

# A message from the North Powell

## Michaelmas Term Review



The Michaelmas Term is a long journey and I congratulate those 17 new pupils who joined us, for adapting to life at the College so well. From a significant heatwave in September with temperatures reaching highs of 32 degrees, to severe storms over the last few months, we have certainly seen some weather. This has not dampened the spirits of the Powell community, with so many embracing the importance of being proactive in our community; volunteering for school councils, checking in on each other or being involved in inter-house competitions, all of this is a central pillar to supporting our wellbeing. The second half of term has seen large numbers of boys participating in school life, 7-days a week, with the house revue, remembrance and other co-curricular commitments. There has been a remarkable amount of productivity, endeavour and success to celebrate, which I hope to capture in this newsletter. SM

1

### INTER-HOUSE

Swimming and Squash  
Powell gained 1st place in the swimming and squash competition.

5

### OVERALL STANDINGS

5th place in the inter-house standings at the end of term.

270

### CHARITY MIND

£270 was raised for the charity MIND at our house concert.



The Turner Prize (p3)



Remembrance Day (p7)



Powell House Revue (p13)



## Academic Review

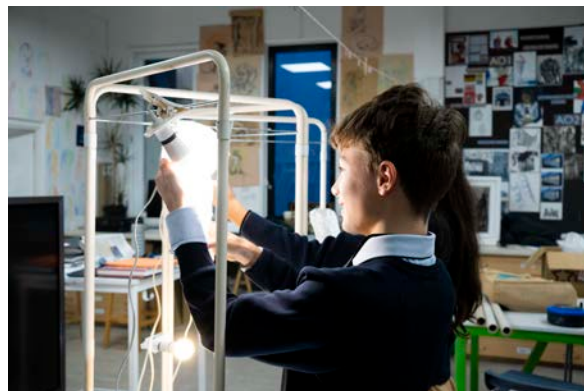
The academic life of school has been very busy, once again, this term. In September, the Headmaster's challenge winner's were announced with no Powell boys in the mix, but well done to all those who submitted entries. Around the departments the modern languages department has had a particularly busy term, welcoming our French exchange partners, hosting a food and poetry evening in French, and German pupils visiting the Goethe-Institut in London ahead of their trip to Berlin next term. The College was one of only 20 schools selected for the Day of the Dead video competition hosted by Southampton University. In politics 36 pupils travelled to Westminster to listen to a series of talks delivered by MPs from across the political spectrum including Jeremy Corbyn, Jacob Rees-Mogg and Stephen Flynn.



Questions from the floor, targeted the future security of human rights, social care provision and even the status of independent schools.

In economics, while four teams of Year 12 pupils prepare themselves for the IEA Budget Challenge next term, well done to Fred Jensen for successfully completing his CISI financial qualification. In geography, pupils provided

input into the Lords Select Committee for climate change with Sergio Vieira working with younger pupils to listen and to help shape discussion. Geographers in Years 10 and 12 are working with the Environment Agency and Coastal Schools Partnership, shaping ideas for the UK's largest coastal management scheme,



A huge thanks to Mr Bathard-Smith and Mr Dennis for their on-going support of the boys in the U6th, with their personal statements and future applications. The majority of Year 13 have now submitted UCAS applications this term and we have our fingers crossed for gaining several offers so they may pursue to the university of their choice. Best wishes to Laurence Callow and Christopher Johnson-Bird, who await to hear the result of their Oxbridge interview. Congratulations to Oliver Rivett who was awarded an honorary academic scholarship, having gained outstanding GCSE results last summer. The L6th boys have commenced their A-level courses with gusto,

## PRAISE MARKS – MICHAELMAS TERM 2023

Top 3 pupils in each year group this term.

Four reward points for class effort prize or department commendation. Two reward points awarded for a Show Hsm. One point awarded for praise comments.

Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13
Yoting Wang (29)	Henry Lawrence (29)	Leo Ginger (24)	Jossi Pears (18)	Oliver Edmead and Christopher Johnson-Bird (14)
Jakob Hughes (28)	Shaun Van Niekerk (23)	George Hoad and Teifi Wolstenholme (21)	Sergio Vieira (14)	Tom Arnold (9)
Matty Arnold (25)	Toby Timlin (17)	Tobey Braithwaite (20)	James Rimington (11)	Matt Woodall (8)

with a strong number starting their Extended Project Qualifications (EPQs) in the New Year. In Year 11, non-examined assessment work has continued to be a focus for many this term, as well as crunching through the last few topics of their GCSE syllabuses. We wish them a productive Christmas break and all the best for the January mocks, which is an important next step, in the build up to the Summer exams. In Year 10, the boys have commenced their GCSE courses and the Michaelmas term exams provided a first taste of formal exam protocols. There were a number of pleasing results, but I've no doubt all of them are hungry for obtaining higher grades. In Year 9, the boys completed end of term assessments over a 2-week period and with lots of encouraging effort. Most importantly, I've been hugely impressed with the way they have adapted to the step-up to senior school.

## Creative Arts

As always, our creative arena continues to be packed full of opportunities and achievements. As part of the Turner Prize celebrations, Eastbourne has been coming alive, with various public works of art



popping up around the town, including our own Casson Art School which has been wrapped in colourful vinyl. College pupils, including our junior art scholars have worked with artist in residence, Tallin Aylward as well as Miss Greenwood to produce a colourful installation in the art school windows based on the Eastbourne ALIVE branding. Earlier this term, the whole Year 9 cohort visited the Turner Prize, representing the College impeccably and engaging brilliantly with the work of the four shortlisted artists. Year 12 photographers have been behind the scenes for *Sweeney Todd*, capturing the actors and rehearsals. An exhibition of photographs will accompany the show in the Nugee Gallery. Special mention to Jossi Pears who has taken the lead on this project as well as performing. The Year 11 DT Scholars, who had been involved in the EcoBuild event held over the summer holidays, received their 'EcoBuild Participant' medals this term. Although not prize winners this time, their design work was highly commended by the Eastbourne Mayor. In remembrance of 'Holodomor', also known as 'The Great Ukrainian Famine', when over 3 million Ukrainians starved to death as a result of actions taken by Joseph



Stalin. Year 12 pupils took part a design competition run by the Foundation for Totalitarianism. Using both hand sketching techniques and CAD modelling, some excellent responses to the design brief were completed.

Sixteen musical events, not including the school show, have made the Michaelmas term a busy but exciting one for our musicians. As soon as we returned, several of the Chamber Choir joined a healthy number of OEs in their reunion evensong service on the 9<sup>th</sup> September. The College Choir, now numbering just over 50 pupils, joined forces with 100 prep school pupils for the annual Sing



Day which was followed a week later by a trip to sing evensong in the magnificent surroundings of St Clement Danes Church, in central London. Invited by the Reverend Mark Perry, the Choir joined with the church's professional singers and organist to sing a wonderful service commemorating 75 years of the CCF. Four well-supported Informal concerts took place throughout the term. The hotly contested annual House Singing competition held centre stage for the last night before the half term holiday, with Reeves and Nugent scooping up the trophies. After the quality on display, all are looking forward to next term's House A Capella competition. Returning after the half term break, the attention was focused on the Reflection concert, featuring the Symphony Orchestra, String Orchestra, the Act of Remembrance and the Remembrance Sunday service. The Live Lounge allowed for a welcome change of musical scene and a special mention to Alfie Edwards, Michael Timms, Zach Perry and Toby Timlin who all sang brilliantly. Our thanks as ever go to Tom Williams, the backing band (Alex and Ben Davies and Co.) and members of the Singer Songwriter group for an entertaining evening of original music. No rest for the hard-working Choir, who joined with the Choir of St Andrew's to sing a beautiful Advent Carol service in Chapel. The epic school musical



*Sweeney Todd* took centre stage in the penultimate week of term with outstanding performances from Esteban Boruel-Lopez and Jossi Pears. The Jazz Band provided a festive accompaniment to Christmas Lunch and then the brass and College Choir inspired us all to lift our voices high, in the end of term carol service.

After the quality on display, all are looking forward to next term's House A Capella competition. Returning after the half term break, the attention was focused on the Reflection concert, featuring the Symphony Orchestra, String Orchestra, the Act of Remembrance and the Remembrance Sunday service. The Live Lounge allowed for a welcome change of musical scene and a special mention to Alfie Edwards, Michael Timms, Zach Perry and Toby Timlin who all sang brilliantly. Our thanks as ever go to Tom Williams, the backing band (Alex and Ben Davies and Co.) and members of the Singer Songwriter group for an entertaining evening of original music. No rest for the hard-working Choir, who joined with the Choir of St Andrew's to sing a beautiful Advent Carol service in Chapel. The epic school musical

## House Singing







**Sweeney Todd  
and Year 9 drama**

## Service

The College's spirit of service continues to go from strength to strength. 135 members of the Lower Sixth have been involved in service activities this term, by either supporting internal college activities or working with organisations outside of school. Around 30 pupils have been giving remote support with maths and languages via Teams to pupils from local secondary schools at the Wednesday afternoon homework clubs. We were delighted to launch a new initiative this year, the Literacy Club, where College pupils help Year 8 pupils from the Turing school with reading and comprehension skills. This has been extremely successful and strong relationships are being built up through their weekly in-person meetings. Ten pupils are regular visitors to the residents at Chaseley Trust, where they are involved in the social activities and physiotherapy programmes with severely disabled adults. Six pupils host the weekly Wednesday Club, where local elderly residents visit the College for an afternoon of conversation, tea and quizzes. Three pupils help to maintain wheelchairs for the Shopmobility service in the Beacon Centre. Members of the Green Team have been carrying out weekly beach cleaning sessions and have also provided a recycling service across the campus. A large number of pupils have helped out within the College community, assisting with junior sports and activities, working as German language assistants, walking dogs, helping to keep the CCF stores in order, producing the College magazine, and directing Year 9 drama productions. It has been excellent to see so many pupils engaged in a wide variety of worthy projects this term.

A successful Charity Lunch raised close to £1,000 for our Chapel Charity, Mary's Meals, and other events, including a marvellous Advent Readings and Carols, raised a further £400. Through our Harvest Appeal for Eastbourne Foodbank we donated the equivalent of over 300 quality meals, and at Remembrance tide, the sale of poppies and the collection from Remembrance Sunday raised about £500 for the Poppy Appeal of The Royal British Legion. House Concerts contributed to overall charitable giving during this term with Powell raising over £270 for the mental health charity MIND.

Our CCF contingent has been celebrating the 75th anniversary of the modern CCF with a full programme of opportunities. The Year 11 CCF overnight exercise saw cadets using radios to solve problems, deal with emergency first aid scenarios and learn how to plan and deliver small scale patrols. The RAF section has had a very productive term, with Sergeants Oliver Edmead and Tom Arnold leading the way. The whole section paraded at a special service in London at the Central Church of the RAF to celebrate 75 years of the CCF. Powell tutor Miss Godley was welcomed as a new addition to the staff team, and as ever nothing would happen without the tireless support of Flying Officer Ambler.



The Michaelmas term has been very busy for the DofE team. We had fifty-four Y11 pupils attend their silver practice on the South Downs and sixteen Y13 pupils attend their gold assessment in Wales, all were successful. We also enrolled sixty-seven Y10 onto the silver DofE award and sixteen Y12 onto the gold award. Milly Bateman and Frederik Jensen were appointed as the College's Young Leaders and will attend training with DofE. The College has successfully passed its 3-year licence review and had gained a 68% pass rate over the last year. We are pleased to announce that this term 6 pupils completed their bronze award (Henry Lawrence, Fraser Hunt, Ben Fellows and Guillaume Becker) 45 their silver award and 3 their gold award.





Year 10 members of the Army Section have made an excellent start to training within B Company. They worked hard within their sections to learn the correct dress and drill in time to look their best on Remembrance Sunday. Senior officers have commented very positively on their approach. They now follow a varied rotation of training to prepare them for their cadet activity days at the end of the summer term. In A Company, 21 Year 11 cadets have joined the programme preparing them for the task of serving as NCOs in the Sixth Form, have undertaken an overnight exercise, and have represented the College in a civic parade in town. Meanwhile, Lower Sixth formers who completed their training last year have started in their roles as Junior NCOs, each instructing and leading a section of younger cadets under the guidance of upper sixth Senior NCOs and the adult staff. There have been five especially notable promotions this term. Alex Davies, has been promoted to Warrant Officer (First Class) and is serving as Regimental Sergeant-Major for the whole contingent and as a Lord Lieutenant's Cadet for East Sussex. Frederik Jensen and Laurence Callow have both been promoted to Warrant Officer (Second Class) and serve as Company Sergeant-Major for A Company and B Company, respectively. Michael Abourous and Samuel Hamilton have received promotion to Colour Sergeant, in recognition of the levels of experience, expertise and enthusiasm they both bring to bear within – and beyond – the platoons they lead in B Company.





# Steepo 2023





## Sport

Another brilliant Michaelmas Term of sport comes to an end. 500 pupils competing in 11 sports, 41 teams and 200 fixtures across weekend, mid-week and cup matches.

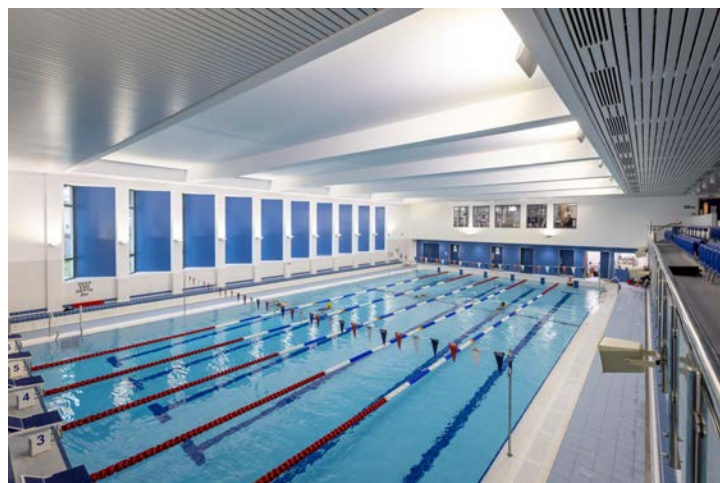
The rugby teams have similarly shown the character that Eastbourne rugby is known for with a never give up attitude. Over 200 boys have competed in the 60 fixtures played this term with over 55% won. The development of players has been very impressive as has the attitude to improve whether in the contact form of the game or touch rugby. All players deserve credit for the way they have put their bodies on the line game after game during a season, unlike any other sport, and plaudits have to go to the 1<sup>st</sup> XV playing sometimes three times in a week. Not only have the 1<sup>st</sup> XV won 6 from 11 this term, but also enjoyed a third consecutive successful run in the national cup. After the National bowl final three years ago, the last two years have seen a quarter final and last 16 run in the Vase and just two matches from Twickenham. Despite the weather frustrating at times recently, the 2<sup>nd</sup> XV has impressively won 5 from 6 this season playing some superb rugby. All teams are worthy of mention with 9 teams having won 50% or better during the season. The U16A (4 wins) and U15A (5 wins) and U14A&B (3 wins each) have led the way. Good luck to the U15As in the next round of the national plate next term. The swim teams' commitment to training never ceases to amaze with the squad



training while most of us are still in bed in the morning or training late into the evening after school. Their dedication is to be highly commended, and the team have been achieving new personal bests, College records, College firsts in national competitions once again. After the first Sussex Schools Super League meeting of the term, the squads pushed on and have competed to a very high level at the national relay heats. After the amazing experience of being coached by England swim staff in specialist technical sessions, the senior and inter boys qualified for the national finals for the second consecutive year. The seniors impressively finished 11<sup>th</sup> nationally from 128 schools who entered missing out on the ten-team final in Birmingham by just a hundredth of a second. The inter boys finished 19<sup>th</sup> nationally with an impressive showing having been seeded 21<sup>st</sup> in the heats, great improvement. The squads have their eyes firmly set on the Weald and Downland Trophy and the national Bath Cup next term at the Olympic Park, the other

two big competitions of the year. We wish Matt Clark the best of luck as he has achieved an extraordinary feat of competing in the England men's swimming nationals this weekend.

The boys squash team have won two and drawn one from five played and some very tense matches going down to the final points and matches for victory. The fencing team have competed in great home and away fixtures; football have played in cup and friendly matches





# Rugby 2023







**Powell boys  
in action this  
term**





# Inter-house Sport

POWELL





# Sport

in readiness for the full season starting in January. Archie and George Shakespeare competed in the McGregor Championship (Golf England U16 Championship) at Hunstanton GC last summer. Later in the summer George became Sussex U15 golf champion and Archie crowned combined U18 and U15 golf champion. Earlier in the term, Archie, George and Oliver May enjoyed stunning conditions at the West Sussex GC (58<sup>th</sup> best course in the UK). A competitive afternoon against the likes of Tonbridge, Eton, Harrow and Wellington College, saw George and Archie winning the individual scratch prize with a superb gross score of 1 under par 69, whilst the golf team were successful against Hurst, with Oliver winning the match on the 17<sup>th</sup> green with a fantastic putt from 14 feet. Furthermore, a huge congratulations that Archie and George have been selected for the U18 England Golf Regional Squad (South East), an extraordinary achievement.



In the end-of-term assembly we also recognised the commitment and impressive achievement of having so many pupils competing on the county, regional or national stage. There are as many as 30+ pupils training and playing with professional sports clubs or involved national programmes. The inter house sports competitions have been incredibly competitive and it has laid the platform for a competitive year ahead for the annual inter house sports cup. After the Aquathlon and steeplechase, there have been competitions in hockey, rugby, Fives, rowing, swimming and squash too. We can reveal the current standings at the end of the first term in reverse order are:

## Boys inter-house standing after

### MT23

- 6<sup>th</sup> Pennell
- 5<sup>th</sup> Powell
- 4<sup>th</sup> Gonville
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Craig
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Wargrave
- 1<sup>st</sup> Reeves







# Powell House Revue





# Headmaster's Assembly

## Sporting achievement

Full colours for rugby were awarded to **Sam Hamilton** (1st XV scrum half for 3 seasons) and **Oliver Edmead** (boys squash captain), having consistently performed at an excellent (match winning) level, showing first-class work ethic in practice, combined with a positive mental attitude.

Half colours for rugby were awarded to **Michael Abourous** and **Laurence Callow**.

Half colours for squash were awarded to **Alex Davies**.

## Creative achievement

Half colours for music were awarded to **Frederik Jensen**.

## Other notable achievements:

Congratulations to the following who mentioned in the assembly for completing their Duke of Edinburgh award:

- **Gregory Ashley-Taylor** - Silver DofE
- **Guillaume Becker** - Bronze DofE
- **Ben Fellows** - Bronze DofE
- **Henry Lawrence** - Bronze DofE
- **Fraser Hunt** - Bronze DofE

Congratulations to **Ben Davies** for receiving his grade 5 saxophone with merit.









## Final thoughts of the term

During the second half of term we have centred our charter of expectations around the importance of resilience. The hurdles of a long Michaelmas Term always tests the bounce-back ability of all pupils and ultimately contributing to helping pupils develop coping mechanisms, to withstand whatever life throws at them. I look forward to the boys returning in January, leading the house through an intense Lent Term as we look towards spring and supporting each and every boy on their personal school journey throughout 2024. My thanks to the tutors for their relentless hard work this term, as well as all parents/guardians for their unwavering support of the house and the College. Lastly, the biggest cheer in the house assembly always goes to Julie (Powell cleaner) - her patience, care and work within the house, makes her the ultimate unsung hero. Thank you, Julie.

Emma, Max and I wish everyone a wonderful Christmas break; time to relax, refuel and reconnect with family and friends.

SM



### Dates for the diary:

#### Lent Term 2024

Sunday 7 January - House open 10am - 6pm

Monday 8 January - Lent term begins

Thursday 25 January - Exeat (commences at 14.45) and Y11 A-level information meeting 14.45

Friday 9 February - Half term (commences at 14.15) and Y11 Parents meeting 14.45

Monday 19 February - Second half of term begins

Friday 8 March - Exeat (commences at 14.15) and U6 Parents meeting 14.45

Friday 22 March - Term ends

<https://calendar.eastbourne-college.co.uk/>