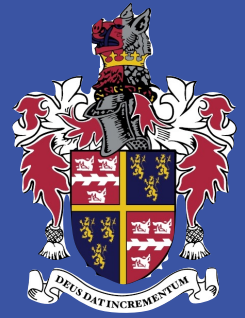


The Judd School

Headteacher's | Newsletter



HAPPY EASTER!

With the weather having been particularly Beastly this term, it seems only fitting to give it special mention! Many thanks to all the emails giving support during the school closures. The

Geography department have since had similar battles, last week in Snowdonia, but came off best delivering an excellent fieldwork

experience to Year 12. Thanks also to the massive show of support for our consultation on a proposal to introduce a **Specialist Resource Provision** at the school for students with ASD. This is a great development for the school and will enable us to support our students more effectively and proactively. Last month we **welcomed our Governors** to the school for a day of observations and discussions as an investigation of the progress we are making on our long term development of the Student Vision characteristics - our focus on life-long learning skills. Governors were encouraged to see a range of fantastic lessons showcasing the teaching and learning strategies we are using in action.



The Judd Weather Station

Continuing the weather theme, in January, the Geography Department set up the new Judd Weather Station, kindly funded by JPA. The weather station is positioned on the roof of the Atwell building and is capturing live data on atmospheric air pressure, air temperature, wind velocity and direction, dew point, precipitation and humidity. Weather is a topic studied during KS3, GCSE and A-level and so being able to record our own measurements is an essential part of accurate weather interpretation and forecasting.



Since its installation, the Judd Weather Station has certainly had a baptism of fire; within a week of being set up, it was battered by wind gusts of 50kph as Storm Georgina hit on 24th January. Then the Beast from the East tested the limits of the thermometer which recorded a low of -9.3°C on 28th January, followed by Storm Emma shortly afterwards. Hopefully, the station can now enjoy some more settled weather as we head towards Easter.

Live data can be accessed from the link on the Geography Frog page.

Happy weather watching!

Senior Prefect Announcement

I am delighted to announce that we have chosen our new Head Boy and Head Girl for the coming year. After a very competitive process, George

Coote and Holly Hayward have been awarded the 'top jobs' and they will be ably supported by Adam Winnifrith and Mary Fitzmaurice in the new Deputy Head Boy and Deputy Head Girl roles. Congratulations to them all.



SPITFIRE RACING

Judd F1 Team make National Finals

Judd is a school that is renowned not only for its success in academia, but its success in allowing students to further their interests outside the curriculum. Last year in June, five students came together to form the first ever F1 in Schools Judd team.

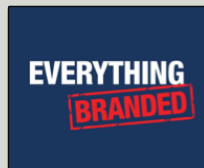
Students have to raise the money themselves which necessitates the use of sponsors and their subsequent return on investment. The project also encourages students to come up with a brand, develop a social media platform and create an intricate pit display.

We subsequently created the brand of spitfire racing. We then competed in the regionals with our project. This was a huge

learning experience, but we won an award for research and development and were given a wild card through to the National Finals at Silverstone Race Track to compete for a place at the internationals.



At the finals we feel we made a very good case for ourselves. As a rookie team, we managed to get the 11th quickest time in the country and win an award for innovative thinking. This competition has shaped many of our future ambitions and given us so much in terms of enjoyment, experience and knowledge. We would seriously recommend anyone with engineering or media ambitions to get involved in the future as you replicate many of the skills needed in real life.



This competition centres around firing a 20cm finely engineered car down at 20m track in about one second. But there is so much more to it than that one second. Students are required to research fluid dynamics, use this research to come up with an original design on CAD computer software, adapt this design through virtual and physical testing through CFD programmes and finally manufacturing the car to the highest quality possible. But this is only half the story.



Thanks to Spitfire's sponsors

The Rotary Club support many local community groups and events, and raise money for local and international charities, including Shelter Box, Hospice in the Weald, and The Kent and Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance Trust.



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Barbados Tour Triumph

Over half term, three senior cricket teams toured Barbados. Over the 9 days we played 11 matches with the 1st XI winning 2 out of 3, the only loss a narrow 14 run defeat in their first game. The 2nd XI and 3rd XI also both put in good performances managing a win and a draw in their matches. In the rest days the touring party went to see a match between Barbados and Hampshire as well as visit the Kensington Oval and a day spent on a catamaran cruise. The experience should prove beneficial in preparing for the next season, where we have a match against the MCC to look forward to on 4th July.



Smashing Result

Having hosted and won the West Kent round of the Kent School Badminton Competition, the U16 team went on to the county finals in Gillingham this February. After a string of confident wins and a narrow but deserved victory against Sevenoaks School, the boys went through to the semi-finals as winners of their group. They fought on bravely against the fierce competition at top level and are now

officially the 4th best U16 team in Kent. Well done to Dola, Simeon, Jack and Akshat for playing so well and fairly at all stages of the competition.

Multiple Olympiad Successes

Congratulations to Anton in year 13, for his success in the United Kingdom Linguistics Olympiad (UKLO) at Advanced level. He is our first student to undertake this challenge, which is a test of linguistic dexterity and the ability to solve linguistic data problems. Anton gained a Silver Award on a paper which was acknowledged to be very challenging.



Judd fielded a record number of five gold awards in the Year 12 Challenge of the British Physics Olympiad this term for Ethan Arnold, Lachlan Bradley, Calvin Hooper, Matthew Keenan and Harry Mouat. With gold awards accounting for just 3% of the national entrants, the impressive achievement reflects the calibre of this year's physics students. In addition, there were nine bronze awards, placing those students in the top third nationally. Well done to all those who took part in this famously difficult and well-respected challenge.

The Royal Society of Chemistry Olympiad is a prestigious competition aimed at the top year 13 students in the country. Judd enters students at Year 12!

Lachlan Bradley was one of just 8% of students who obtained a Gold award to add to his Physics Gold!

Rose Blyth, Matthew Keenan, Ethan Arnold, Calvin Hooper, Ayush Gupta, Adam Winniffrith, Jessica Lally, Kartik Velayudham, Joshua Gong, Toby Allen, Joseph Downard, Luke Davies and Shashwat Kansal all achieved silver awards with 23 others gaining bronze. Well done to all for an amazing achievement.



Musical Successes

From the opening bars of 'Festive Overture' from Judd Winds, it was clear that the Spring Concert was going to be an exciting evening. Judd Winds continued their contribution with an accomplished Trombone solo from Charlie Curtis and the fusion of playing and shouting in 'Sang!'. A large school choir brought three songs, including the popular 'Singin' in the Rain', before the Boys' Group presented the ambitious 'Bohemian Rhapsody'. Concert Orchestra, a group of lower school musicians, played their two pieces with impressive confidence considering that for some of them it was their first Judd concert. It is a tradition in the Spring Concert that we celebrate the contribution of our year 13 students, and this was done in the performance of a Schubert Piano Trio by James Cook, Annabel Sargent and Mateo Hoare, as well as solo spots from James and Annabel. Chamber Choir presented masterful performances of two very contrasting songs in 'Nordic Polska', which splits into eight separate parts, and Eric Whitacre's beautiful



Spring Concert

'Sleep'. The String Orchestra treated us to some film music from Indiana Jones, before contributing to the Symphony Orchestra's performance of a suite of movements from Grieg's Peer Gynt. Annabel Sargent was once again featured as the soloist in a movement from Rachmaninov's Rhapsody on a Theme by Paganini. The concert ended with Christian Hoddinott conducting the Orchestra in a thrilling performance of a movement from a Beethoven Symphony. Once again, we were delighted with the number of students taking part in music groups, and this concert was a testament to the hard work they have put in all term.

Jazz Café

We closed the musical term on Tuesday night with a fantastic evening of Jazz. We were dazzled by performances from a range of talented musicians including some familiar faces.

'Georgie, George and Gerard' entertained us with some beautiful Jazz standards including 'My Baby

Just Cares for Me' with Georgie's performance reminiscent of the Nina Simone version of the 50s.

Big Band rounded each half off with a rousing range of classics to lift the roof and the spirits at the end of another busy, tiring, but always enjoyable and impressive term. Well done everyone!

AND FINALLY...

Once again, please do have a wonderful break and recharge those batteries, ready to come back to school eager to learn. For Years 10 & 12, it is only two weeks to exams and it won't be long before the external exams are upon us for Years 11 & 13! Do take time to ensure you feel prepared; come back with questions for your teachers, to help clarify those aspects you need to get to grips with and good luck! Have a great Easter break everyone.

Important Dates for the Diary

Y12 Higher Education Meeting 26th April - 7pm
Y10 & 11 Oxbridge Evening - 3rd May - 7pm
Senior Prize Giving - 29th June

JPA Football Fiesta - 1st July
Open Evening - 5th July - 4:30pm - 8:00pm
School Play - 11th-13th July
Sports Day - 11th July
Watch out for the Summer Concert date tbc!