



Adaptability

Highlights 2019-20



NORTHAMPTON
HIGH SCHOOL

GDST
GIRLS' DAY SCHOOL TRUST





“It is not the strongest of the species that survives, nor the most intelligent. It is the one that is most adaptable to change.”

Charles Darwin

Welcome

The academic year 2019-20 was, without a doubt, one of the most extraordinary in all of our memories, taking us on a journey from the 'norm' into a world where we learnt to communicate in a very different way.

We learnt to smile with our eyes, communicate via 'Zoom' or 'Teams', and we learnt to live with technology alone. So how did we do? Amazingly well, of course! We adapted to a plethora of digital platforms and made huge leaps in digital competency on every level. Moving to personal devices from Year 5, we embraced Guided Home Learning (GHL) and took advantage of the many online learning programmes, including virtual trips to museums and galleries and the GDST's fabulous 'Limitless Learning' programme.

It wasn't all about COVID, though, and we began the year with a full Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) inspection in the Autumn Term. This gave us the highest possible grade in every single section, including 'excellent' for the quality of pupils' academic and other achievements and 'excellent' for the quality of pupils' personal development.

There were many highlights from the ISI report, but the statement that "Pupils show a strong appreciation and respect for the diverse cultures represented within the school community" could not be more reflective of the spirit of the school.



Mrs Caroline Petryszak, Headmistress

After the tragic death of George Floyd in May 2020, the school responded to the 'Black Lives Matter' movement, consulting with parents and students and engaging with the GDST's Undivided Charter for Action and its commitment to diversity, inclusion, real change and social justice for all.

Black History month saw a roadshow of activity from the Theology and Philosophy department, with a lecture series that included guest speakers such as June-Elizabeth White-Smith-Gulley, the first



It was wonderful to host the GDST Rally in October 2019

Black Female Police Officer in Northamptonshire, Valerie Vaz MP and writer Sharna Jackson. Partnerships included the second in the 'Now's The Time' conference series as part of the 'WHEW!' - women helping empower women - community-led initiative, 'STEAM', enthusing Y5 students to pursue careers in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics and a day of science for local primaries with our older students acting as mentors, organisers and session leaders. 'Now's The Time 3' is in the planning too, centring on career opportunities for young women in the Film Industry and supported by HSBC.



Our STEAM Extravaganza was a smash hit!

By the end of the year it was hard to remember a time before the COVID-induced lockdown, but we had certainly made the most of that time. In the autumn, the Sports department hosted the GDST rally, welcoming 23 schools and over 600 athletes to compete in hockey, swimming, netball and football competitions. The Netball Team attended offsite tournaments in Oundle, Repton School and Conover Hall and we attended the National Tennis Finals in Bolton, playing intensively for two days to achieve fourth place in the country.

The Art department took the GCSE students to the Victoria and Albert Museum to look at 'Trinkets, Treasures and Memories', U4 Latinists scooped first prize for best original drama at the GDST Languages festival in Sydenham and five Erasmus+ ambassadors travelled to Riga. The History department led a visit to the Battlefields of the Somme, accompanied by First World War researcher and expert Terry Whenham, and our economists visited the King's School in Peterborough to hear a range of lectures given by members of the Institute of Economic Affairs. Year 5 attended a residential at Grafham Water, Years 3 & 4 went to Burwell House and our Nursery students worked with the artist in residence to make a clay leaf installation.



With 54% A*/A grades at A Level, 75% 9-7 (A*-A) grades at GCSE and as many individual stories of success as we have students, all excelled in their own right.

We made the best of the rest of the year, too, and as we learnt to adapt to a new way of teaching and learning our creativity really came to the fore. Food students accessed their own equipment using resources easily found at home, thus avoiding unnecessary trips to the supermarket, and Art and Textiles students made masks and sock monsters, printed with potatoes and experimented with dying fabric using flowers from the garden. Meanwhile, the GDST song contest went ahead in an adapted form with NHS submitting a pop song composed by Olivia Scurr for her GCSE examination as our school entry; fabulous!

The Classics students utilised cardboard boxes, stop motion videos, Lego and siblings (as extra cast members!), whilst studying the Roman Baths and Roman Education. In Science, students adapted their investigations using equipment they had available in their kitchens and gardens to study reflection, motion and density (and how quickly chocolate melts!), demonstrating independent and creative learning. Science students shone in the RSC Chemistry Olympiad with all entrants achieving a commendation or a medal.

Our U5 and 6.2 students shone, too, in their summer examinations - or, rather, what should have been. In a year where GCSEs and A Levels were cancelled, they were awarded Centre Assessed Grades (CAGs) that were fitting and well deserved. Our school values include getting to know our girls really well and valuing each individual, so awarding these grades was not an onerous task and each student achieved their potential.

6.2 students secured places at universities including those of Loughborough, York, Liverpool, UCL, Keele, Birmingham, Oxford, Newcastle and Edinburgh and - as always - to study a plethora of courses. This year, these included Mechanical Engineering, Environment, Ecology and Economics, History of Art and English Literature, Dentistry, Medicine, Fine Art, International Relations and Political Science, Applied Biosciences, Geography and Architecture, Law with Criminology, Maths and Philosophy and Veterinary Science.

They leave us with a secure foundation, our support and, as members of the 70,000+ community of GDST alumnae. This group spans the world and every professional sector, offering one-to-one and app-based mentoring programmes, networking, self-development and social events and I have no doubt that our leavers of 2020 will take full advantage of this, becoming mentors to others in time.

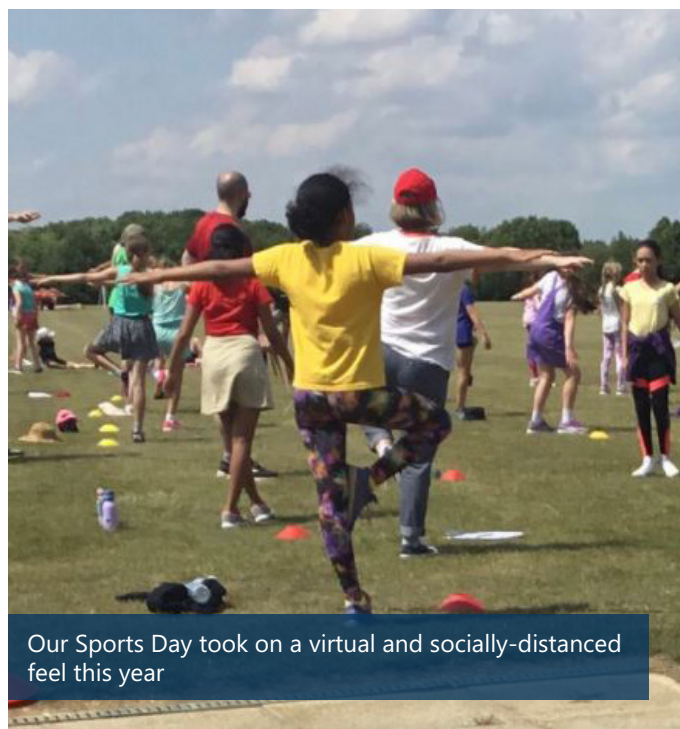
In summary, and returning to the opening statement, this ‘extraordinary’ year has been a challenge, but an opportunity, too.

In the summer, we were given the opportunity to re-open to students in Junior School and, in part, to those in L5 and 6.1, and it was a joy to do so. We are blessed with space at Northampton High School, so a safe ‘re-entry’ was not an issue. Sports Day was like no other: virtual for most and socially-distanced for some, but we made the most of it for sure, as we did the Sports Relief Challenge earlier in the year.

An opportunity to be ourselves and to grow and adapt on every level. An opportunity, too, to use new words: ‘furlough’, ‘bubble’, ‘pandemic’, ‘self-isolation’ and ‘super-spreader’ - and a new phrase but most oft-used phrase: “You are on mute”!

For several, though, this has been a challenge on a very different level as members of our community have lost loved ones or been otherwise personally affected by this pandemic. I know that you will join me in offering condolences and mutual support to all and in thanking every single member of the High School community for their stoicism this year. Not least, the ‘Class of 2020’ who had the most extraordinary journey and were cheated of a natural ending. They are an inspiration to us all and have demonstrated their adaptability incredibly well.

Returning to the words of Charles Darwin, I am confident that our students won’t just ‘survive’, as they have the spirit and support of the High School and the GDST behind them; they will excel. All strength to them, and to you. Mrs Caroline Petryszak, Headmistress



A close-up photograph of a person's hand painting a tiger's face on a piece of paper. The hand is holding a black brush with 'MAJOR BRUSHES N. 2' written on it. The painting is in progress, showing the tiger's face with orange, black, and white fur. The background is a light green surface. The text 'Faculty Highlights' is overlaid in white serif font on the painting.

Faculty Highlights

Creative Arts

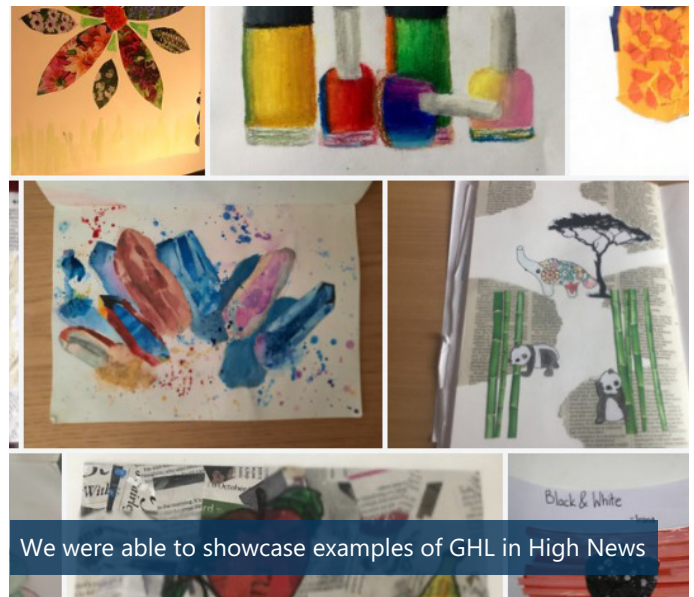
It was clear from the beginning of the Coronavirus pandemic that people needed their creativity. We saw clips on the news of singers, musicians, dancers, painters and actors creating, rehearsing and filming in their homes. Michael Sheen and David Tennant were notable for their lockdown comedy 'Staged', and who could forget Italian tenor Maurizio Marchini on his balcony, serenading Florence? Artists, designers and crafters returned to their drawing boards and technology, whilst unable to perform or exhibit their skills publically. Bread Ahead Bakery - London-based bakery introduced regular Instagram bakealongs during lockdown. The company created a worldwide baking community sharing recipes such as sourdough, carrot cake, focaccia and sticky toffee pudding. This helped to keep spirits up and develop people's baking skills.

Our students built on the skills learned in school in their home kitchens with family, sharing their results with Miss Knight, who encourages girls to adapt their recipes. Through Miss Knight's Twitter account and High News, we were able to see the students' outstanding results.

In Drama and Music, students quickly adapted to new ways of producing their work.



One of many delicious Guided Home Learning (GHL) bakes!



We were able to showcase examples of GHL in High News

Mrs Care welcomed highly personal digital work with students considering their own technical responses through sound and lighting. Miss Lycett launched her Sewalong, using her sewing machine and laptop through Microsoft Teams, to guide pupils, staff and parents through making our Collins Overalls, with successful zip insertions because of her excellent adapted teaching approach. We all quickly learned how to change and offer our students new materials and resources. Voiceover PowerPoint was an excellent tool for our Art History element to A Level Art. Mr Nathan was quick to organise and collate the recordings from our musicians and vocalists. Mr Laubscher and I were overwhelmed by the quality of digital portfolios submitted by U5 and 6.2 Art students.

Music is one of the few subjects where face-to-face contact is essential in order to make wonderful sounds as a group; however, the lockdown period afforded some useful time to work on theory and solo singing. The Key Stage 3 focus was scales and arpeggios, which underpin all we know about Music. U4 also composed pop songs.

Recordings of all the practical tasks were successfully submitted via Teams or email and allowed for some very meaningful progress and feedback.

One very enjoyable task was to collate the many videos and photographs submitted by students to accompany the school entry for the GDST song contest. This was a lovely pop song, composed by Olivia Scurr for her GCSE examination.

We do hope to resume our many and varied ensembles as soon as possible, but will find ways of utilising solo performances digitally in the meantime. Avani Nandhra, one of our stalwart pianists, performed during a virtual assembly led by Mr Rickman.

Virtual, physical and vocal warm-ups were a crucial part of practical Drama preparations during Guided Home Learning. U3 focused on a selection of monologues to practise character work, vocal skill, physicality, memory skill and performance skill. Plays by Alan Ayckbourn, William Shakespeare and Lewis Carroll were studied.

Students cleverly recorded and submitted their chosen pieces, with incredibly thoughtful interpretations, that included soundscapes and special lighting effects to accompany the action.

L4 and U4 demonstrated their creative abilities by utilising the many news reports, articles, and different experiences of the lockdown to devise their own short film. Digital submissions were diverse, engaging and moving.

GCSE classes were able to concentrate on the theory side of the course with exam practice and feedback. As group work was not viable, we soon adapted to working with set texts on suitable monologues and duologues, which were virtually performed and critiqued in preparation for the practical examination.

Although rehearsals for our planned school musical, Seussical, sadly ended abruptly, students showed resilience by finding alternative ways to still deliver artistic performances through solo contributions virtually.

The Art examination groups were diligent in their approach to portfolio submissions. Each student created a range of slides through their choice of platform, so that we could see how their Art coursework journey unfolded through the pages in their books and journals, alongside paintings, sculptures and prints.



U3 students created excellent and sensitive drawings, watercolours and mixed media pieces, using selected papers and gold leaf. Their bird studies were particularly impressive. We used Jackie Morris' illustrations from 'Lost Words' as inspiration for kingfisher, bittern, rooks and eagles and owls. L4 used a vast range of media and approaches throughout their Marine Life unit, including pastel jellyfish, watercolours, collage and inks for their crab and lobster compositions, inspired by contemporary British artist, Kurt Jackson. The L4 students began to experiment with ceramic designs ready for their clay project – just before lockdown! We are confident that those excellent designs will become a reality in the near future. U4 impressed us with their use of oil pastels in the Portraiture.

Creative Arts

Their ability to record precise and realistic hair and facial features enabled the students to refine their techniques and adapt to quite a challenging set of tasks. The Van Gogh colour studies and collage work relating to Gauguin were fantastic.

L5 began their GCSE studies using 'Reflection' as their starting point. The girls quickly adapted to the rigours of the course, building up pages in their sketchbooks. Individual one-to-one Art tutorials offered via Teams during Guided Home Learning ensured that each artist received full support as we discussed plans for future sequences of work. We feel all the girls in each year group reacted positively and proactively to their home learning, displaying great resilience.

The Fashion and Textiles department continues to inspire girls across the school throughout what has been an unusual year.

GCSE and A Level students have completed fantastic pieces of work and we can feel truly proud of our achievements. Projects have been diverse and explored a range of subjects including architecture, hunting and Islamic culture.



We welcomed textile artist Emily Notman into school last December to deliver a creative workshop where students had the opportunity to spend a full day exploring new techniques. In January, we took our annual visit to the Victoria and Albert Museum where GCSE students explored their new topic Trinkets, Treasures and Memories, viewed the fashion gallery and the Mary Quant Exhibition; this trip formed the basis of vital project research.

Many galleries and museums have now adapted to offer online exhibitions and virtual tours and we are looking forward to using these resources fully during the coming months. We are lucky enough to have been able to provide our students with some resources to use at home during Guided Home Learning, and we adapted our projects and teaching accordingly.



With the added use of Microsoft Teams video links we communicated with our students and delivered both live and recorded demonstrations. Our students really impressed me with their resilience and creative workshops, which they set up at home independently. Students accessed their own equipment and adapted brilliantly, using resources easily found at home. There was, of course, mask making, and the weekly virtual Sewalong club.

We also explored creating sock monsters, potato printing, printing and dying fabrics with flowers from our garden, and dying with onion skins, tea and coffee. Since our safe return to school students have adapted to be brilliant organisers, requesting creative resources well in advance and taking responsibility for working within designated areas. We are continuing to adapt in the classroom as we look forward to an exciting and creative new academic year.

Adapting recipes in Food has always been encouraged to pupils for various reasons; from personal taste and texture preferences to dietary needs; we love to see different flavour combinations and recipe creativity.

Of course, adaptability took a whole new meaning from March this year as we went into lockdown and had to adjust quickly to a new way of teaching and learning.

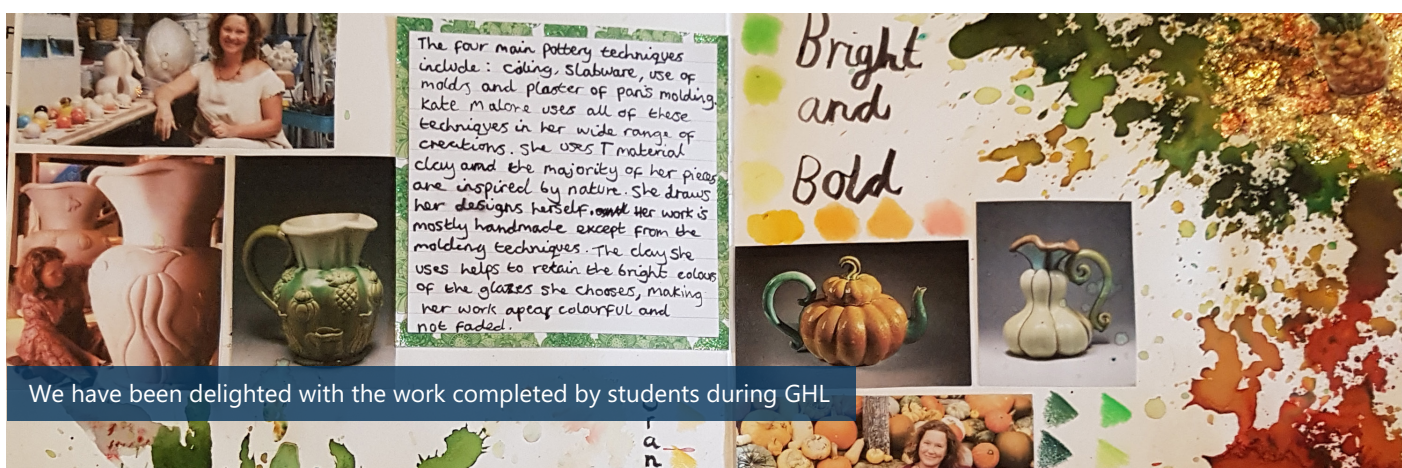
During lockdown, pupils were able to still cook and bake, and we loved seeing the photos shared with us. They worked independently to produce their outcomes and to problem-solve. For some, we are sure the added luxury of having access to a dishwasher to aid cleaning up was very welcomed, and will be missed!



Students took part in an Easter Bake Off challenge

Adaptability was in some ways taken out of our hands due to ingredient shortages, or because of limited access to supermarkets. If this was the case, pupils were set challenges to use ingredients they already had at home, or to cook dinner one evening so that they were still able to develop their cooking skills.

Through Guided Home Learning, we were able to observe what some pupils particularly love about this subject. Ques-Li, now in U4, filmed a tutorial on how to make homemade shortcrust pastry jam tarts which was shared on Twitter, and her passion of food photography and styling was identified; something we may not have been aware of had it not been for online learning!



We have been delighted with the work completed by students during GHL

English and Film

We are so immensely proud of our students and their enthusiastic response to the challenges and opportunities presented by this unique year; English and Film are such a social subjects after all. Even as our thoughts were with examination year students, U5 and 6.2, hoping that their hard work and dedication would be justly rewarded, many younger students took advantage of the time to read extensively and to complete enrichment activities available through Firefly. A memorable achievement was Laura Charles' recording of her spine-tingling monologue from Jennet Humphrye, the eponymous 'Woman in Black' from Susan Hill's gripping novel.

AS Film students demonstrated strong understanding of Film Theory and transferred their knowledge to produce their own original films. Lucy Ward's AS coursework film used the horror genre to present a disturbing sequence (girl alone in a house with frightening noises) leading to the investigation in a corridor of discovery.



Students film their AS Coursework in the school grounds

Film Enrichment was offered across the school during Guided Home Learning. For Key Stage 2 there was BFI short films with a range of enhancement activities. Key Stage 3 pupils explored film genre and wrote their own original scripts, inspired by the movies Splash, Back to the Future, Jurassic Park and School of Rock. An introduction to Film Theory was examined in Key Stage 4 through Mark Kermode's series Secrets of Cinema. Key Stage 5 students gained wider understanding of film meaning through the bespoke programme GCSE-ish Film Studies, which was shared throughout the GDST.

Rap poet and educator Breis entertained both Junior School and Senior School students with brilliant online performances via Google Meet, during Guided Home Learning in July. Breis explained his inspiration and working methods, delivered highly entertaining and thought-provoking performances of his works and answered the many student questions, some of which explored The Black Lives Matter Movement, with warmth and candour.

The school's debating and public speaking club was ably led throughout the year by Isabel Balkhi and Poppy Jacobs, to whom much thanks is due. The L5 debaters competed in the English Speaking Union's Public Speaking Competition. Neeya Bhadresha, Hannah Smyth and Angelica Suma produced excellent performances, placing second in the first round in November 2019 at Denbigh School, with Hannah winning the best chairperson award. At the branch final in February 2020 only one team out of six could go through to the next round and, despite best efforts, that wasn't us. It was, nevertheless, a pleasure to hear the students ably competing at such a high level. The 6.1 debating team was made up of Niamh McArdle, Katie Norbury and Amelie Ward, who delivered a compelling performance in November 2019 on the environmental impact of flying.

The standard of debating at the second round in January 2020 was phenomenal.

They went through to the next round at the expense of some strong teams, including Bedford School. Debating the topic of the commercialisation of Pride, we lost out to the team that would eventually make it through to the national semi final.

High School students also entered two GDST-run competitions. Lexy Daly gave an excellent speech on the importance of retaining an element of childishness in our lives as part of The Chrystall Carter Competition. She impressed the judges with her poised delivery and fluent response to questions.

A number of students also entered the GDST-wide Virtual Debating Tournament, with Katie Norbury and Daria Alexander-Sefre kindly giving up their Saturday to help judge debates, while Eliza Ali, Laura Charles, Tevini Dias, Tara Etemadi, Grace Hillis and Leona Rendina were chosen to represent the High School in the debates themselves.

Two issues of the student-run magazine 'Backchat' were produced this year, with the theme of the first on Space and of the second on Time. A special edition of Junior School contributions was also produced during Guided Home Learning, with pupils reflecting on this unique period and demonstrating their amazing adaptability. The editors of the magazine worked incredibly hard all year, with Jess Cressey-Jones coordinating the team of Elena Crawford, Saskia Jessop, Ruby Howard, Olivia Russell and Eeman Yousaf.

Together, they showed immense creativity, adaptability and quick-wittedness in looking to develop the magazine further.

In addition to publishing issues, the team also raised money to cover printing costs through special events and developed a stronger online presence to raise the magazine's profile.

The High School's winning entry for A Level students to the GDST Laurie Magnus Poetry Prize was the poem 'Heusos' by Hannah Goddard (6.1), with Ruby Howard a formidable runner-up with 'Glassy Eyed'. Janice Huang won in the Key Stage 3 category with 'The Experience of a Musical' (U4) and Tara Etemadi (U3) was runner-up 'Swan'. The theme of the GDST Creative Writing competition was 'New Rules for the Future World'. The High School's winning entry was an ambitious diary-style entry by Xinyu Shannon Meng (U3), with commendations for Kirsten Mbawa (U3), Sonya Mittal (U3) and Ques-Li De Bruin (L4).

This has been a strong year for reading in the Senior School; one silver lining of school closure



has been the opportunity to read more and there is a Book Club Team for recommendations. Pupils in the U3 have a personal reading log on Firefly to record progress and review comments. This year's Carnegie Shadowing had to take place at home and the 2020 shortlist was an interesting mix of eight fiction titles. Three books had a distinctly political edge as they portray the emerging identities of various teenagers confronting issues such as racism, sexism, homophobia and inequality. Angie Thomas's 'The Hate U Give' lost out last year but she was on the shortlist again with another strong contender, 'On The Come Up', which is narrated by Bri, a sixteen year old rapper from a rough American neighbourhood. The other five books ranged in style, from Nick Lake's Sci Fi thriller 'Nowhere on Earth' to 'Lark' by Anthony McGowan - the eventual winner - about two teenage brothers lost in a blizzard on the Yorkshire Moors.

Sixth Form Film Studies students experimented with Foley sound effects, explored Hollywood-style lighting, had a go at filming long unedited takes, used framing choices to convey relationships in filmed conversations and created storyboards for the opening of The Iron Lady plot.

The theme for the 2020 Northampton High School Film Competition was 'A Vision of the Future'. Students were asked to consider a future where the environmental impact changed life on Earth forever. The winners were Matilda Blount in Year 4, Emily Moore in Year 6 and Laura Charles in the L4.

Humanities

Despite the restrictions of Guided Home Learning, 2019/20 saw a range of innovations to our practice within the Geography Department to adapt to the challenge. In particular, the use of pre-recorded lessons (made using Explain Everything) was a big success in enabling A Level students to remain up to date with their studies, making just as much progress as in a 'normal' year. The use of Microsoft Teams to deliver online seminars to U5 students was also very successful for exposing students to more advanced and interesting geographical topics, including geopolitics and human rights; we are now seeing the benefits of this with our current 6.1.

Although the Eco Team could not meet together, our environmental work was able to continue, with the largest number of people taking part in Earth Hour during March. It was also still possible to run the Young Geographer of the Year competition on the theme of 'The world beyond my window', with fantastic entries from Key Stage 2 to Key Stage 5 including an amazing use of ArcGIS by Rosie Saxton to produce a story map on the Llyn peninsula.

Two highlights of the year from a Business and Economics perspective were the IEA Conference attended by the A Level Economics group in January and the participation in the national Young Enterprise 'Tenner' Competition later during the spring term.

In November, the school's economists visited the King's School in Peterborough to hear a range of lectures given by members of the Institute of Economics Affairs. The lectures covered a diverse range of topics: robots and the development of A.I., the UK's productivity puzzle and market and government failure in the case of the healthcare market - with hindsight all very relevant given how our lives were to change a few short weeks later.

As the new stories around the pandemic developed, small groups of students from Key Stage 3 were meeting on Mondays after school as part of Enterprise Club. Their mission was to start and run a business with £10 capital that was loaned to them by the school.



The young entrepreneurs understood their target market perfectly and were ready to start trading their products in the second week of March. Between them, they sold hand crafted polymer clay keyrings and charms, laptop stickers, pamper packs, bookmarks and fine art prints, jewellery, stationery and hand-sewn pockets and pouches. The Tenner Market became a popular shopping destination at lunchtimes. Although rudely interrupted by lockdown, the students were all successful in making a profit and have gained some useful and transferable business experience too!



The Sixth Form Enterprise group 'LEVER' also had a very successful - if shorter - period of trading. Their 'Little Bags of Happiness' including handmade bracelets, hair scrunchies, sweets and positive messages of wellbeing, proved a hit with the school community. This motivated group of entrepreneurs was rewarded with a dividend of over four times their original investment.

In October, the History Department led a visit to the First World War Somme Battlefields. This moving visit was designed to be personalised with each student being given a researched account of one soldier whose name could be found on the Thiepval Memorial to the missing. We were grateful to be accompanied by First World War researcher and expert Terry Whenham for guided tours of Hawthorn Ridge, Lochnagar Crater, Newfoundland Memorial Park and Vimy Ridge. The Politics & International Relations Elective visited Westminster for a tour of the building and had the opportunity to watch a debate in the Commons.



Our mock General Election took place in December 2019

The group also conducted the December 2019 mock General Election which resulted in a huge turnout of voters and a system of proportional representation electing Jeremy Corbyn as PM in a coalition with the Green Party. Our Model United Nations Club met weekly to discuss plans to tackle the climate emergency and ensure nuclear disarmament. Much like the real world, little progress was made but students gained a valuable insight into international issues and the difficulties of building consensus amongst differing parties. Historians across the school adapted to virtual learning producing excellent work on topics including the Slave Trade, Life in Elizabethan England, the impact of the First World War and Industrialisation in Russia under Stalin.

Microsoft Teams video calls continued to be a useful format for GCSE classes that enjoyed sharing quizzes and games they'd composed as part of revision materials.

Guided Home Learning has been an exciting challenge embraced by the Theology and Philosophy department, that certainly made A Level debates more structured over video call!

Discovering the 'Office Lens' app was really useful as we were more easily able to share readings that are essential for our studies, for example, an extract from 'The Puzzle of Ethics' by Dr Peter Vardy was easily shared and analysed between us. Some KS3 students presented group work, from a shared Googleslides.doc, through the shared screen function so we maintained ability to have teamwork and presentations. Although Femsock were not able to physically meet, we enjoyed 'Film Afternoons' with 'Pride' and 'Girlhood' being popular choices.

Finally, it was possible for the U3 classes to compose and enter work to the 'Spirited Arts' competition coordinated by NATRE with some outstanding entries being sent off for judgement!



Historians visiting Lochnagar Crater, the Somme, in Oct 2019

Languages

The academic year 2019-20 started with our annual celebration of language learning in September, culminating as always with the European Day of Languages. Europe was very much in our hearts and minds during the autumn term, with Mlle Orvoen representing the school at an Erasmus+ conference in the Netherlands and Mrs Hill and Miss Diez travelling to Riga with five of our Erasmus+ ambassadors for our mobility on careers and preparing for the world of work.



Our Erasmus+ ambassadors visited Riga, Latvia

Our ambassadors returned with new ideas, enthusiastic to share their newly-found expertise and we launched our preparations for the fifth and final mobility of our project to be hosted here in Northampton.

There were new Classics trips to the British Museum to attend the international blockbuster exhibition 'Troy: myth and reality' and to an Ancient Drama Festival at Warwick University as well as notable successes for our students at the GDST Languages Festival held at Sydenham, with U4 Latinists scooping first prize for best original drama as well as notable individual successes in a range of competitions.

As 2020 dawned and events unfolded around the globe, one of the first casualties was international travel: our staff and students were desperately disappointed not to travel to Normandy and Berlin and the realisation dawned that our Erasmus+ mobility would be postponed. The irony of our project title 'Creativity and Digital Competences for the World of Work in the 21st Century' was lost on no one as emphasis quickly turned to Zoom meetings where students from our partner schools met online and staff collaborated to request extended deadlines and plan for a virtual mobility at some point during 2021.

As distance learning changed the educational landscape, students and staff had to adapt quickly to new ways of teaching and learning through Guided Home Learning. Teachers demonstrated great flexibility in adapting their practice and remodelling schemes of work. L4 French, with our Normandy experience at its heart, was a prime example of this: in the absence of real travel, pupils embarked on a discovery of French speaking countries. Other adaptations included the theme of life under lockdown, enabling students to talk about their daily activities while away from school and helping them to verbalise their feelings in their language lessons.



Our European Day of Languages Bake off was a hit!

Classics students continued to embrace project work with even more inventiveness than usual, with fabulous work on the Roman Baths and Roman Education (with the help of cardboard boxes, Stop Motion videos, Lego and siblings as extra cast members). Mummified carrots and homemade sarcophagi were created as part of the unit on Roman Egypt and, whilst the usual unit on the Roman Army was changed due to distance learning restrictions, new topics covered poetry, film, botany, sport and art in the Classical world.



Technology inevitably posed a challenge to staff and students alike on occasion, however, progress in linguistic skills and cultural knowledge was evident and our students benefitted from access to a variety of online resources, working their way through Kahoot, Language Gym, Languagenut, padlet and Quizlet challenges to name a few. From Key Stage 1 to 6.2, we are proud of our students and their ability to adjust quickly in the most challenging of times and of the superb work produced, ranging from lockdown video entries to virtual fashion shows.

"Can you see my screen?" became part of the new classroom routine and bitmojis sprang up everywhere. Speaking skills were not neglected; students became adept at recording themselves and GCSE students enjoyed dedicated small group practice sessions online.

Increasing use was made of QWQR codes to provide personalised, verbal feedback to students and in a short space of time everyone had made huge leaps in their own digital competency.

U5 students who planned to continue their language studies at A Level had the chance to join Masterclasses, put together with the most amazing collaboration of teachers across the GDST.



Live sessions were consistently well-attended, and students joined with enthusiasm, creating high-quality presentations, enabling them to get a head start in their A Level subjects. Staff collaboration took on a new dimension with shared planning and mutual support as never before, sharing strategies with colleagues across the GDST as well. Increased collaboration, huge strides in digital competencies and the ability to adapt quickly and think creatively will be the overarching legacy of lockdown for the Languages faculty and our students.

Sport

With the start of the new academic year came the Sports department adapting admirably and rising to the challenges posed. From losing three long-serving members of staff came a young and vibrant new cohort along with an interim Director of Sport.

We began the year hosting the first GDST Rally of the year and welcomed 23 schools and over 600 athletes to compete in Hockey, Swimming, Netball and Football. A fantastic day was had by all and a positive start to the year for our teams.



The Netball teams' age group school tournaments took place at Oundle and saw the U15s playing in the U16, adapting to the intense competition with gusto and flair and successfully seeing them through to the regional rounds. The U18 also finished in first place, securing their place at the regionals. The regional finals were held at Repton School in January. Our teams both played some lovely Netball and the U18s successfully topped their group. Unfortunately, we lost out in the semi final but both teams did us proud. The U15s went on to finish in second place in the County Cup with our U12 and U13s both finishing in third place in their respective County Cup tournaments. The U13s and U11s also enjoyed their annual weekend at Conover Hall, participating in both the outdoor pursuits and the Netball tournaments.

One of the most successful terms for the Hockey teams saw the 1st XI making the semi finals of the GDST Hockey Rally having played some truly amazing Hockey in the qualifying rounds; this is our best result in a number of years with a final result placing third. The U15s were unbeaten in

their local matches and with the new format to the Hockey Rally the team qualified easily to progress on to the finals held at Sutton High School, eventually placing seventh in the GDST. The U13 team played superbly to qualify for the IAPS nationals held at Repton in November finishing in the top 10. They also qualified for the regional round of the In2Hockey English Schools Tournament.

Tennis has built on the successes in County rounds in the summer term 2019 and beat King's Ely School, Cambridge and Headington School, Oxford to progress onto the Regional Finals beating King's High School, Warwick. Here they worked hard and drew upon mental toughness to eventually win and gain a place at the National Finals in Bolton on 7 December. Here they played two days of intense Tennis, achieving a very respectable fourth place in the country.



The Swimming teams enjoyed successes at galas, with the Junior squad beating Bedford Modern in our first friendly of the year. Charlotte Fletcher-Stables put in a strong performance to make it to the final in backstroke at the Senior GDST Rally in Croydon. Similar superb individual performances were made by Anna Johnson and Rebecca Lowe at the Warwick 100s in November. Anna won the 100m backstroke and Rebecca won the 100m freestyle. Grace Hillis also qualified for the National Finals in the 50m Fly at the IAPS Swimming qualifiers. In Water Polo, congrats go to Emily Horne who was selected to play in the Inter Regional competition, representing East Midlands in Walsall.

In the autumn term we entered two School Games District tournaments for U14s and U16s Badminton. Our under 16s teams both placed second in their pools, narrowly missing out on the finals. Both teams played well with a special mention to Shreya Srinivasan who won all her matches in the tournament. Our Under 14s team included both L4 and U4 pupils who also played well and managed to place third overall.

Following on from their successes in the District Cross Country Cup in December last year, Year 6 students attended the County round. Near-perfect conditions allowed the girls to compete at their best. The most notable performance must go to Ella Darby who came first in the U13 race, going on to represent the County at the Anglian School Cross country Championships where she placed a very respectful eighth place.

Our first event for the Equestrian Team was at Keysoe in November for the NSEA Plate Championships. We came home with a team third in the 1m Jumping with Style, a team fifth in the 90cm JwS, and tenth in the 95cm Show Jumping. After Christmas we continued with our success and became County Champions in the team 90cm. We also saw some individuals qualifying for the finals including Lily R in both the 90cm and 1m and Lily B in the 1m.

Unfortunately, the National Finals were cancelled, but we had the fantastic opportunity to compete at Onley in our own event; the first ever Northampton High Eventer Challenge.

Here, Jodie W qualified for Hickstead as an individual in the 90cm class, and the team of Lily B, Eve W and Jodie W qualified for Hickstead in the team category, finishing first in their class.

After lockdown, we had to adapt to online competing and showing our skills in various ways. Mrs Hodgetts-Tate organised an online event to include 15 classes. We had some excellent staff judges who were joined by 2 exceptionally talented riders; Izzy Taylor, team GBR Event rider currently ranked second in the UK and 26th in the world and Joe Stockdale, up and coming team GBR showjumper. Students found their competitive edge again and the classes were very keenly fought. We look forward to the events continuing into the new academic year.

In March, we joined forces with all the other GDST Schools in our Sport Relief Challenge to cover the distance across sea and land from Pole to Pole. Here at Northampton High we swam and rowed 395km; ran, walked and cycled 2464km; and covered a staggering 2859km in total, contributing heavily to completing the challenge. Well done to everyone involved and thank you to the wider community for your contributions to Sport Relief.



Our first ever Eventer Challenge was a huge success

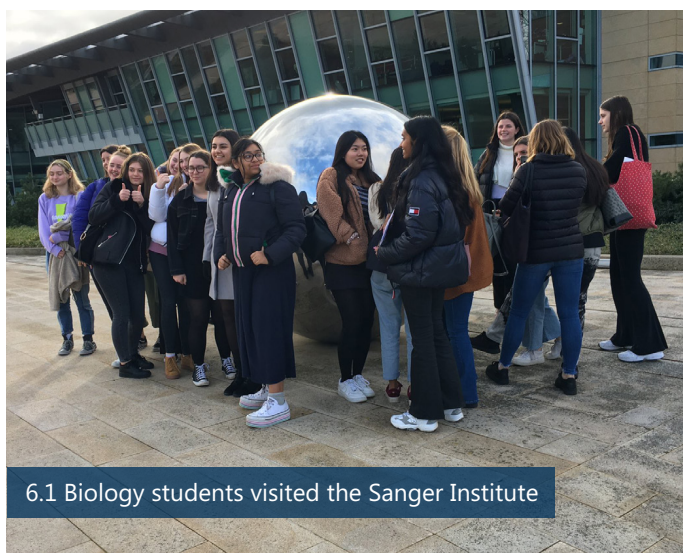
Since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic in January, the students and PE department have had to adapt significantly to the ever-changing guidelines and procedures to ensure sport is carried out in a safe way. Through Twitter updates and regular communication on Google Classroom it was great to hear of the students' progress in sport over the summer term.

On Friday 26 June, we held our first ever Virtual Sports Day. The PE department set the Senior School eight challenges, involving various skill and fitness-based tasks, all to be completed at home. An impressive 125 pupils took part in the Senior School, with a further 90 across Junior School.

STEM

One of the challenges of 2020 was carrying out ecology practical work in the summer term. We normally take 6.1 to North Devon for a residential fieldwork course to study habitats such as rocky shores and sand dunes. Instead, we found that Northampton High School grounds has its own diverse habitats and we could investigate the adaptability of lichens on our tennis courts and two species of plantain on the track near our Forest School.

Our students were adaptable, as always, maintaining social distance whilst collecting their data and getting to grips with calculating statistics tests using Google Sheets. We had recently been learning about the topic of succession and we able to observe an example of this when the cricket square was created on our sports field and topsoil was moved to another part of the grounds. The pioneer community of plants and animals that are adapted to recently disturbed areas quickly colonises such places and this topsoil was a great example of secondary succession. Our students were able to adapt to the new habitat created whilst studying the adaptations of the plant species under their feet.



6.1 Biology students visited the Sanger Institute

In Chemistry this year the students have had fantastic successes in the classroom and before we locked down, the Sixth Form entered the RSC Chemistry Olympiad.

The questions are incredibly hard and, although loosely based on their knowledge, the demand of understanding is much greater. In a first for Northampton High, Shri Kakodkar achieved a Silver award, with all the other students achieving either Bronze awards or a Commendation. This was a significant achievement for the students as the Olympiad is normally taken by 6.2 students. After March, all the Chemistry students had to adapt to home learning as they did for other subjects. In Chemistry we found it particularly challenging to complete practicals from home. We did set a few practical tasks but the favourite was the investigation as to which chocolate melted the fastest. I am sure this is the only practical where it was entirely ok to eat the products.

Physics is always a very practical subject and this year has been no exception. From experiments which have been carried out in the classroom to those which have taken place in students' kitchens and gardens, Northampton High students have continued to investigate the rules that govern the behaviour of the world and, indeed, the universe around them. U3 made their own light rays to study reflection, whilst L4 studied Space using role play and Stop Motion to mimic the movements of the solar system, and walked their way through the planets (a distance of 2km with the scale we were using). U4 spent time in their kitchens taking measurements of objects with which to calculate densities and L5 exercised in their gardens taking measurements to calculate speed and acceleration. 6.1 even carried out a required practical for A Level Physics successfully using homemade pendula.

In all these things, the students adapted their investigations using the equipment they had available and their ingenuity in this has been amazing.

There were so many examples of the students overcoming the obvious difficulties of not being in a science laboratory and proving how independent and creative they are in their learning.

Last year, we were pleased to welcome Mrs Carr to the Psychology department. She has been instrumental in developing the teaching of topics such as Biopsychology, using her own in-depth and comprehensive knowledge to extend students' understanding of concepts such as synaptic transmission.

During the autumn term, 6.2 students applied their theoretical understanding of research methods when they conducted their own piece of psychological research. Areas of investigation this year ranged from the effect of cheese on dreams to the effect of sibling order on personality type. Students presented their findings at the annual psychology poster conference, which was also attended by 6.1 and U5 students.



Students adapted well to the challenge of Guided Home Learning during the spring term, staying in close contact with their teachers. Together, through the use of questionnaires and one-to-one discussion, the department worked out a system of lesson delivery that ensured continued progress and momentum.



In Maths, we adapted to the situation that we all found ourselves in March.

We recognised the importance that in Maths you cannot learn and improve by reading through chapters in textbooks, so as a faculty we had to adapt our teaching to enable all our students to progress as they would if they were in school. Doing this was a struggle at first as we had to not only teach but also make sure the students practise the skills needed to make progress. We were also limited, as I am sure some of our pupils were, with bad internet connections and multiple people trying to stream video at the same time, but we did adapt and I hope that all our students enjoyed their live Maths lessons.

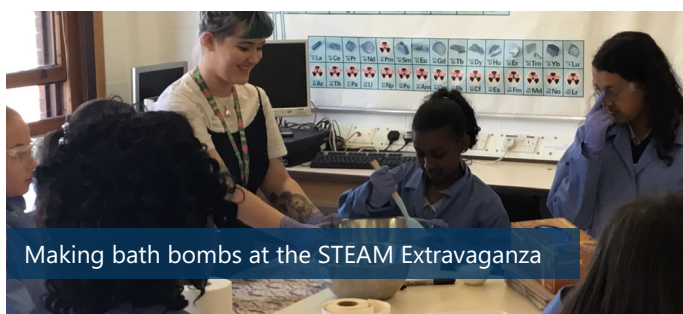
We also had the strange experience of having to give teacher assessments as GCSE and A Level grades and I hope that all our students were happy with their results.

In the coming months we will still be adapting to situations but one constant will be that we, as a faculty, will be doing the utmost to ensure our students achieve their potential in Mathematics.

Partnerships

WHEW! (Women Helping Empower Women) is an ambitious youth-led community initiative which aims to positively impact the futures of young women across Northamptonshire. From forging links between students interested in STEAM through to providing positive role models and mentors, Extravanzas and Masterclasses offer a chance for disadvantaged communities who might find it more difficult to find their voice.

Summer STEAM Extravanzas were held in the summer of 2019 to enthuse Year 5 girls to consider careers in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics. Local primaries were invited to a day of Science, including theatre performances and workshop carousels (making slime, coding, rocket launches and rainbow Chemistry). Secondary school students were mentors, organising and running most of the workshops.



Following on from this in November 2019, the Junior School held Science Masterclasses for local students, and these were heavily over-subscribed, proving the level of interest already generated via the Extravanza events.

Engaging with current debates about gender equality, our #Now'sTheTime projects empower young women with legal, social and physical skills to ensure that they will be the first generation to not suffer gender pay disparity or discrimination.

Following the first #Now'sTheTime conference in 2018, #Now'sTheTime2, in October 2019, offered advice for young women wanting careers in the medical profession and included practical skills workshops on Multiple Mini Interviews (MMI's), Hands on Dissection, Medical Ethics and Making an Application to Medical School.

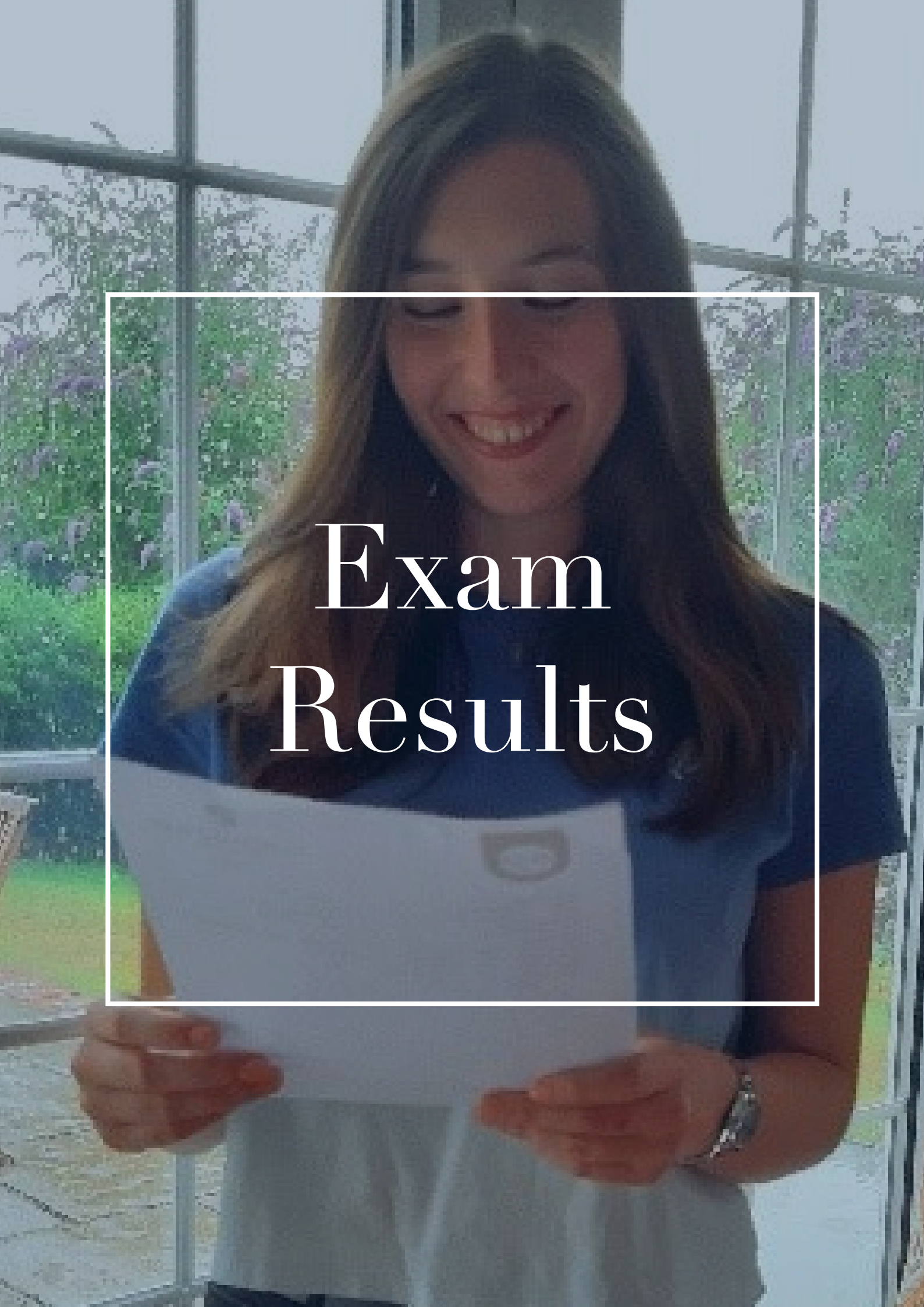
A lunchtime panel discussion with a wide range of women at different points in their medical careers allowed the chance to discuss overcoming gender obstacles. Afternoon tea enabled networking opportunities and each student left with a goodie bag, including a stethoscope. We had 72 external Sixth Form students from four local Secondary Schools and 43 internal students from Northampton High at the event.

A successful application to HSBC has enabled us to plan for #Now'sTheTime3, a conference to be held in the autumn term 2021, which will centre on career opportunities for young women in the Film Industry. The conference will involve students from across the GDST and local schools.

Queen's Cross Connect feel there is a need to establish a cross-generational legacy, determining what young women want to achieve and shift the current debate into structural change. In the 100 years since the Suffragettes gained the vote, we want to draw a line to establish gender equality from 2020. We believe the best way to achieve this is to empower the current generation of young women.



It has been another successful year for charity fund raising at Northampton High School, if slightly abridged. However, through both staff and student involvement in a variety of fund raising activities, including our annual Santa Fun Run, we were able to send a donation to Medical Detection Dogs of £1538.13 and Macmillan Nurses of £112. This was particularly relevant this year as MDD are involved in training dogs to detect Covid-19.

A young woman with long brown hair is smiling and looking down at a white envelope she is holding with both hands. She is wearing a blue short-sleeved shirt. The background is a large window with a view of greenery and purple flowers. A large white rectangular box is superimposed over the image, framing the woman's face and the envelope. The text 'Exam Results' is written in a white serif font across the center of the box.

Exam Results



2020 was an exam season like no other and we were impressed and humbled by the way that students in both the U5 and 6.2 dealt with such a challenging situation. Of course, examinations were cancelled and opportunities to continue with course-related work severely restricted by the government after Easter. This did not prevent our students from focusing on the future, however, as they engaged in the huge range of academic and practical courses put on by our own staff and those from across the GDST.

6.2 students worked closely with others as they started their preparations for the future early with university bridging courses. Alongside these they could follow real-world training courses as part of the wider GDST Limitless Learning programme, including offerings in leadership, and fashion design. In addition, many took part in MOOCs (Massive Online Open Courses) made available by prestigious universities from across the world.

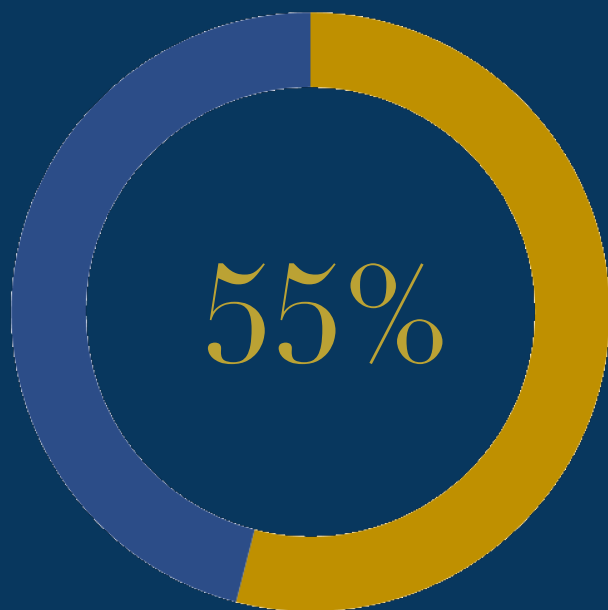
U5 students too had an extensive range of activities available to help them prepare for the next stage of their education. Personalised induction courses for A Level were put in place, along with a dazzling array of over 100 GDST Masterclasses, ranging from genes and development to personal finance and the history of musical theatre.

Moving to virtual teaching highlighted the importance for students of being independent learners and Guided Home Learning proved to be a powerful tool in encouraging self-sufficiency. It was also clear that guidance and individual support were more important than ever, and our approach to technology allowed teachers to provide assistance and feedback quickly and efficiently.

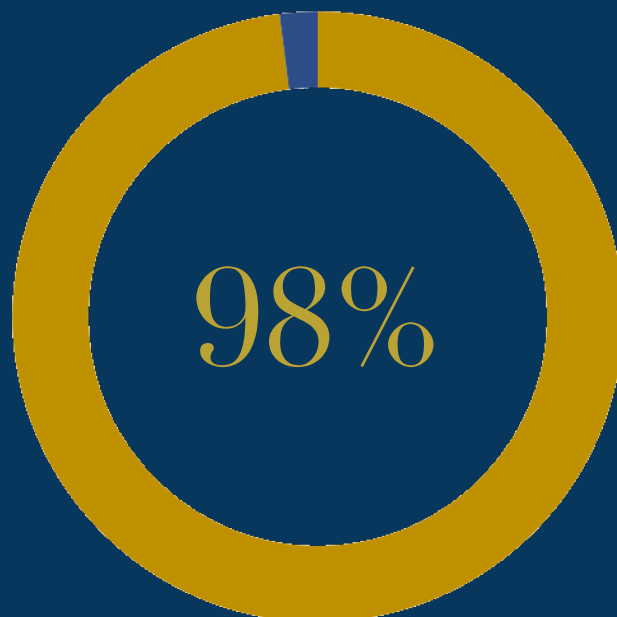
As with most schools, we did not publish detailed results from the Centre Assessment Grades (CAGs) process as they were so different from previous years in their implementation. However, teachers were able to generate fair grades from the wide array of evidence at their fingertips, so that the students could rightfully be proud of their achievements.

To give an idea of the outcomes, for A Level, 55% of grades were at A* or A, and 75% of GCSE grades were at grade 7 or above (the equivalent of A*/A grades). Furthermore, 100% of A Level grades were passes and more than 99% of GCSE grades were grade 4 or above (C grade equivalent).

A Level

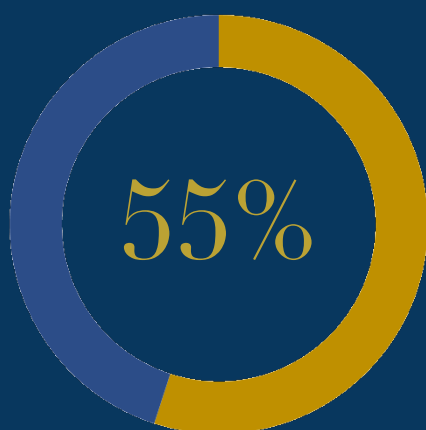


of results were A*/A

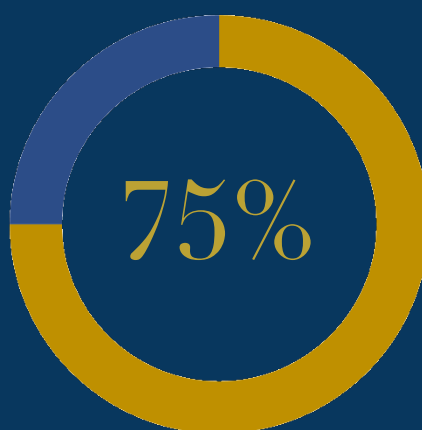


of results were A* - C

GCSE



of grades at 9/8/A*



of grades at 9-7 (A*-A)



of grades at 9-4 (A*-C)

A photograph of a woman with blonde hair, wearing a dark floral dress, smiling and shaking hands with a man. The man has grey hair, wears glasses, and a white jacket with a red poppy pin on the lapel. They are standing in front of a dark blue curtain. The text "Prizes & Awards" is overlaid in the center in a white serif font.

Prizes & Awards

Academic Excellence and Progress Awards

Upper Third

Isla Allen
Imogen Bailey
Alice Bateson
Annabel Denman-Johnson
Tess Hammond
Grace Hillis
Arna Kar
Hattie Kendrick
Florence Kennedy
Knojah Kogulavarathan
Kirsten Mbawa
Sonya Mittal
Deeya Ruparelia
Muzainah Sandhu
Isobel Seymour
Aarna Tonne

Lower Fourth

Caitlin Aldridge
Lois Beacroft
Fleur Beale
Sahitya Bobba
Emma Bristow
Jasmine Campion
Laura Charles
Samiha Chaudhary
Tevini Dias
Harriet Fordham
Isabella Goodyear-Rea
Freya Harrison
Alessandra Jahina
Anika Khanam
Elisha Lal
Mia Lewis
Vivien Li
Emma Neville
Leona Halawani-Rendina
Annie Shelswell
Rishika Thakur
Amélia Wong

Upper Fourth

Angelina America
Annika Dani
Ashmita Das
Hannah Davies
Alessia Emanuele
Janice Huang
Miyali Kamath
Serena Karim
Dishaa Manohara
Katie Maybin
Nabila Sheikh
Gemma Watts
Harriet Williams
Yinuo Zhang

Lower Fifth

Megan Allen
Vidushi Banerjee
Roseanna Beale
Neeya Bhadresha
Abhisri Chadalavada
Florence Emery
Katie Harrison

Caitlin-Gaia Howell
Rebecca James
Anna Johnson
Mahi Kara
Kitty Kennedy
Kathryn Li
Anna McFarland

Georgia Millburn
Libby Robbins
Olivia Russell
Ana Xiang Sanchez-Thompson
Hannah Smith
Lucy Stringfellow
Eeman Yousaf

GCSE Academic Excellence Awards

Katie Ashton
Anisha Chadalavada
Millie Creak
Jessica Cressey-Jones
Alexandra Daly
Eleanor Dunkley
Katie Gibbs
Florence Gundle
Mishka Jessop
Lily King
Katherine Leahy
Anraj Mahil
Lydia Moseley

Avani Nandhra
Asha Nicolson
Radhika Pandya
Tanya Roy
Daisy Rumsby
Sabrina Sheikh
Shreya Srinivasan
Leah Tanna-Shah
Freya Tansley
Charlotte Thomas
Sreeya Veeranki
Isobel Ward
Jodie Welton

Marsden Gee Award for Outstanding A Level Results

Alice Amos
Isabel Balkhi
Ellie Byrom
Alexa Dykes
Saskia Jessop
Flora Kelly
Emma Myers
Emily Potter
Rukaiya Sadikot
Rosie Saxton
Lucy Ward
Naomi Worth

Subject Prizes

Art	Zaynah Younus
Biology	Emily Potter
Business	Maddison Saunders
Chemistry	Emily Potter
Classics	Elena Crawford
Drama & Theatre Studies	Alexandra Daly
Economics	Saskia Jessop
English Literature	Jessica Greenough
Fashion & Textiles	Megan Watts
Film	Lucy Ward
Food	Charlotte Thomas

French	Isabel Balkhi
Geography	Rosie Saxton
German	Rosie Saxton
History	Lucy Ward
Mathematics	Emily Potter
Music	Helena Thomas
Theology & Philosophy	Alice Amos
Physical Education	Rhydian Lloyd
Physics	Naomi Worth
Psychology	Alice Amos
Spanish	Isabel Balkhi

Scholarships

Upper Third Academic

Inaaya Asif
Pema Freeman
Sherain Kassie
Ruby Lawlor
Riya Patel
Himaya Senadhipathy
Atmaja Tonne

Upper Third Creative Arts

Inaaya Asif
Alexis Kainth

Upper Third Sports

Anna Crowley
Charlotte Fordham

Upper Third Performing Arts

Hania Sohail

Upper Fourth Academic

Carolina Diniz Fernandez-Lomana
Charlotte Hoang
Mia Lewis

Upper Fourth Creative Arts

Amélia Wong

Upper Fourth Sports

Isobel Hull

Upper Fourth Performing Arts

Lucie Coombes
Ques-Li De Bruin

Upper Fourth Swimming

Elyse Collins
Sophie Johnson

6.1 Academic

Millie Creak
Molly Gribben
Florence Gundle
Georgia Lockey
Anna Lomas
Daisy Rumsby
Alice Schumacher
Jodie Welton

6.1 Creative Arts

Orla Priday

6.1 Performing Arts

Molly Gribben

6.1 GDST Spirit

Stephanie Black
Tanya Roy

Service Awards

U3	Tara Etemadi
L4	Tevini Dias
U4	Hannah Okamoto
L5	Motolani Opeseitan
U5	Daisy Rumsby

Special Prizes

Lightburne Prize for Service to the School	Elisa Hemeng
Wallace Prize for Head Girl	Isabel Balkhi
Mrs John Woods Prize for Deputy Head Girl (Student Services)	Alexa Dykes
Mrs John Woods Prize for Deputy Head Girl (Charities)	Claudia Pieczka
Mrs John Woods Prize for Deputy Head Girl (Marketing)	Maya Kumaran
Head of House - Artemis	Khushman Bhullar
Head of House - Demeter	Rukaiya Sadikot
Head of House - Selene	Nina-Mari Arhainx
Head of House - Hestia	Sadie Barton
The Susan Lamb KS3 Public Speaking Award	Laura Charles
The Xing Ding Prize for Service to Music	Polly Roberts
Environmental Prize	Olivia Brittain
Excellence in Public Speaking Cup	Niamh McArdle
Leaviss Mathematics Prize	Alexandra Daly
GDST Anne Hogg MFL Prize	Anna McFarland
GDST Minerva Prize 2019	Saskia Jessop

Junior Mathematical Challenge

Bronze

Laila Aitken
Nikki Lily Atife
Jennah Bryan
Lucie Coombes
Tevini Dias
Rosie Davis
Lucie Hart
Arianna Hay
Arna Kar

Felicity Lousada
Kirsten Mbawa
Sonya Mittal
Emma Neville
Shruthi Padmabushan
Lilia Pateman
Jane Sigobodhla
Rishika Thakur
Aarna Tonne

Silver

Jasmine Champion
Annabel Denman-Johnson
Jessica McClurg
Kai McClurg
Charlotte Urban

Gold

Sahitya Bobba
Samiha Chaudhary
Leona Halawani-Rendina
Mia Lewis

Intermediate Mathematical Challenge

Bronze

Eliza Ali
Roseanna Beale
Neeya Bhadresha
Abhisri Chadalavada
Riley Culverhouse
Hannah Davies
Alessia Emanuele
Charlotte Harper
Janice Huang
Mei Lai Swan
Heidi Terblanche
Phoebe Thomas
Sreeya Veeranki

Silver

Megan Allen
Annika Dani
Ashmita Das
Katie Harrison
Kathryn Li
Katie Maybin
Daisy Rumsby
Eeman Yousaf

Vidushi Banerjee
Risha Bhasin
Megan Do
Mishka Jessop
Miyali Kamath
Shreya Sharma
Shreya Srinivasan

Gold

Alexandra Daly

Intermediate Kangaroo Qualifiers

Risha Bhasin
Alexandra Daly
Annika Dani

Mathematical Olympiad for Girls

Saskia Jessop
Naomi Worth

Senior Mathematical Challenge

Bronze

Alice Andermahr
Alexandra Berck-May
Ellie Byrom
Polly Chadwick
Sophie Coombes
Alexa Dykes

Catherine Goddard
Shri Kakodkar
Jiaxin Li
Hemali Shah
Freya Stevens
Jianing Xu

Silver

Ruby Howard
Saskia Jessop
Emily Potter
Hannah Whitfield

Gold

Naomi Worth

British Biology Olympiad 2020

Silver	Emily Potter
Silver	Zaynah Younus
Highly Commended	Rosie Saxton
Commended	Lauren Davey
Commended	Maya Kumaran

RSC Chemistry Olympiad 2020

Silver	Shri Kakodkar
Bronze	Evelyn Beale
Bronze	Eleanor Koss
Bronze	Niamh McArdle
Bronze	Chloe Mercer
Bronze	Shreya Mittal
Bronze	Amelia Smart
Bronze	Amelie Ward
Bronze	Meenakshy Yogasigamany

Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Bronze

Alexandra Berck-May
Khushman Bhullar
Leila Burge
Jaisie Burnett
Anisha Chadalavada
Jessica Cressey-Jones
Lauren Davey
Emily Down
Georgina Forde-Wells
Anna Galliano
Suzannah Gibson
Catherine Goddard
Harriet Goodyear
Florence Gundle
Lily King
Anraj Mahil
Chloe Mercer

Mya Moreton
Matilda Neuhoﬀ
Oluwanifemi Oluwatayo
Isobel Pearson
Emma Powles
Molly Roberts-Crawford
Grace Sansom
Lucy Shepherd
Eleanor Shoebridge
Eva Spellman
Shreya Srinivasan
Charlotte Thomas
Rebecca Thomas
Gemma Urquhart
Imogen Weatherill
Ishma Zafar

Silver

Daria Alexander-Sefre
Ruby Howard
Priya Lakkappa
Emily Macintosh-Young
Oviya Raja
Jennifer Wienkamp

Gold

Ella Corcoran
Jordana Czerniuk
Isabella Hawkins
Amy Hillyard
Jasmine Smellie
Lucy Ward
Megan Watts

Most Talented Sportswoman

U3	Eryn Currie
L4	Jane Sigobodhla
U4	Jayna Bhadresha
L5	Madeleine Down
U5	Jodie Welton

Most Improved Sportswoman

U3	Hattie Kendrick
L4	Grace Moulton
U4	Francesca Peabody
L5	Katie Harrison
U5	Isobel Pearson

Sixth Form Sports Awards

Players Player Award Hockey	Alexa Dykes
Players Player Award Netball	Anraj Mahil
Coaches Player Award Hockey	Laura Charlesworth
Coaches Player Award Netball	Anna Galliano

Special Awards

Sarah Hunt Award (for contribution to Swimming)	Charlotte Fletcher-Stables
Vicki Parker Award (for contribution to PE Department)	Polly Roberts
Headmistress's Sports Award (full colours in more than one sport)	Alexa Dykes
Exceptional Achievement Award	Georgina Forde-Wells

Netball - Full Colours

Georgina Forde-Wells
Gemma Urquhart
Hannah Whitfield

Netball - Half Colours

Jane Ampiah
Madeleine Down
Katie Harrison
Eloise Harvey
Amy Ingle
Jessica Picot
Tilly Poole
Angelica Suma
Lilli Trimble
Eve Welton

Netball - Commendations

Upper Third

Aisha Adan
Isla Allen
Lola Andrew
Imogen Bailey
Eryn Currie
Ella Darby
Miley Davy
Arianna Dixon
Tara Etemadi
Tess Hammond

Ashana Hemachandran
Chloe Hemus
Hattie Kendrick
Knojah Kogulavarathan
Roja Lakshman
Lucy-Mae Langridge
Felicity Lousada
Rayaan Majid
Kirsten Mbawa
Sonya Mittal

Deborah Odei
Heidi Partington
Deeya Ruparelia
Isobel Seymour
Gemma Stowey
Tanishqa Tawade
Bethany Underdown
Abigail Waugh
Jasmine York

Lower Fourth

Ariana Baninoe
Samiha Chaudhary
Rosie Davies
Harriet Fordham
Arianna Hay
Emily Horne
Isabel Hull
Alessandra Jahina
Jessica McClurg
Grace Moulton
Emma Neville
Jane Sigobodhla

Upper Fourth

Jayna Bhadresha
Grace Crowley
Alessia Emanuele
Ella Nicholas
Anjola Ogunsola
Rebecca Rea
Simran Sandhu
Phoebe Thomas
Harriet Williams

Lower Fifth

Lucy Atherall
Neeya Bhadresha
Charlotte Creak
Riley Culverhouse
Emilia Thompson
Amelia Hine
Anna Johnson
Rebecca Lowe
Georgia Millburn
Poppy Morris-Cook
Hannah Pearson
Erin Peile
Libby Robbins
Aneesa Sheikh

Hockey - Full Colours

Evelyn Beale
Eleanor Pilling

Hockey - Half Colours

Laura Charlesworth
Sophie Coombes
Polly Roberts
Molly Roberts-Crawford
Gemma Urquhart
Hannah Whitfield

Hockey - Commendations

Upper Third

Aisha Adan	Hattie Kendrick
Isla Allen	Roja Lakshman
Imogen Bailey	Lucy-Mae Langridge
Eryn Currie	Gemma Stowey
Ella Darby	Tanishqa Tawade
Ariana Dixon	Abigail Waugh
Tess Hammond	

Upper Fourth

Eliza Ali	Ella Nicholas
Jayna Bhadresha	Francesca Peabody
Cecily Bullock	Simran Sandhu
Laibah Choudary	Nabila Sheikh
Hannah Davies	Phoebe Thomas
Alessia Emanuele	Gemma Watts
Katie Maybin	Harriet Williams
Lauren Namujjuzi	

Lower Fourth

Nikki Lily Atife	Alessandra Jahina
Anna Atherall	Sophie Johnson
Katie Atherall	Elisha Lal
Fleur Beale	Hattie McCabe
Isobelle Blount	Jessica McClurg
Emma Bristow	Kai McClurg
Laura Charles	Grace Moulton
Ruby Curtis-Free	Emma Neville
Harriet Fordham	Shruthi Padmabushan
Constance Harvey	Jane Sigobodhla
Arianna Hay	Charlotte Urban
Emily Horne	Kyla Watson

Lower Fifth

Poppy Morris-Cook
Emilia Thompson

Upper Fifth

Sophie Cox	Lily King
Ellen Keys	Anraj Mahil

Badminton - Commendations

Upper Third

Imogen Bush
Louise Bush
Annabel Denman-Johnson
Chloe Hemus
Crystal Heriman
Arna Kar
Rayaan Majid
Sonya Mittal
Isobel Seymour
Aarna Tonne

Lower Fourth

Nikki Lily Atife
Ariana Baninoe
Sahitya Bobba
Ruby Curtis-Free
Tevini Dias
Harriet Fordham
Isabella Goodyear-Rea
Freya Harrison
Anika Khanam
Grace Moulton
Emma Neville
Anushka Thomas

Lower Fifth

Amelia Hine
Anna McFarland
Tilly Poole
Ellie Sentence

Gymnastics - Commendations

Upper Third

Deeya Ruparelia
Abigail Waugh

Lower Fourth

Ruby Curtis-Free
Rosie Davis
Ques-Li De Bruin

Swimming - Half Colours

Anna Johnson
Rebecca Lowe

Swimming - Commendations

Upper Third

Imogen Bush
Eryn Currie
Annabel Denman-Johnson
Grace Hillis
Hattie Kendrick
Florence Kennedy
Tess Hammond

Lower Fifth

Rebecca James
Ellie Sentence

Lower Fourth

Jasmine Champion
Elyse Collins
Lucie Coombes
Harriet Fordham
Emily Horne
Sophie Johnson
Annabel Lloyd
Jessica McClurg
Emma Neville
Anushka Thomas
Charlotte Urban

Cross Country - Half Colours

Sixth Form

Nisheet Kaura

Cross Country - Commendations

Upper Third

Eryn Currie
Ella Darby
Annabel Denman-Johnson
Hattie Kendrick
Abigail Waugh

Lower Fourth

Ruby Curtis-Free
Freya Harrison
Isabel Hull

Lower Fifth

Emilia Thompson

Upper Fifth

Lucy Shepherd

Sixth Form

Elysia Lay

Vocal, Instrumental & Music Theory Examination Results

Clarinet - grade 6	Florence Gundle	Pass
Guitar - grade 2	Shreya Pasricha	Distinction
Guitar - grade 3	Manha Kamath	Distinction
Guitar - grade 4	Samiha Chaudhary	Merit
Guitar - grade 5	Hannah Smith	Pass
Music Theory - grade 5	Eliza Ali	Merit
Music Theory - grade 5	Rebecca James	Distinction
Piano - grade 1	Yasmin Solanki	Merit
Piano - grade 1	Safiya Clayson	Distinction
Piano - grade 2	Pema Freeman	Merit
Piano - grade 2	Rithika Shanmugam	Merit
Piano - grade 2	Miyali Kamath	Pass
Piano - grade 3	Arna Kar	Pass

Piano - grade 3	Sonya Mittal	Pass
Piano - grade 4	Libby Robbins	Pass
Piano - grade 4	Freya Tansley	Pass
Piano - grade 5	Eliza Ali	Merit
Piano - grade 5	Avani Nandhra	Merit
Piano - grade 5	Xinyu Shannon Meng	Distinction
Piano - grade 6	Maaya Tailor	Pass
Piano - grade 7	Grace Hillis	Distinction
Piano - grade 7	Ruby Howard	Distinction
Violin - grade 2	Amelia Norton	Distinction
Violin - grade 5	Leona Halawani Rendina	Merit
Violin - grade 7	Kathryn Li	Merit
Violin - grade 8	Janice Huang	Distinction

University Destinations

Alice Amos	Philosophy with Psychology	University of Warwick
Nina-Marie Arhainx	Applied Biosciences	Coventry University
Charlotte Ashby	Bioveterinary Sciences	Royal Veterinary College, University of London
Emelia Ashton	Law with Criminology	Keele University
Isabel Balkhi	International Relations and Political Science	London School of Economics
Kyla Bansil	Linguistics	Newcastle University
Khushi Bhullar	Global Sustainable Development	University of Warwick
Olivia Brittain	International Politics	University of London Institute in Paris
Ellie Byrom	Aerospace Engineering	University of Nottingham
Laura Charlesworth	Computer Science	Coventry University
Cherry Chen	Illustration and Visual Communication	University of Westminster
Elena Crawford	History of Art and English Literature	University of Edinburgh
Lauren Davey	Veterinary Science	University of Liverpool
Alexa Dykes	Mechanical Engineering	Loughborough University
Charlotte Fletcher Stables	Environment, Ecology and Economics	University of York
Jessica Greenough	English with Creative Writing	Loughborough University
Poppy Jacobs	Political Science and Philosophy	University of Birmingham
Fazeen Jaffar	Law with Criminology	Oxford Brookes University
Saskia Jessop	Discrete Mathematics	University of Warwick
Flora Kelly	Fine Art	Newcastle University
Hazel Kelman	Psychology	University of Nottingham
Maya Kumaran	Medicine	Brighton and Sussex Medical School
Rhydian Lloyd	Sports and Exercise Science	Nottingham Trent University
Rabia Majid	Psychology	University of Buckingham
Imogen Mitchell	Business and Marketing	Manchester Metropolitan University
Emma Myers	Dentistry	University of Liverpool
Alex Neuhoff	Law	University of Exeter
Claudia Pieczka	Psychology	University of Liverpool
Eleanor Pilling	Physiotherapy	Coventry University
Emily Potter	Medicine	University of Birmingham
Holly Pybus	Primary Education	Nottingham Trent University
Evie Roberts	Fashion Marketing	University of the Arts, London
Rukaiya Sadikot	Medicine	Keele University
Maddie Saunders	Psychology	University of Nottingham
Rosie Saxton	Geography	University of Birmingham
Amy Schumacher	Speech and Language Therapy	University of East Anglia
Freya Stevens	Marketing	University of Liverpool
Helena Thomas	Music (Violin)	Royal College of Music, London
Lucy Ward	History and Archaeology	University of Exeter
Megan Watts	Textile Design	Leeds Arts University
Mia Wilson	Nursing	University of Northampton
Naomi Worth	Maths and Philosophy	Corpus Christi, Oxford
Zaynah Younus	Architecture	University College London

Staff

We said goodbye to a number of colleagues at the end of the last academic year.

Miss Kate Monks left us after two years in the Classics department:

"I have relocated back to the North West for family reasons. I hope to find another teaching position soon. To all those I've taught, whether for one year or two, and even those I have not: You are a welcoming, intelligent bunch of students. You will go far in life and I'm behind you all the way".

Nurse Pauline Hawkins left us after two years at Northampton High School:

"I am moving from one NHS to another, helping to support patients with diabetes in the community. I would like to wish all the students a future of happiness and health, if you can achieve both by looking after yourself and others, it is the greatest measure of success in life. Be kind to yourself and others and take nothing and no one for granted".

Mr James Loveday left us after three years at Northampton High School but remains within the GDST:

"I have had three fantastic years at Northampton and I am very sad to be saying goodbye, but I'll only be just down the road at GDST Croydon High School so I will still be around. The world needs all the decent human beings it can find and I hope you continue to strive to make it a better place for everyone. TTFN".

Señora Alicia Diez left us after three years in the Languages faculty:

"I am now ready to embark on a very exciting new adventure that will be taking me all the way to Thailand where I will be starting up the Spanish department. Thank you for making my teaching days so unique and entertaining and for inspiring me to always improve on my own teaching! "You live a new life for every language you speak. If you know only one language, you live only once."



Mrs Natalie Williamson left us after three years in the PE department:

"As a family we're moving to Saudi Arabia with my husband's job, but I hope to teach again once we are all settled. What an amazing school NHS is! I will always hold fond memories of my time with you all. Goodbye and best wishes to all the staff and pupils".

Mrs Catriona German left the classroom after two years at Northampton High School but will remain with us a peripatetic teacher and to run the Ladies' Choir:

"I am leaving classroom teaching to deliver one-to-one lessons in singing and piano: I shall also be delivering music theory grades. Keep singing beautifully. Keep raising your own standards. Don't copy others. Find your own voice".

Mrs Gill Williams bade a sad farewell as she retired after a truly impressive 17 years in the Humanities faculty:

"I will be pursuing so many personal interests but a key one will be making journeys on my narrowboat when I can travel in a purposeful manner towards a vague destination. I hope that you know by now that history helps us know where we come from, how the past has shaped us and how we can shape the future, so now go and make your own history".

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