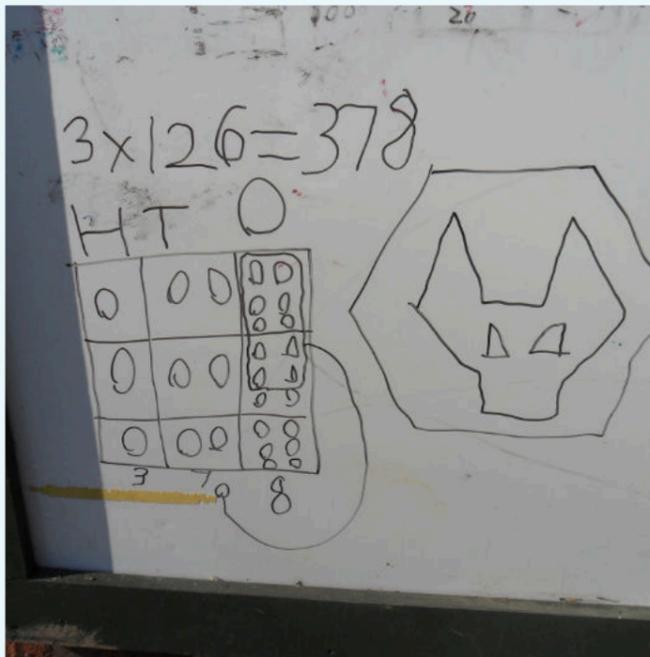
In ICT, pupils have been learning to code using Scratch - a visual programming language which allows users to create digital stories, games, and animations. It is especially popular amongst children due to its intuitive 'drag-and-drop' interface. They have discovered how to change their 'sprites' (and make them draw) and 'stage'.

Learning outside the classroom

On 20th March, Prep pupils Freddie and Martha, decided to use their whiteboards outside during their break time. Part of this included a self-directed activity as an extension of their earlier Mathematics lessons.

Freddie is learning how to multiply 1-digit X 3-digit number, and Martha is learning about calculating perimeter.

"I am so impressed at how Prep pupils are extending their own learning - and are motivated to do so in their own time!", said Deb Fraser, Prep School Teacher.



Golden coin rewards

Pupils have been enjoying visits to Northiam Park for their golden coin rewards, and at the end of term, had fun with some Easter-themed food making activities, and an Easter egg hunt.

We hope you had a happy Easter!

Sally Welch

Head of Prep School



Message from the Deputy Head (Academic)

Dear parents,

I love spring – the green shoots of progress and bursts of colour as snowdrops, crocuses and daffodils all start to bloom. It is a reminder that through the grey months of winter nature has still been at work. This is similar to the classroom, so much work going on but sometimes it takes time to see the results. For example, with our students working towards their LAMDA Public Speaking exams – much to prepare before the day, followed by a wait for the stunning results. Then our Year 11 students, who have been working hard towards their GCSE exams, must wait until the summer to see the full ‘bloom’ of their continual efforts.

As Deputy Head Academic, I have the absolute privilege of being able to witness the nurturing work which takes place across the school. This term I’ve

seen some great lessons, including Year 7 cultivating their vocabulary skills as they work on ‘kennings’ in English and learning about Greek Theatre in Drama. The bursts of joy in a multi-sensory science lesson on how different types of rocks are formed (even if mixing up the different coloured Play-Doh made me twitch!). Seeing the growth of ideas into finished products with the Year 9 light-up cushions.

The following news stories will give you a little more insight into the work of each faculty this term.

With best wishes

Hazel McCalvey
Deputy Head (Academic)



Art trip to Dungeness

On 24th March, Year 8 students embarked on an exciting trip to Dungeness, a unique and picturesque location known for its striking landscapes and diverse points of interest. The purpose of this trip was to capture photographs which students will use in their upcoming project next term.

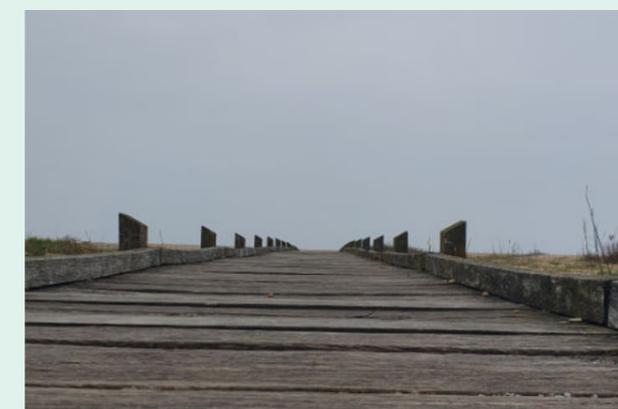
Our students had the opportunity to explore and photograph a variety of interesting subjects – from the iconic Dungeness Lighthouse to the expansive shingle beach – and were able to capture the essence of this distinctive environment. The trip also included visits to old fishing boats, run-down fishing huts and the unique flora and fauna of the area.

Encouraged to focus on different aspects of photography – including composition, lighting, and texture – the Year 8s experimented with various angles and perspectives to create visually compelling images. They were highly engaged throughout the trip, showing enthusiasm and creativity in their photographic endeavors. The photographs will serve as valuable resources for the students' projects next term. They will use these images to

explore themes such as nature, industry and history, incorporating their own artistic interpretations as well as responding to artists who have used the beach as a focus in their work.

Duncan Sangster

Head of Art and Head of the Art Faculty



All Photographs by Tobi Adedayo, Year 8



Paige, Seren, Blue and Edie proudly displaying their certificates.

English news

LAMDA speaking and listening

Frewen College has had another successful year of LAMDA results. LAMDA stands for the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts. Founded in 1861, it is the oldest specialist drama school in the British Isles and offers a wide range of qualifications in music and the dramatic arts. The LAMDA speaking and listening examinations which our students sit are recognised qualifications.

Deservedly, our students achieved a 100% pass rate, achieving either a merit or distinction grading. This external qualification is now embedded at Frewen for all students from years 7 to 10 with increasing levels of difficulty. Year 7 students choose a book to discuss, Year 8 a trip, Year 9 an object and Year 10 a hobby.

The range of subject matter is always fascinating, and this year topics have ranged from karate to Korean music and from African masks to the history of lipstick.

Ed Nevey chose his hobby of golf, he said: "I have been passionate about golf since I was young. I play most weeks at

Cooden Beach and achieved my first handicap this year. Golf is a great sport to learn because it is a good way to focus on something different".

Hayden Bradley chose making catapults as his hobby. He said: "Catapults are quite complicated to make. You learn how to work with wood and how to weld. I like making them because they are all different shapes and designs".

Sean Russell chose collecting animal skulls. He says: "You can learn a lot about the natural world just by looking at an animal's skull. I would like to work in conservation when I am older and plan to do a course in animal husbandry after Frewen College".



Isaac, Amelia, Viva and Scarlett show off their LAMDA posters.

Shakespeare's Macbeth

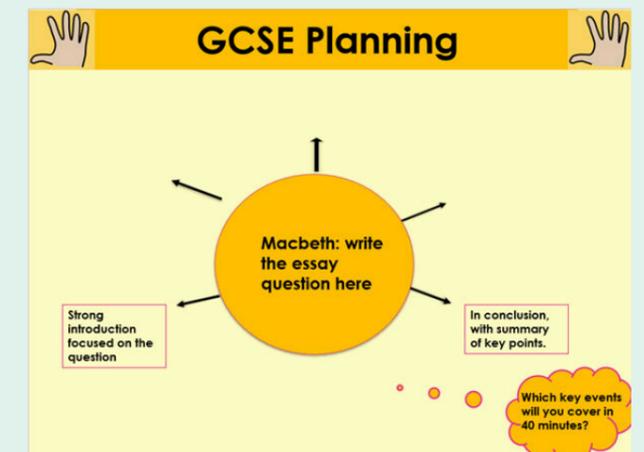
Students in Year 10 and 11 who are studying English Literature GCSE were recently taken on a trip to see *Macbeth* at the Assembly Rooms in Tunbridge Wells.

The Scottish Play, as it is known, tells the story of a brave Scottish general named *Macbeth* who receives a prophecy from three witches that one day he will become King of Scotland. Consumed by ambition and spurred to action by his wife, Macbeth murders King Duncan and takes the Scottish throne for himself. He is then racked with guilt and paranoia. Forced to commit more and more murders to protect himself from enmity and suspicion, he soon becomes a tyrannical ruler. The bloodbath and consequent civil war swiftly take Macbeth and his wife into the realms of madness and death.

This full-scale production, by the National Production Company, contained ghostly apparitions and spectacular sword fights. The performance was over three hours long and we were incredibly impressed by

the maturity of our students for taking in the quite demanding material over such a long period of time. They acted as superb ambassadors for the College.

Back at school, the students have been improving their ability to write strong analytical essays on *Macbeth*, using a planning format that we have recently rolled out across the English department. The results of not only planning effectively but knowing how to do this have produced tangible results. Our five-point plan helps students break down any demanding tasks into manageable steps.



The final encore at The Assembly Rooms



Romeo and Juliet

Year 9 students have been studying *Romeo and Juliet* this term. The play is one of their GCSE set texts and studying it at this point in their academic careers allows for overlearning – a useful tool in helping students achieve.

Overlearning refers to the process of repeating material even after it has been successfully learned. The idea is that by continuing to review and practice, the information and skill becomes ingrained in long-term memory and is less likely to be forgotten over time. Overlearning can enhance retention, making it easier to recall information when needed and improve performance in high-pressure situations such as exams.

Romeo and Juliet tells the story of two young lovers, Romeo Montague and Juliet Capulet, whose families are embroiled in a bitter feud. Despite their families' enmity, Romeo and Juliet fall deeply in love and secretly marry.

However, a series of unfortunate events, including Romeo's killing of Juliet's

cousin (Tybalt) in a fight, leads to their tragic demise. Believing Juliet to be dead, Romeo takes his own life, and when Juliet awakens to find him dead beside her, she also takes her life. The play explores themes such as love, fate, conflict, and the consequences of family loyalty, as well as the impulsive nature of youth and the tragic effects of hatred.

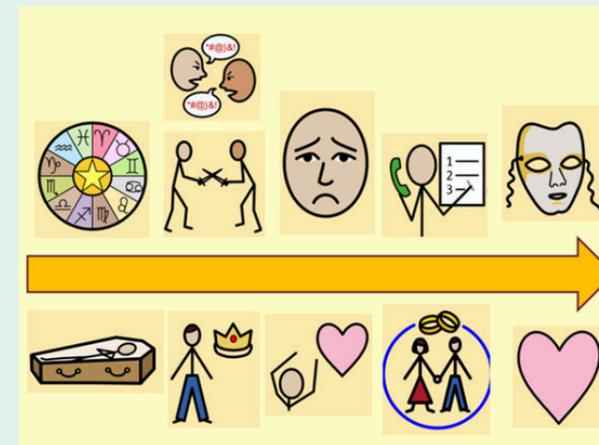


Mask designs for the Capulet Ball

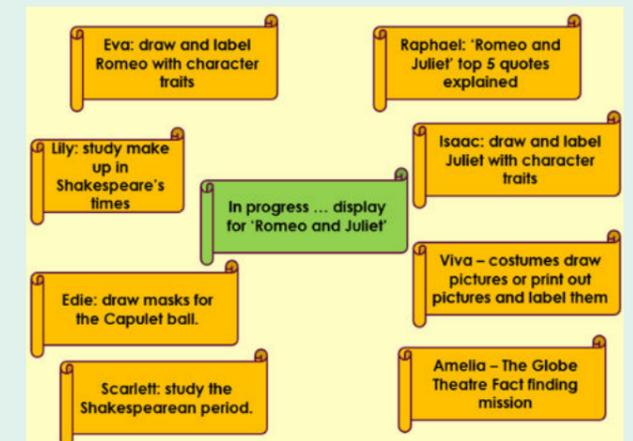
Romeo and Juliet is studied at GCSE because it provides a rich opportunity for students to engage with classic literature, offering insights into human emotions, relationships and societal influences that remain relevant today. The play's complex characters, particularly the young lovers, and its exploration of intense emotions like passion, anger and grief, allows students to discuss themes that are

important in both literature and real life.

Alongside the challenging analytical GCSE work, Year 9 have been getting creative with their study of the play. We have been exploring what happens if students create their own homework around the subject and using a range of multi-sensory methods to enhance learning.



Can you work out what each image represents in the opening scene?



My Choice' homework: Year 9 decide what they want to do



Blue uses air dry clay to create models of the main characters.



Beowulf and Kennings

Ms Taylor-Wade's Year 7 class have been studying *Beowulf* recently.

Beowulf is an Old English epic poem that is one of the most important works of Anglo-Saxon literature. The story is centred around its hero, Beowulf, a brave warrior from Geatland who comes to the aid of the Danish king, Hrothgar, to defeat the monstrous creature Grendel.

After defeating Grendel, Beowulf also faces Grendel's vengeful mother and

later, as an older man, a fearsome dragon. The poem explores themes of heroism, fate, and the struggle between good and evil.

Beowulf also reflects the cultural and societal norms of the time, particularly in its focus on kinship, honour, and the impact of legacy. Despite being set in a mythic past, *Beowulf* has influenced countless works of literature and remains a cornerstone of Western literary tradition.

Creating kennings

Alongside other figurative devices such as alliteration, *Beowulf* also uses kennings and Year 7 have been creating their own.

Kennings are a distinctive feature of Old English and Old Norse poetry, often used to describe something in a metaphorical or indirect way, usually by combining two words to create a new, poetic meaning. For example, in *Beowulf*, the sea is referred to as the 'whale-road' and a sword as the 'battle-light'. Rather than using a simple, direct term like 'ocean' or 'sword', kennings offer more vivid and imaginative descriptions.

These figurative expressions originate from rich oral traditions. Poets would use kennings to adhere to the strict metrical structure of their poetry, while also making their language more creative and memorable.

Grendel kennings

- The first monster that Beowulf slays is named Grendel, who is referred to as:
- Hall-watcher
- Corpse-maker
- Shadow-stalker
- Hell-brute



Taking Time out

The English Department has an array of strategies in place to help when the workload can seem too much and one of these is the use of fidget toys. Taking short breaks allows students to step away from challenging tasks to reduce stress and help them refocus.

During these breaks, fidget toys can play a vital role in helping our students

manage their sensory needs and improve concentration. Toys, such as stress balls, spinners, or textured objects, provide a way for students to release excess energy and anxiety in a non-disruptive manner. For dyslexic students, this can help calm the mind, improve focus, and reduce distractions, making it easier to return to academic tasks with a clearer mindset.



Jessica takes a moment with the time out box.



Caesar and Tom honing their computer skills

Weekly check-in sessions

On Wednesdays, Mrs Lowe and Miss Parker hold joint check-in sessions, which provide students in Years 7 and 8 with the chance to practise and test a range of different skills on an individual basis. These include using assistive technology, handwriting, spelling and reading practice.

There are many benefits to these personalised learning sessions including students being able to work at their own pace. They also provide teachers with a greater understanding of each student and allows them to spend more time on the areas in which a student struggles. The week's English work can also be disseminated, ensuring teachers obtain a thorough knowledge of each student's progress.



William checks in with Miss Parker

Reading Revelations

Year 9 students have recently been given the opportunity to choose a book themselves to ensure that Friday reading sessions are more tailored and enjoyable. The selection of books they have chosen has been illuminating and demonstrates the diverse range of talents and interests of our students.

The *Useful Knots Book* is a practical guide which focuses on teaching readers how to tie various knots and understand their uses. It teaches knots that are functional, reliable and easy to perform. It includes step-by-step instructions, diagrams, and tips for tying the knots correctly and efficiently.

Ethan says: *"I started sailing two years ago and it has probably been the best two years of my life. I like it because the community is very nice and accepting. Knots are a very large part of sailing and it's important to know them"*.

Everything World War 2, Facts and photos from the Front Line to the Home Front is packed with facts, pictures and maps, this book is ideal for anybody who is curious about an important part of history.

Talon says: *"I chose this book because I have been interested in World War Two for ages. I am particularly interested in the warfare itself. This book is good because it has lots of facts and colourful pictures"*.

Hard Hitting Boxing Facts For Kids is an action-packed fact book filled with knockout punches, legendary fights, and

jaw-dropping records. It is perfect for young boxing enthusiasts with over 300 amazing facts.

David says, *"I like this book because it informs me all about boxing. I have been having boxing lessons for about a year. I like it because it keeps me fit and it is great fun"*.



Any questions?

As ever, if you have any questions about English, please do not hesitate to get in touch. We hope you had a happy Easter break.

Rebecca Lowe
Head of English

Food and Nutrition

Take one thing

Start with a jacket potato, maybe some pasta, or some rice, or another carbohydrate and see what can be made for supper.

Cooking is all about learning techniques and skills, trying some basic recipes using a carbohydrate as a base, and then adapting them, making some swaps and producing a different slant on a meal.

I'm sure that there are plenty of us out there who have looked at the contents of our fridges/pantries and toyed with what to make for supper. Is it going to be a pasta dish? A rice plate? Or in the case of Year 9 students, something based on couscous.

Year 9 students were given a recipe for couscous and then had to decide what they were going to add to it. They had to write out a method, so they knew what they had to do and how they were going to cook the ingredients. In effect, they wrote an ingredients list and a method.

See what happens when you add some vegetables or feta, or chicken, or cod or sausage or something else!

See below for a selection of what the Year 9 students decided to cook – it's amazing how different they are!

Claire Beaumont
Teacher of Food and Nutrition



Maths and ICT

Maths news

Year 11 Students have been making superb progress with their revision and showing improvements all the time. They have demonstrated the resilience and motivation necessary to succeed. We are very proud of their efforts and look forward to some excellent results in August.

Years 7 to 10 have been completing end of term tests based on the topics learnt. We are extremely pleased with their engagement in lessons and their readiness to learn.

At the beginning of March, we celebrated *National Dyscalculia Day* with students practicing many whole brain learning activities.



ICT News

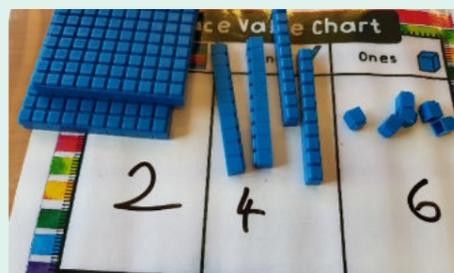
It has been another exciting term in ICT, with students undertaking a wide range of topics. Of particular interest, students in Year 8 played Pac-Man on an original 1980s CRT screen, before creating their own version of the game using Scratch.

Meanwhile, students in Year 10 created game covers using Affinity Designer as part of their NOCN Digital Skills course. In March, there was a lunch-time celebration for *Mario Day* with students enjoying a range of Mario-themed games. Thanks to all those who took part, with a special mention to Ben B who brought in some games and Nicki Foster who supported and suggested the idea.

Members of the Maths Department hope all families had a very restful Easter break and enjoyed the sunshine.

Marianne O'Connor

Head of Mathematics and Science



Puzzle Corner



Riddle: Using only addition, add eight 8s to get the number 1,000. Solution in the next newsletter!



Solution to puzzle 5

PE and Outdoor Education

Girls' football tournament

Well done to our mixed year girls' team who took part in the Brighton & Hove Albion inclusive football tournament in Burgess Hill. Our girls played four games, won three and drew one to become the overall winners.

"The whole team worked extremely hard during the games and showed some excellent marking to hold off some tough teams, and the team spirit was amazing," said Jo Hambleton, Teacher in charge of PE and Outdoor Education.

The Fair Play Award went to Mackenzie and Ellie won the penalty shoot-out competition.

Mud, mud, mud – but not glorious!

In games this term, our students have been hiking around our local area. There are some lovely footpaths and walks in Northiam, providing a great opportunity for students to learn about the local surroundings and develop skills – such as understanding the Countryside Code.

In the first couple of weeks, we had more than our fair share of mud! Apologies to the parents for muddy clothes and shoes, but a great time was had by all!

GCSE PE Climbing

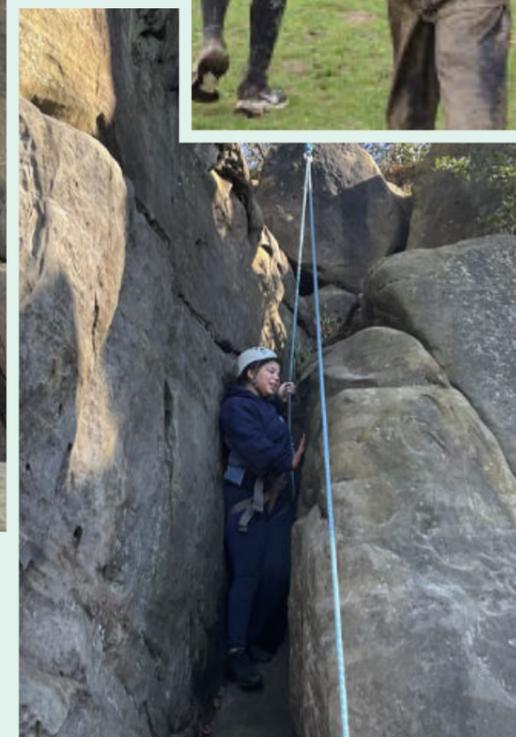
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Well done, Year 11

Jo Hambleton

PE and Outdoor Education





Speech and Language Therapy

Celebrating 80 years of The Royal College

The Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists is celebrating its 80th year.

One of the ways we are celebrating with our students is by creating the Official Top Eight Speech and Language Therapy Strategies, as voted for by students on the Speech and Language Therapy caseload.

Each student has been supported to select the strategies which they find helpful in terms of supporting their Speech, Language and Communication needs in the classroom - and the top eight strategies have been shared with

teaching staff and displayed throughout the school.

We have also chosen to pledge six of the Royal Speech and Language Therapists suggested eight pledges and will be hosting a Speech and Language Therapy Celebration Tea for all students on the caseload. A small group of students have been invited to form the Speech and Language Therapy student committee and have been meeting fortnightly to plan different areas of the tea. They have shared some brilliant ideas, and we are all looking forward to celebrating together on Wednesday 7th May!

Student reflections

Some of the students have also been reflecting on what they enjoy about Speech and Language Therapy and how they feel it has helped them.

See some of the positive comments:

Speech and Language Therapy has helped me

" trying to order my own food. Gain more confidence to speak. Personal space"

Speech and Language Therapy has helped me

" with listening skills and remembering what words meant"

Speech and Language Therapy has helped me

" with talking and empathy, and being a more confident person"



Students sow seeds and sell

Some students have been working with our college gardeners to sow seeds and grow plants. On March 28th, two students were supported by the Speech and Language Therapy department to sell the plants they had grown at a local coffee morning. This allowed them to

develop their communication skills in a functional and everyday setting. They did brilliantly, making some money to reinvest in the gardens and to fund some of the planned celebrations for the 80th anniversary of the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists.

New location for Sixth Form

Our new Sixth Form Centre was officially opened on 14th March by Dr Kieran Mullan, the MP for Bexhill and Battle, in its new location alongside the Prep School.

Headmaster, Mark Loveday, said: *"This marks a new chapter in the history of Frewen College, one that promises growth, opportunity, and excellence for the students in our care, as we strive to ensure all aspire, believe and achieve."*

Guests also included members of Northiam Parish Council, Jacqui Harding and Sue Schlesinger (Vice-chair); Karen Hucker, Principal of Bexhill College and Vice-principal Elisabeth Lawrence; Reverend Kate Bailey, Vicar of Northiam Church; and Julia Bray, Headteacher at Northiam Primary School.

Several current Sixth Formers took our esteemed guests on a tour of the new facility which not only provides dedicated teaching spaces, study area, common room and outdoor space, but also the aspirations and dreams it represents.

"Let us remember the essence of education lies not just in the transfer

and gaining of academic knowledge, but in the cultivation of life skills – integrity, kindness, resilience, and empathy – captured in our school motto Strong in Spirit. My vision is to ensure that our Sixth Form is not only one that supports academic aspiration, but one that is a haven where these values are nurtured and where every student is empowered to make a positive impact on the world," said Mark Loveday.



Job and Apprenticeship Fair

Fifteen students recently attended a Career and Apprenticeship Fair hosted by Bexhill College at the De La Warr Pavilion. It was a fantastic opportunity for students to network and look at different job opportunities in the community. Students showed good confidence and communication skills, talking to the personnel on the various stands.



Meet the students and staff

Joe Hilliard
Student

Course studied:
Level 2 Information Technology

What makes Frewen Sixth Form so great?
TA support and the food!

Zombies or vampires?
Zombies because they won't monologue while eating me!

Films or books?
Films

Favourite element of course:
Computer Maintenance

Summer or winter?
Summer

Glass half full or glass half empty?
Glass half empty

Crisps or chocolate?
Crisps, I really don't like chocolate!

Sauce on the side or sauce on top?
Sauce on the side

Jack Sams
Teacher

How long have you worked at Frewen?
18 months

Sauce on the side or sauce on top?
Sauce on top

What was your favourite subject at school and why?
History as I've been a history lover since I was three!

What element of working in Sixth Form do you like the most?
Experiencing the wide variety of subjects our students study

Describe Bexhill college in three words?
Large, diverse, modern

Glass half full or glass half empty?
Glass half empty

What course do you enjoy supporting in the most?
History, of course!

Films or books?
Films, I love pointing out historical mistakes!

Crisps or chocolate?
Chocolate - my weakness is Cadbury's Dairy Milk

Summer or winter?
Summer

Zombies or vampires?
Vampires - you can have a conversation with them!



Message from the Head of Boarding

Dear parents,

This term seems to have flown by! It seems like only yesterday we were putting on our boots and hats, embracing the cold weather and now spring has finally sprung, with daffodils and crocuses popping up across our beautiful grounds.

The boarders have made use of the lighter, warmer evenings playing sports on the hard court, although badminton still seems to be the sport of choice, with some of the students becoming rather good! Monday evening swim sessions have been popular with the students who return with tired limbs but hungry tummies ready for tea and toast.

Weekends continue to be busy, with over half our numbers choosing to stay at school, taking part in activities which you will read about shortly.

This term we have seen some excellent progress with personal independence

skills, including some of our older students planning and partaking in solo trips to town and enjoying interests of their own.

We had our annual unannounced Ofsted inspection this term, which I am pleased to report went very well, and I look forward to sharing the inspectors report in due course.

Looking ahead to next term, we will be arranging extra revision sessions for those taking their exams, whilst providing a balance of downtime to enjoy the lovely warm evenings by the swimming pool.

I hope you all had a lovely holiday and a Happy Easter!

Hannah Lewis
Head of Boarding

Activities

Falconry @ Frewen

This term's Big 6 activity was Falconry. Joe and Gemma from *Joes Bows*, brought some of their beautiful birds for a flying display on the Library Lawns.

On a lovely sunny day, it was a pleasure to see the birds swoop across the gardens, whilst Joe and Gemma talked us through the birds' skills and characters.

Students met and handled all their feathered friends - including Peter, a little Burrowing Owl; a Turkey Vulture, who decided to go and explore the local area and needed to be bribed back with treats; Ava, a beautiful Harris Hawk; and Lancelot a stunning Lanner Falcon.



Mini golf to escape rooms

Our boarders had a wide range of exciting activities this term. From showing off in Mini Golf to finding their way out of complex escape rooms! Below, we look at what was on offer this term!

The term started with a climbing experience in Maidstone, as the boarders pushed themselves to their limits, and enjoyed hanging off climbing walls. The students had a great time and felt a sense of achievement after their experience. They went shopping afterwards to stock up on snacks for the rest of the weekend.

A firm favourite was the escape room, where the boarders were split into

groups and battled to find their way out of the escape room within the 60-minute time limit. The room themes were *Jungle*, *1940s Heist* and *the Fall of Saigon*, which the Sixth Formers chose as it was the hardest! They all tried their best, but the winning team was Mr Potter's team who escaped with two seconds to spare in the *1940s Heist*.

Another activity was Mini Golf in Hastings, where our students played a fun, but competitive, round of crazy golf. Students also enjoyed swimming, bowling and trips to the cinema.



Fire Brigade visit

The local Fire Brigade visited the college, one evening, to carry out a tour of the school, to ensure they were familiar with the building layout in case they ever need to respond to an emergency.

After the tour, they had some time spare and kindly invited some of the students to look around a fire truck and try on their uniforms. Needless to say, the students jumped at the opportunity! Do we have some future firefighters in our midst?



Celebrating independent interests

Enire's steam train adventure:

"I got to go on this trip; it's something I've wanted to do forever. It was part of my Independence Study, and I had to look at the railways website to see what days the trains are running. Once I'd chosen a date, I had to check what time the train arrives and departs and after that I had to look on the Stagecoach website to see when the buses were heading off to Tenterden and returning home.

I had a blast; the railway staff were very nice. They told me about the history of the railway and how everything works. I even got a tour around the museum to see all the historic engines, carriages and old signs and lamps. I saw the model trains displayed in glass cases. The museum also had books explaining the history of trains.

The train that I went on was a steam train, it had a big engine, but it didn't have a tender, it was a shunting engine which was carrying passengers. The carriages were the same as they were in the old days. The ride was very smooth, and I loved the noise that the engine

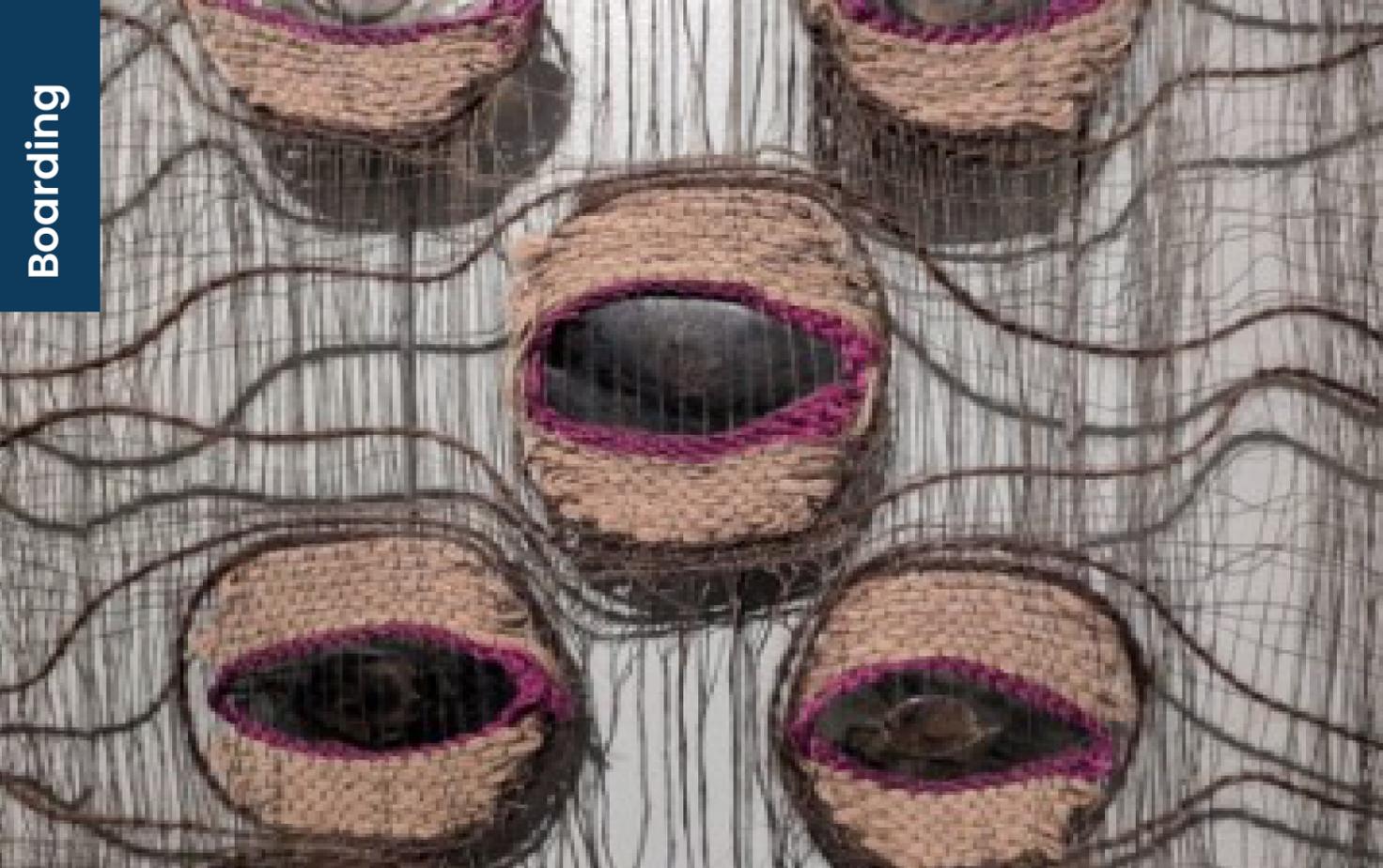
was making. You could see it chuffing and puffing up the hills and as you looked out the carriage windows you could see all the steam coming out of the chimney. It's very different from a journey on a modern electric train. All the way along the line you could see signals, which tell an engine when you can go or stop and when the line is clear.

I watched it fill up with water at Northiam station, and at the end of line in Bodiam, the steam engine was detached from the back of the train and brought to the front for our return journey.

I have learnt that the railway has opportunities to volunteer if you're over 18 years old, this is something that I would like to do in the future and will be going back to find out more.

I would like to thank Mr Potter, Miss Lewis and Mr Loveday for making my trip possible and I also thank James for coming with me on my special day.

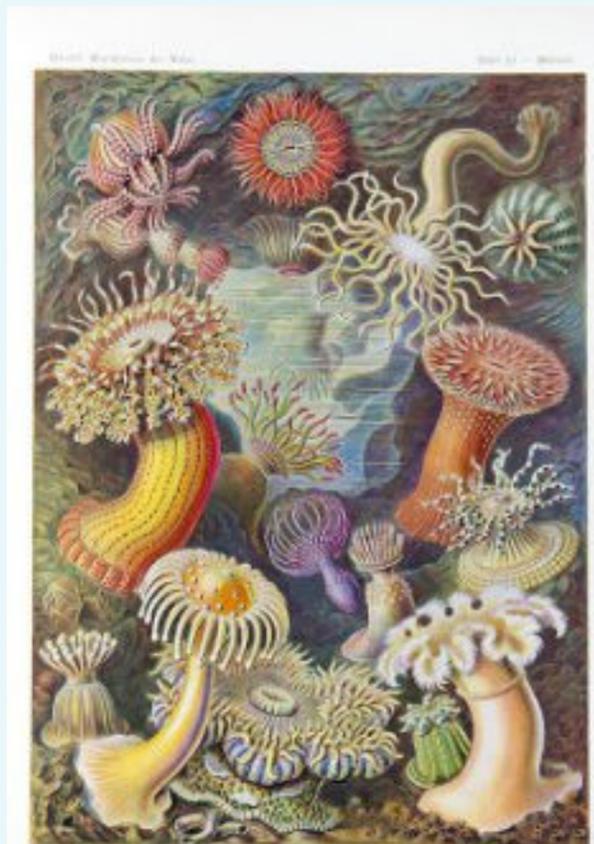




Esme's Passion for Art

Throughout the two-year Art and Design course, Esme has experimented on working with various disciplines, techniques and materials. She has chosen to work with fabrics, her preferred medium, which she will dye and overlay with colourful embroidery stitching. The artwork is titled *Harmony and the Flow of Nature*. Esme was inspired by the beautiful, flowing and detailed studies of marine life by Ernest Haeckel.

Another source of inspiration was a contemporary textile exhibition by Tadek Beutlick. Esme's work incorporates her love of nature, recycling and protection of the environment. She is planning to study Textile Design at university next year.



Recommended reads

Jules is one of our most avid readers in Boarding, to her there's nothing better than a fairy light lit room and a good book! Here are a couple of books Jules recommends:

***The Immortal Games* by Annalise Avery**

"The Blood Moon marks the start of the Immortal Games. The Gods of Olympus randomly select humans as their tokens and then gamble with their lives. The stakes are high, and survival is unlikely. Sixteen-year-old Ara is seeking revenge on the Gods for allowing her sister to die in the games. She's determined to be selected as a token, but when she is, she realises that it isn't just her life at stake, but also her heart. With the odds stacked against her, it will take an unlikely hero to twist her rage into something much more complicated. Ara is playing in the games of life and death... and love. What will she sacrifice?"



***Skandar and the Phantom Rider* by A.F. Steadman**

"Skandar Smith has achieved his dream to train as a unicorn rider, but as Skandar and his friends enter their second year at the Eyrie, a new threat arises. Immortal wild unicorns are somehow being killed, a prophecy warns of terrible danger, and elemental destruction begins to ravage the Island. Meanwhile, Skandar's sister, Kenna, longs to join him – and Skandar is determined to help her, no matter what. As the storm gathers, can Skandar discover how to stop the Island tearing itself apart – before it's too late for them all?"



Mr Wren's Morning Playlist

Mr Wren continues his tradition of waking up the boarders with his love of music. This term the favourites tunes have been:

Ramenez La Coup A La Maison
Vegedream

Ain't No Love in Oklahoma
Luke Combs

Take Me to Church
Hozier

My Life Be Like
Grits

Red Red Wine
UB40

I Always Wanted A Brother
Mufasa : The Lion King

Mr Potter's top tips for exam revision

Mr Potter is a keen mathematician and has been running revision sessions in the evenings to help support those who have exams coming up.

Frewen Boarders' GCSE Revision Guide

Follow these tips to maximise your study sessions and stay on track for success.

Creating a revision timetable

- Start by listing all your subjects and topics
- Allocate specific time slots each day for different subjects
- Balance revision with breaks to avoid burnout
- Use planners or apps to stay organised
- Adjust the timetable as needed to improve efficiency

Effective study techniques

- Active recall: test yourself on key facts instead of just reading
- Past papers: practice with past exam questions to familiarise yourself with the format
- Mind maps: use diagrams to connect ideas and reinforce learning
- Flashcards: great for memorising key facts and vocabulary
- Group study: discussing topics with peers can enhance understanding
- Create a WhatsApp group or similar so you can bounce ideas off each other
- Teach someone else: explaining concepts to others helps reinforce your knowledge - teach your parents something new!

Managing boarding and study time

- Utilise designated study hours effectively
- Find a quiet study space at home to minimise distractions
- Avoid procrastination by sticking to your timetable
- Set daily goals to track progress
- Highlight areas which you are unsure of so when you return to school, you can ask teachers or house staff for help
- Maintaining wellbeing
- Get at least 7-8 hours of sleep per night
- Eat a balanced diet to keep energy levels up
- Stay hydrated throughout the day
- Take short breaks and exercise to reduce stress
- Practice relaxation techniques such as deep breathing or meditation

Subject-specific tips

- **Maths:** focus on practice questions and formulas
- **English:** work on essay structure and comprehension skills
- **Science:** understand key concepts and practice applying them
- **History and Geography:** use timelines and case studies for better recall
- **Languages:** practice speaking, listening, reading, and writing regularly

Final thoughts

Remember, preparation is the key to success. Stay consistent with your revision, seek support when needed and maintain a positive mindset.

Good luck with your GCSE revision!



Goodbye Miss Skinner!

Miss Skinner will be leaving Frewen at the end of this term to embark on an exciting new opportunity with the NHS. Since joining in September 2022, she has played a pivotal role in the development of our Boarding programme. Through her work with the Boarding Team, she has consistently supported best practices and dedicated herself to the wellbeing of students in her role as Deputy Head (Pastoral).

It has become a familiar sight to see her joining the students around the dinner table, engaging in lively conversations about their day. Miss Skinner has also stepped up to help run the Boarding House during staff absences and generously volunteered her time to accompany us on weekend trips.

A standout moment for many was our visit to Dover Castle, where Miss Skinner wowed us all with her extensive knowledge of the castle's history. She earned the playful nickname *Two ice*

cream Skinner after secretly treating herself and the students to an extra ice cream just before the Boarding Team bought a round for everyone!

Miss Skinner was in her element when she joined us at the Natural History Museum, where she guided a group of junior boys through fascinating exhibits on rocks, minerals, and dinosaurs – we learnt very early on that Miss Skinner was a huge dinosaur fan!

One particularly memorable moment was when she attended our end-of-term animation-themed party – her portrayal of Edna Mode was nothing short of fantastic!

Her warmth, kindness and unwavering patience have made a lasting impact, and we will miss her deeply. We feel incredibly fortunate to have had her with us, and we wish her the very best as she embarks on this new chapter of her career.

Next term's activities

Weekend Activities: Summer 2025

Thorpe Park

26th – 27th April

May Bank Holiday Exeat

All boarders to leave Friday at 4pm and return after 6pm Monday 5th May

3rd – 5th May

Paddleboarding

10th – 11th May

Laser Tag

17th – 18th May

Half Term – Friday 23rd May – Sunday 1st June

Boarders can return after 6pm

Paintballing

7th – 8th June

Mini Golf

14th – 15th June

Aqua Park

21st – 22nd June

Pool Party

28th – 29th June

Please make sure to let the Boarding Team know if your child is staying on weekends as it helps significantly with planning and avoids any disappointment,