

Gonville House Newsletter

Lent Term 2023

As always the Lent term was short, but brutal. A relentless stream of inclement weather and work combined to test the resolve of all. It is with great satisfaction that I write the summary of the term with the sun shining and the promise of lighter evenings and warmer weather. All things considered, the achievements of the boys in their day-to-day activities, does them great credit. As always there is a summary page of those that stood out for academic effort during the term, but special mention should be made of a few individuals. **Atom Tian** and **Dean Zhang** achieved a Gold Award in the Intermediate Maths Challenge, a national competition for their year and the year above. Dean achieved the highest mark in the school and qualified for the Hamilton Olympiad. He will hear the result of this next term. In economics, **Henry Tang** achieved a Departmental Commendation for his role in the success of his team, reaching the semi-final of the Institute of Economic Affairs' annual Budget Challenge.

In the Creative sphere there were informal concerts, composition showcases, drama productions and, of course, the House A Cappella competition. The Gonville entry this term was, I thought, outstanding. Although only the podium finishers are named, I am fairly certain that the boys were worthy of 4th place. It was lovely to see a large contingent, representing all 5 years groups, take part: **Leo Makarov, Arsène Chaté, Oscar Fox, Harry Doe, Connor Morrell, Luke Clifford, Emmanuel Bawa, Harry Heming, Edward Rowell, Alex Chapman, Oliver Du Feu** and **Aidan Yao**. The last three names provided the

excellent melody.

Elsewhere in creatives, **Isaac Lee** gained a Departmental Commendation from Textiles as his entry was selected for submission to the Royal Opera House Costume



Design Challenge. His entry can be seen here. Isaac should be congratulated for joining the G&T pathway in Textiles (the first step towards an Honorary Scholarship).

In sport this term there have been fabulous achievements by the boys performing outside school, in school matches and competing for the house. It was wonderful on two weekends to have only a handful of pupils not competing for the school in either hockey or football. The pupils who received their full colours for sport are in the table below. Congratulations to **Matthew Geddes** who was awarded half colours for swimming.

Harry Prescott, as well as achieving eight gold medals at his club championships earlier in the year, improved upon his own school 50m freestyle time in helping the school relay place 7th at the Bath Cup.

Lucas Gorrill continues to impress on the cross country circuit achieving 17th from over 300 runners in the English Schools Championships. We wait with interest to see what he manages in Triathlon as the season approaches. **Matthew Geddes** was placed an excellent 25th in the U19 category.

Colours Awarded	
Football	Luke Burnham
Football	Luke Clifford
Football	Finn McKeown
Hockey	Emmanuel Bawa



KEY DATES:

Monday 17 April

Boys return 4pm-9pm

Tuesday 18 April

First day of term

Friday 5 May

Exeat weekend - from 2.35pm

Monday 8 May

Boys return 6pm-9pm

Monday 15 May

Year 11 study leave

Monday 22 May

Year 13 study leave

Friday 26 May

Half term begins

Sunday 4 June

Pupils return 4pm-9pm

Thursday 29 June

All pupils back in house following study leave

Saturday 1 July

Speech Day and End of Term

Academic Stats

eRC (effort) Wall of Fame

Year 9

Connor Morrell	5.53
Alex Chapman	5.45
Tom Robins	5.17

Most improved:

Martin Ris	+0.57
Connor Morrell	+0.47
Alfie Harman	+0.23

Year 10

Isaac Lee	6.27
Samuel Lee	5.45
Dean Zhang	5.28
Liam Lo	5.28

Most improved:

Isaac Lee	+0.43
Jack Carr	+0.36

Year 11

Archie Stephens	5.43
Jimmy Hall	5.38

Most improved:

Arsène Chaté	+0.32
Lucas Jayaraj	+0.26
William Rennie	+0.18

Year 12

Henry Tang	6.13
William Daniels	5.67
Adrian Chan	5.17

Most improved:

Otto Klosterfelde	+0.5
Rohan Van de Ven	+0.43

Oliver Du Feu	+0.42
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Year 13

Edward Rowell	5.75
Duc Dinh	5.7
Luke Burnham	5.68
Shin Kawagoe	5.57

Most improved:

Duc Dinh	+0.47
Matthew Geddes	+0.39

Show Hsm Roll of Honour

(Denotes Praise which is slightly less good than a Show Hsm, but still awarded for excellent effort)

Year 9

Seanan Wong	9 (4)
Connor Morrell	8 (7)
Alex Chapman	7 (7)
Max Colvin	6 (10)
Nazarii Dmyterchuk	5 (7)

Year 10

Isaac Lee	16 (6)
Daniel Li	6 (2)
Liam Lo	5 (6)

Year 11

William Rennie	4
Harry Prescott	2 (3)
Barley O'Connor	1 (6)

Year 12

Henry Tang	3 (3)
William Daniels	2 (4)
Rohan Van de Ven	2 (3)

Year 13

Duc Dinh	3
Finn McKeown	1 (3)

Creative Review

Throughout the term Gonvillians continue to give huge amounts of time to practice, rehearsal and creation. Whether art, photography, music or drama the opportunities are grasped with both hands and the resulting displays and performances are truly wonderful. Next term will see more of the art and photography displayed. This term saw a succession of informal concerts which included the talents of **Atom Tian** on the piano and **Samuel Lee** on the



drums. There was also a composers concert where **Leo Makarov** showcased a piece of house music which immediately transported everyone to Cafe del Mar in Ibiza. In drama, **Harry Heming** performed his GCSE piece at the Charity Concert. **Henry Tang** and **Oliver Du Feu** were very entertaining in the Art's Gold production of *Heathers*, directed by U6th pupils.



As mentioned above, the last night of term saw the A Cappella contest return. It really is a remarkable evening of varied songs and incredible quality, especially given that most of the participants only usually sing in the shower and put the songs together with very limited guidance from the music department. This year *Ain't no sunshine* by Bill Withers was the choice and the boys produced a high quality rendition. **Oliver Du Feu, Aidan Yao** and **Alex Chapman** provided the melody and managed to count the 'I knows' correctly (if you know you know, as it were). Deep and resonant bass was provided by **Luke Clifford, Ed Rowell** and **Emmanuel Bawa**. The other group members blended beat boxing, harmonies and foot-stamping to create a simple, but very effective, sound.



Sport Review

School matches were played in seventeen sports this term, despite there only being five weekends at school. The 350 fixtures have ensured that 85% of pupils have now represented the College this year. Gonville were represented in all teams, down to the 4th XI football and the U14D hockey. Special mention must be made of the U15D hockey squad that included no less than 7 Gonvillians as they lost a thrilling 6-5 match against Hurstpierpoint. Three of those had not played a fixture for the College before - a proper introduction!

Emmanuel Bawa played for the 1st XI, scoring crucial goals as they played out some high scoring and entertaining fixtures. The side averaged 3.5 goals a game. In fact, across all teams over 150 goals were scored. The U15A, including **Rowley Emus**, went unbeaten on Saturdays.



In football, **Luke Burnham** captained the 1st XI, with **Luke Clifford** and **Finn McKeown** also regularly turning out for the top team. **Harry Heming** and **Oliver Bearcroft** played in the U16A. The weather played havoc with the first half of the season, but fixtures were played against Cranleigh, Bede's, Charterhouse, Worth, Tonbridge and Brighton. Despite it being January, a sizeable contingent continued to play 15-a-side rugby under the lights at Horsham. **Edward Rowell**, **William Daniels** and **Max**

Crowther represented the 1st XV. After half term the attention switched to Sevens and the challenge of Rosslyn Park. **Barley O'Connor** scored four tries in the Colts tournament groups stages as the U16s narrowly missed out on the second day.



In tennis, Gonvillians found success in the Winter League with **Finn McKeown**, **Harry Heming** and **Oliver Bearcroft** winning through to the regional finals day. It was also note-worthy that in the first round of the U18 National Cup, a team made entirely of Gonvillians tasted victory. In this case **Shin Kawagoe**, **Nazarii Dmyterchuk**, **Finn McKeown** and **Oliver Bearcroft**. Nazarii must

also be congratulated for winning a trip to the prestigious Raphael Nadal Academy this Easter. As has become traditional, there is a healthy Gonville contingent in the basketball team as well, with **Aidan Yao**, **Daniel Li**, **Adrian Chan** and **Ryan Liu** all playing multiple fixtures.





AROUND THE GROUNDS





House Sport Review

Four sports were fought over in the latter part of the term. The final standings can be seen in the lists below. Mostly they are the combined results of contests held at year 9, 10 and senior levels. As always, I am struck by the participation and togetherness shown in these events. Whether the boys are A team or D team they get stuck in and are always competitive. It is wonderful to see Gonville 2nd overall in the overall terms standings, but it is much more important to see the spirit of togetherness that these competitions provide and the enjoyment that all take from playing against their friends in other houses.

Hockey	Water Polo	Football	Chess
1.Reeves	1.Gonville	1.Wargave	1.Pennell
2.Craig	2.Reeves	2.Gonville	2.Wargrave
3.Pennell	= Wargrave	3.Reeves	3.Reeves
4.Gonville	3. Craig	= Powell	4.Powell
5.Powell	= Pennell	4. Pennell	5.Gonville
= Wargrave	= Powell	5.Craig	6.Craig

Gonville hockey this term was characterised by stout defence. Goals were not too forthcoming, but two notable strikes from **Rowley Emus** and a couple of no-score draws saw the year 10 squad to 4th place. The year 9 and seniors also proved tough to beat and, if the seniors hadn't spurned some excellent chances they might even have claimed a prized Craig scalp.



House water polo returned after a long hiatus and proved an immediate hit. The junior squad was comprised of year 9 and 10. After losing a really close tussle to Craig, despite some outstanding defence from **Alex Chapman** and the speed of **Lucas Gorrill** in midfield, they triumphed over Pennell to secure a spot in the 3rd/4th place match against Wargrave. Early goals from **Max Colvin** and tenacity from **Rowley Emus** saw them through to victory.



The senior squad didn't concede until the final in a series of dominant displays. Speed through the water, teamwork and some excellent saves from **William Daniels** proved too much for their opponents. The work rate of **Matthew Geddes** and **Harry Prescott**, as well as the golden arm of **Finn McKeown** deserve particular mention as they dismantled Powell to win the title.



House chess involves all ten houses split into pools of five. Having won two, drawn one and lost one rubber in the group stage, the boys qualified in third place. They drew Pennell, the eventual winners, in the knockout stages. It has been lovely to see a marked increase in the amount of chess played in the house. This has been largely down to the influence of **Ricky Verger** and **Otto Klosterfelde** who both represented the house in the competition. They were joined by squad skipper, **Duc Dinh**, and **Rufus McCourt**. I am excited to see who triumphs in the Gonville competition in the term ahead.





As always it is house football that brings out the most passion in all. It has been a while now since Gonville won the event in 2015, but with three of the 1st XI, including the captain, and a host of other regular players, there was a sense of hope despite the deluge of rain. In the mud soup, the silky skills of **Luke Clifford** and **Finn Mckeown** were nullified, but there was power and pace from **Emmanuel Bawa** and some nice touches from **Oliver Du Feu** in midfield. Against Wargrave a goalless draw was secured by an assured defensive display from **Harry Heming**. In the end a succession of late equalisers from opposition meant that with one win, one loss and three draws, the boys finished in third place.



In the overall standings the house was boosted by an excellent 2nd place finish by year 9 and a year 10 side that went unbeaten despite only one goal being scored in their competitions.



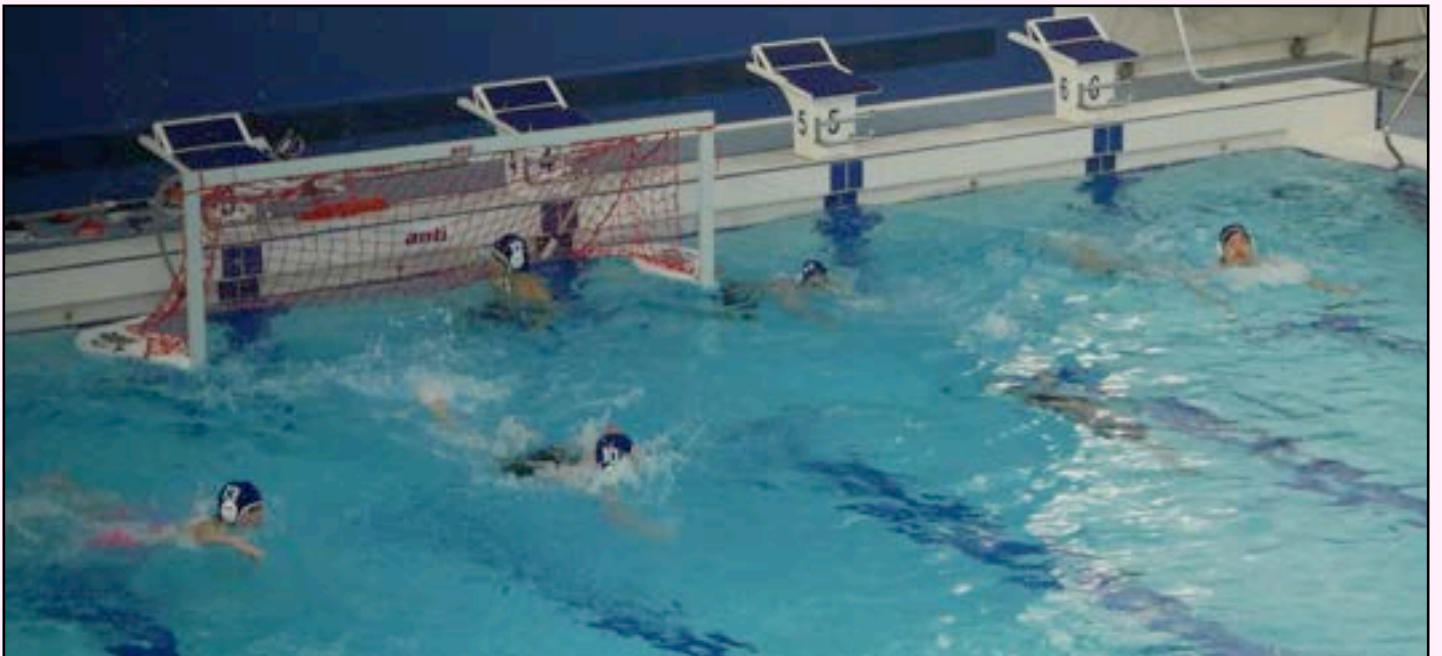
HOUSE FOOTBALL

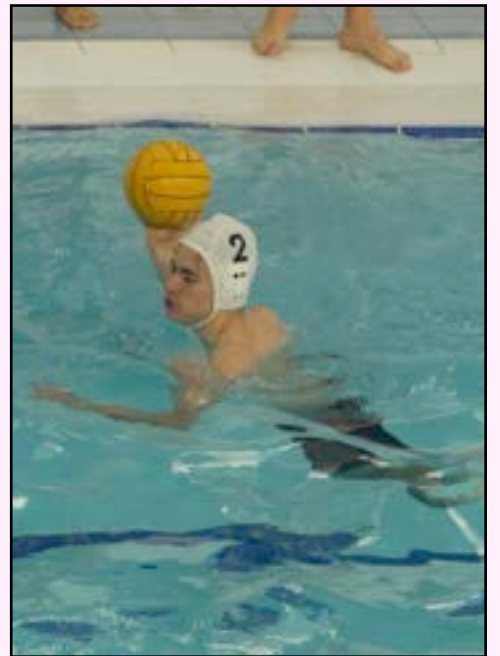






WATER POLO





House activities

As always, the community remained busy throughout the term despite power cuts, mock exams, exhaustion and, shock horror, calls to return home to see parents. The house facilities were in heavy use as usual, with the new basketball hoop most popular. As is now tradition the 'Pepper-Hansen' designed Gonville mini golf course was erected for its annual tournament with **Max Colvin** triumphing with a remarkably low score (a little too remarkable said previous course record holder AOWD...).



Gonville shared a Hawaiian-themed dinner with Nugent house. The boys got into the spirit of it with some outstanding shirts on display, although the Primark designs did rather dominate proceedings. A combined band (name pending) were put together under Father Daniel's experienced eye to play some Beach Boys to put us in the mood. My thanks to **Arsène Chaté**, **Ben Whiteley**, **Oscar Fox** and **Will Rennie** for their excellent playing. As part of the evening, a limbo competition was hotly contested with **Max Colvin** once again the top performer (in Gonville).



At the start of the term the Lunar New Year was celebrated with a house delivery from local favourite Mr Hau. Throughout the term there were a succession to tutor dinners and celebration suppers to acknowledge the excellent work of the pupils so far this year. The year 10 enjoyed some waffles to reward some good progress since Christmas and the winning squad from last term claimed their reward in a local restaurant.

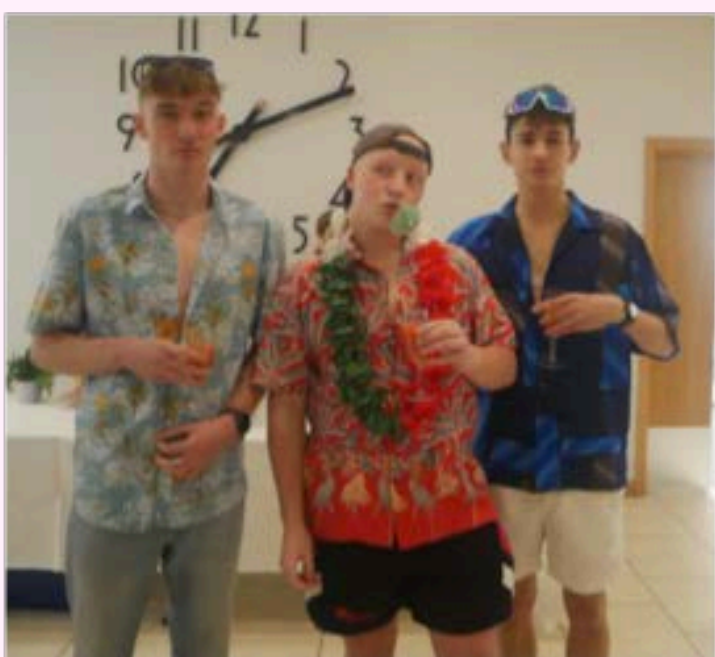


In other events of note the pupils did their bit in keeping the Eastbourne beach clean and **Connor Morrell** should be congratulated for completing a Rubic's Cube in 90 seconds in front of half the school in Chapel. The house was also very pleased to see Tommy Fury beat Jake Paul, although not everyone was totally riveted.



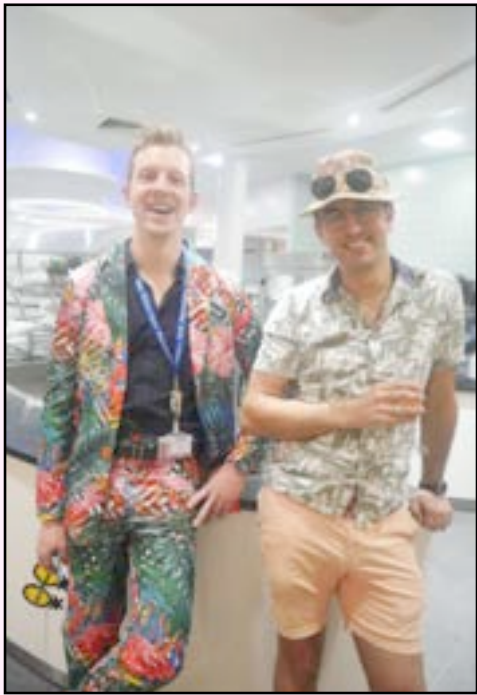


NUGENT DINNER











FUTURES FAIR



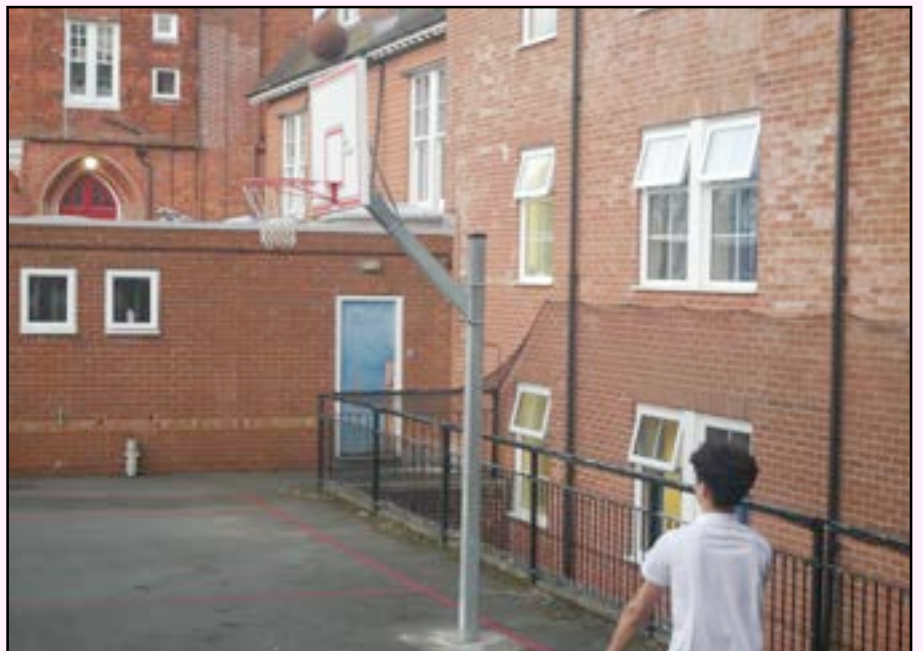
WAFFLE TIME





AROUND THE HOUSE







As always I wish you all a very Happy Easter and look forward to welcoming the boys back for the Summer term. Clearly there is a lot at stake for those with public exams, but it is also a wonderful term for community with long evenings promoting the use of the garden for football, BBQs and, perhaps, the odd ice cream van.

I would appreciate your help, as always, in ensuring that the boys have all the kit they require for their chosen sports. This is relevant to clothing, but also equipment. For instance, it is important that all those choosing tennis have their own racquet. I am always very sad if individuals have to be returned home due to an illegal haircut. Please do ensure that it is smart and avoid it going below a grade 3, please.

In response to a number of recent news stories and the increased availability of disposable vapes, please be vigilant in ensuring your son doesn't bring such a device back to school.

