

From the Headmaster: Weekly Update – 15/03/24

Dear Parents

It has been an extremely busy week in school for pupils of all ages. We have also received news of some spectacular individual success.

Huge congratulations in particular to Thea (Year 9) who was victorious in her age group in the Public Schools Championship for fencing on Wednesday. This is a national competition in which Thea won all her matches against competition from top independent schools. Fencing has a long and distinguished history in the independent sector and this is the first time one of our pupils has achieved at such a high level. A round up of recent individual and team sporting success from across the school is on the school [website](#).

On Monday Year 12 pupil Oskar was part of a select group of Junior Trinity musicians who performed in the presence of royalty, prime ministers and assorted dignitaries from Commonwealth countries in the Commonwealth Celebration Service in Westminster Abbey. On this occasion, Oskar was playing the trombone but we have now had confirmation that he will be participating in the prestigious Jacobs School of Music Strings Course (he also plays the viola) at the University of Indiana this summer.

Junior School parents enjoyed the Year 5 music production in the senior school hall last night which involved an abundance of ukuleles and some very impressive solo performances. Many thanks to Mrs Smith for organising such an impressive event.

Ornithology was high on the agenda this week with eggs hatching in the nursery and assorted birds of prey on display in the sports hall. Both junior and senior pupils attended the display which included hawks, owls and falcons. As part of their [STEAM week](#), junior school pupils attended dinosaur workshops and conducted various experiments in the playground.

Meanwhile I was interviewed twice during the course of [House Media Day](#) and our team performed extremely well in the regional national phase of the National Reading Quiz, losing narrowly to one of our partner schools, Bonus Pastor in Lewisham, in a tense tie-breaker.

Senior school students of German spent a day engaged in German Film Studies at the British Film Institute and Year 9 Maths students went to Bletchley Park to learn about the early days of computing and World War 2 codebreaking.

Finally, we were delighted to play our part in comic relief day with junior school pupils dressing as what they wanted to be when they grew up, including a very surprising entry from Ivan in Year 2 who said he wanted to be the headmaster...

With best wishes to all

Richard Russell
Headmaster