



Spotlight

Benjamin Britten Academy of Music and Mathematics Newsletter Edition 47

Main Feature: Year 11 Fundraiser Staff Football Match

On Friday 17 April, over 200 ticket-holders gathered to watch the first inter-staff football match on the new 3G pitch. Held between Knowledge City FC in blue (captained by Mr B. George) and The Benji Barmy Army in red (captained by Mr Cook), the match took place in perfect weather after school with all proceeds going to support the Year 11 Prom. Year 11s M. Peek, F. Lloyd and J. Tillett volunteered as referee and linesmen. After 75 minutes of play, Knowledge City FC put in a brilliant team performance, securing a convincing 5-3 win over The Benji Barmy Army. The atmosphere among the crowd was thoroughly good-natured with a constant buzz of chanting, cheers and applause, alongside autographs of goal-scorers. Those on the mound arguably had the best view of the match which has undoubtedly become one of the most memorable school events held in many years. All staff acquitted themselves admirably; however, special mention must be made of Mr Humphrey (red) who was an impenetrable wall in goal for the first half. Mr Barber (blue) also played well in the opposing goal. Goals scored came from Mr Croft (red), Miss Chambers, who scored twice (blue), Mr Sweetman (red), Mr B. George (blue), Mr Everson (blue), Mr Spooner (red) and Mr Baruch (blue). Man of the Match for The Benji Barmy Army was voted Mr Cook whilst Man of the Match for Knowledge City was Mr Everson, with Top Goal Scorer awarded to Miss Chambers. **Nearly £500 was raised.** Congratulations and thanks are extended to Mrs Snowdon (First Aider) and to Mrs Wright and Mrs Norton who staffed the gate, and finally to Mr Everson for organising the event.



Benjamin Britten Music Academy and Centre of Excellence in Mathematics
Blyford Road
Lowestoft
Suffolk

NR32 4PZ Telephone: (01502) 582 312 www.benjaminbritten.school



Phone Policy

Scholars are not permitted to be in possession of a mobile phone, or any electronic device, during the school day. Any phone or device brought into school must be deposited with the relevant Year Teams promptly upon arrival and will be held in secure storage. The phone/device can then be collected at 3:15pm.

Any mobile phone or device found in possession of a scholar during the school day, including at break and lunchtime, will be **confiscated** and will **only be returned after 3:15** to a parent or carer.

If parents or carers need to urgently contact their child, they should do so by communicating with the main school office on (01502) 582 312, whereupon a message will be relayed immediately.



Bicycle Safety

Cyclists are reminded of the need to follow the rules of the road, ride sensibly and consider other road users. **The School strongly advises cyclists to wear a helmet.**

Be Safe. Be Seen.



✓ Wear
a helmet



✓ Wear
gloves



✓ Wear
something bright

Year News

Year 7: Our Year 7s have enjoyed an exciting and successful first year at high school, filled with memorable experiences and plenty of reasons to celebrate. Throughout the year, scholars have been recognised for their effort and commitment through a variety of reward events, including sweet treats, tray bakes, cookies and ice cream. These celebrations acknowledged the positive attitude and excellent behaviour shown by so many of the year group. The academic year concluded with our Awards Ceremony, where 92 scholars received awards across a range of subjects in recognition of their progress, dedication and hard work in lessons. Congratulations go to E. Oliveira and O. Ellis, who were awarded the prestigious Head of Year Award for being exceptional role models and making a positive contribution to the Year 7 community. Mr Cook, Mrs Smith and Mrs Reynolds would like to congratulate all of Year 7 on a fantastic first year and wish them all a safe, happy summer. – **Mr Cook, Mrs Smith & Mrs Reynolds**

Year 8: As we reach the end of another academic year, we would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our Year 8s on all that they have achieved. A highlight of the year has been the exceptional maturity and conduct shown by scholars during their English Speaking Board examinations. They approached this challenge with confidence and enthusiasm, demonstrating not only communication skills but also their resilience and preparation. The positive attitude displayed throughout the examination process was a credit to both themselves and the School, and we were delighted to see so many rise to the occasion. Beyond the classroom educational visits to Paris and Barcelona provided unforgettable experiences, allowing scholars to broaden their horizons. Closer to home, Year 8s participated in a range of exciting STEM-related trips, including visits to the Imperial War Museum at Duxford, where they explored science, technology, engineering, and history in engaging and interactive ways. Meanwhile, many Year 8s challenged themselves academically through participation in the UKMT Maths Challenges, demonstrating perseverance, problem-solving skills, and a genuine enthusiasm for mathematics. To celebrate a fantastic year of achievement, positive conduct, and commitment, scholars enjoyed a well-deserved reward trip to Pleasurewood Hills. We would like to thank all of our Year 8 scholars for their hard work, enthusiasm, and positive attitude throughout the year. We look forward to seeing them continue to grow and thrive as they move into Year 9. Have a wonderful summer break and congratulations on an outstanding year.—**Mrs Spall and Mrs Burton.**

Year 9: As another successful academic year draws to a close, our Year 9 scholars are preparing for the next exciting phase of their school journey. They have now received their GCSE option choices and are looking forward to starting their GCSE courses in September. Year 9 have also moved into the Upper School Office, marking another important milestone as they prepare for the challenges and opportunities ahead. As a reward for all their commitment throughout the year, scholars enjoyed a fantastic rewards trip. Although it was a very hot day, there were plenty of smiles and laughter as scholars spent quality time with their friends, creating lasting memories together. Throughout the year, our Year 9s have continued to represent the School brilliantly. During the recent Year 5 and 6 Transition Days, they demonstrated outstanding leadership and maturity, helping younger pupils settle in and feel welcomed. They were fantastic role models and a real credit to our school community. We are also delighted to celebrate the fundraising efforts of Year 9. Together, **they have raised a very impressive £2,626.82**, which will go towards their leavers' event. This fantastic achievement would not have been possible without the dedication of our Year 9 fundraising team and the generous support of our school families. A huge thank you to everyone who contributed and helped make this possible. We wish all of our Year 9s and their families a safe, happy and well-deserved summer break.—**Mrs Hammond and Mrs Reeder.**

Year News

Year 10: It has been an exceptional busy Summer term for our Year 10 scholars! We would firstly like to congratulate all our Year 10s who received an award at the Upper School Awards Evening held at the Marina Theatre on 21 April. Awards were presented for each subject to recognise and celebrate outstanding effort and dedication to their studies. A special mention goes to H. Whymark and A. Bryce for the Head of Year 10 Awards. Our Year 10 scholars demonstrated maturity and resilience through an intense mock exam period before participating in work experience. The feedback we have received from the scholars, businesses and school staff members visiting the placements has been heart-warming and we are very proud of everyone who has taken part. We have been kept updated by scholars and their families on the exciting opportunities that this experience has brought including N. Richardson who spent the first week at University College London and S. Whyard who has been at the Somerleyton Estate Office. We would like to wish our scholars and their families a well deserved rest for the summer and we look forward to welcoming you back in September as Year 11. This next year is going to fly by!

- *Mrs Adams & Mrs Knights*

Year 11: It has been a great privilege to work with our Year 11 scholars, helping them in their learning and their development into the people they will become. This last year of school has presented challenges, but our scholars have overcome them with great tenacity and good humour. Rounding off our year with the Leavers' Event and Prom has been a fitting end to their time at Benjamin Britten and we wish them all the very best in their future work and learning, wherever that may be. The year team are now relocating to the Lower School Office and looking forward to getting to know our new Year 8 group and working with them all the way to Year 11.

- *Mrs Wright and Mrs Norton*



Mathematics News

2026 UKMT Maths Challenge Overview: Mr Locke (maths) is pleased to report that the School had three scholars participate in the Intermediate Challenge follow-on rounds, with two achieving certificates. Roughly 250,000 students from across the UK take the papers each year, with the Intermediate Challenge taking place in February. The Benjamin Britten School fielded 39 participants and a further 68 participants in the Junior Challenge. **E. Grundy's score this year, as a Year 9 scholar, was unbelievably strong.** D. McIntyre, O. Murray, Z. Garrod and M. Pelczarska were also selected to participate in the follow-on round for the Junior Challenge on 9 June 2026. Britten scholars also entered the team competition at Framlingham College in March, and ranked 8th out of 15, a commendable achievement based on the complexity of questions. The Maths Department extends its special thanks, alongside the pride and congratulations of the entire school.

Trip News

Iceland Trip: Between Sunday 28 June and Friday 3 July, forty Year 9 scholars took part in the annual overseas residential trip to Iceland. On their first day, scholars enjoyed a tour of the Reykjavik peninsula including a hike up to the lava fields created when a volcano erupted in 2022. The tour concluded with a visit to the Bridge Between Continents and a trip to the Vikingheimar (Viking Museum) in Reykjanesbaer, where scholars were able to climb aboard a full size replica of a Viking longboat that sailed to North America in the 9th Century. On their second day, the group visited the starkly beautiful South Shore, including the Skogafoss waterfall, the Reynisfjara Black Sand Beach and completed a hike up a glacier. The day was rounded off with an inter-team quiz at the accommodation. On the third day of the trip, the group paid a visit to the remarkable Nesjavellir Geothermal Power Station, the Strokkur geyser and Thingvellir National Park (aka, the wall from Game of Thrones). The final day of the trip was to the streets of the capital city Reykjavik and the spectacular ice caves at Perlan. Scholars thoroughly enjoyed themselves and Mrs Roffey (science) extends her appreciation and congratulations to all who took part.



News in Sport

County Cup Winners: Mr Humphrey (PE) is pleased to report that the Year 7 boys' football team ended the season as winners of the U-12 County Cup. This is a fantastic achievement, especially for a new team who only began playing together last September. Their dedication, teamwork and perseverance has paid off and their victory is thoroughly deserved. The team lifted the U12-Mixed County Cup shield at Needham Market Football Club on 5 May, with awards presented by representatives from the English Schools' Football Association. The team has also reached the last 32 of the National Cup, where 588 teams entered from across the UK. An amazing achievement which shows that Year 7 football at Benjamin Britten continues to go from strength to strength.



Upper School Awards Evening

Upper School Awards Evening 2026:

On 21 April, Lowestoft's Marina Theatre played host to the annual Upper School Awards Evening where the achievements of Year 10 and Year 11 scholars were celebrated with parents, carers and staff. Mr Flanagan (Head of Upper School) gave an address congratulating all scholars for their efforts and thanked parents and carers for their ongoing and tireless support. Guest speaker Miss Kathryn Temple spoke of the importance of self-belief and resilience in personal achievements and also took time to praise scholars for their efforts and hard work, both inside and outside of school, acknowledging that this period of a young person's life presents an array of challenges which can always be overcome. Performing Arts scholars gave flawless performances highlighting the talent for which the School's performing arts work has become famous, both at local level and beyond. Numerous awards, including specially commissioned trophies, were awarded to scholars for success in subject areas and extra-curricular activities. These included three new awards for Sporting Contributions to Grassroots Football, sponsored by Waveney F.C, which were duly awarded to the Year 11 refereeing team who superintended the staff football match held three days prior. The evening culminated with the presentation of the coveted Head of Year 10 Shield, this year presented to A. Bryce and H. Whymark (**bottom right**) while the Head of Year 11 Shield was presented to Senior Prefects A. Turk and A. Goddard (**see top right**). A closing speech by Head Girl O. Bagshaw and Head Boy H. Boggis, rounded off a joyous and heartfelt evening of celebration.



School Council

Update from the School Council:

Point 1: Greenhouse and Gardening Club. The School Council is pleased to report that funding from the School's Senior Leadership Team has been agreed and greenhouses will be placed in the Art and Science courtyards for use by the Club from the start of the new academic year. Mr Sweetman (maths) has already completed a week of assemblies to raise awareness of the importance of bio-diversity, habitats and ecosystems created in gardens and to recruit new members.

Point 2: Homework Break. Research was presented to the School Council by members of the School's Senior Leadership Team which showed that homework is beneficial to overall subject progress by the end of Year 11. In light of this evidence, there will be no change to existing homework policy.

Point 3: Smartphone Leniency. Recent changes to government guidance and laws relating to the use of phones in schools means no further changes can be entertained as regards this policy.

Point 4: Lunchtime Length. Following a meeting with the School Council, who raised the issue on behalf of scholars from all year groups, the proposal from the Board of Governors is to increase the length of lunchtime by 10 minutes. This will be made possible by reducing break-time by 5 minutes and starting the school day 5 minutes earlier at 8:40am. Changes are to be made in time for the new academic year.

School Notices

Parents & carers must advise the relevant year team of any planned absence (e.g. medical appointments) **at least 24 hours in advance** to enable staff to complete the necessary paperwork in a timely manner.

Without this, the School cannot guarantee that scholars will be ready for collection when required.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is a priority at Benjamin Britten School and entails keeping the school community safe from harm, abuse, or injury.

This duty of care is taken very seriously. All staff receive annual safeguarding training and ensure that safer recruiting practices are followed. Scholars are reminded of the need for safeguarding and key safeguarding messages are provided through Social Ethics lessons, tutorial time activities, and year assemblies.

The School is committed to safeguarding scholars, staff and visitors.

We expect all staff, volunteers, and visitors to share this commitment and brief them on our procedures and practices when they arrive. Safeguarding incorporates the prevention of extremism and radicalisation as well as child protection, and concentrates on the wellbeing of the young person.

The School aims to ensure any indication that a young person is not thriving or is failing to meet his or her potential is detected as soon as possible.

If you have any concerns and would like to discuss them with the safeguarding team in the strictest of confidence, please contact Mrs Thurbon or Mrs Armon, the school's Designated Safeguarding Leads.

Uniform Policy

Footwear - Formal black shoes, with a leather upper, of a safe and comfortable style and heel height. Those that look like boots/trainers or are made of canvas, or have flashes of colour are not acceptable.

Jewellery - Jewellery is not part of the uniform. Small sleeper type earrings or small discreet studs may be worn, no bigger than a 5 pence piece (one in each ear). No nose studs, facial or body piercings are permitted. *This includes plastic stud retainers.*

Shirts and Kilts: Shirts should be tucked in, top button fastened and kilts **worn to knee length**.

Make-up and nails - Make-up, including fake tan, nail varnish/false nails are not allowed.

School Jumper: Should be worn at all times unless staff allow it to be removed.

Eyelashes - False eyelashes/eyelash extensions are not permitted.

Coats and Hoodies - Coats and hoodies must not be worn in school.

Hoodies will be confiscated if worn inside the building.

Benjamin Britten School reserves the right not to accept scholars in lessons who exceed what the School deems reasonable.



Philanthropy News

Marie Curie Million Metres Walk: For the week commencing 27 April, each year group spent their form time walking or jogging laps of the Lower Field running track with the aim of completing 200,000 metres, which when combined, would provide a whole-school total of one million metres. The Million Metres Appeal provides funding for nursing and end of life care for those with terminal illness, with scholars gaining sponsorship to meet their own target. Superintended by Mr Sweetman (maths) and supported by form tutors and year teams, the appeal was a great success and a credit to our scholars whose actions once again embodied our school motto, *'Discamus ut Serviamus', 'We Learn that we May Serve'*. **£664 was raised across the week**, a slight increase on last year's total.



Year 9 Prom Fundraiser: Miss Baumgartner (English) held an American Lemonade fundraiser during lunchtime on Friday 26 June in what turned out to be a well-timed respite from the summer term heatwave. A dozen Year 9 scholars from 9ABa made their way to English Room 11 to dispense American Lemonade at 50p a cup. Each returned cup also entered scholars into a draw to win a large bag of sweets. **£68.50 was raised in only 35 minutes**—a tremendous achievement—which will be put towards the Year 9 Prom. The winner of the sweets was J. Stebbings.



Year 11 Charity Skydive: On Saturday 4 July, fourteen brave Year 11 scholars took to the sky over Suffolk for the annual charity skydive. Each scholar gained sponsorship for their chosen charity and after taking off from Ellough near Beccles and ascending to 13,000FT, they jumped in tandem with their skydiving instructor. Initial estimates suggest that **over £4,000 was raised for an array of charities**. Congratulations to our intrepid skydivers: O. Bagshaw, K. Bullard, M. Carter, B. Crisp, A. Daniell, E. Edwards, O. Gunton, L. Hall, H. Lewis, I. Reeve, A. Soanes, L. Temple, T. Welson and O. Whittington.



Philanthropy News (continued)

Non-School Uniform Days: Each term, our School community supports different charities by holding a non-school uniform day. In order to promote 'Children in Need' at Benjamin Britten, the School supported five charities: Children in Need, Suffolk Mind, Brave Futures, Guide Dogs, and F.A.I.T.H. Animal Rescue on Friday 14 November. **A total of £607 was raised**, and multiple items were donated to the school's Food Bank. In order to promote 'Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day' at Benjamin Britten, five charities were supported: Save the Children, Lowestoft Food Bank, The Salvation Army's Christmas Appeal, The Teenage Cancer Trust, and Young Minds on Wednesday 17 December. **A total of £510 was raised**, and multiple items were donated to the school's Food Bank. In order to celebrate 'Inclusion Week,' the School supported four charities: The Hamlet Charity, The BUILD Charity, Stepping Stones, and Disability Advice (North East Suffolk and Lowestoft). In addition to these four charities, we are also supporting our School Council's Greenhouse Club who are hoping to raise funds to buy compost, tools and seeds for their new project. **In total, over £500 was raised.**

Britten 200 Project: Mrs Armon (Head of School) is pleased to report that the School has exceeded expectations in fundraising for the Britten 100 charity project, whereby the School aimed to raise money for 100 different charities. **The total amount raised was over £40,000—a truly fantastic achievement** and proof that our collective efforts can help our community as much as our individual acts of kindness. With this success in our minds, the School has now embarked on the Britten 200 project, where a new selection of 100 charities will be supported.

Rewards News

Traybake Treats: At the end of Autumn Term 1, over 500 scholars in Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 were chosen to receive a 'traybake treat' for an excellent amount of residual behaviour points. For Autumn Term 2, just over **600 different scholars** in Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 were rewarded for excellent attitude to learning during registration time. For Spring Term 1, **over 500 scholars** in Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 were rewarded for excellent participation in curricular enrichment clubs and fixtures. For Spring Term 2, **over 500 scholars** in Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 were rewarded for an excellent amount of positive points. For the Summer Term, **over 500 scholars** across Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 were rewarded for excellent punctuality to lessons throughout the year.

Extracurricular Clubs: Mrs Armon (Head of School) would like to say a huge congratulations to all scholars who have taken part in extracurricular clubs this year. There has been an incredible **15,432 attendances at clubs so far this academic year, with 913 different scholars attending.** New clubs will be added in September, so please do have a look at the clubs timetables on the school website, displayed in your form rooms, and at the Upper and Lower School offices to see what is on offer.

New School Year Timings: There will be some small changes to the school day from September for the new academic year. After requests from the School Council, the Board of Governors have agreed to extend the lunchtime period by 10 minutes. As a result, the school day will run from 8:40 am to 3:15 pm, with effect from Wednesday 2 September for our new Year 7 scholars and Thursday 3 September for all returning scholars.

Careers News

Uni Boys NUCA trip: As part of their careers programme, six Year 7 boys visited the Norwich University College of the Arts (NUCA) Duke Street campus in Norwich on 18 June to compete in a home-made robotics championship against other schools and a creative writing workshop under the direction of UEA Outreach Ambassadors and published author Annaliese Avery, author of the award-winning 'The Immortal Games'. The Britten team came a respectable third of six in the robotics final with their robot 'Mark 2.0', with students from City Academy Norwich winning by one point in the final. The group were also treated to a walking tour of Post-Graduate Art installations across the NUCA buildings. Mr Mullender (careers) congratulates the boys on their excellent behaviour and positive attitude throughout.



UEA Creative Writing Workshop: 31 Year 8 scholars were invited to a Creative Writing Workshop on 29 April where UEA staff walked them through brainstorming and drafting pieces of creative writing about the environment and Lowestoft. Scholars created narratives, speeches and poems to raise awareness about environmental issues and how they could improve the local environment. Of these, 28 participated in the recording process on 11 May, where UEA students and staff from the Journalism Department recorded the scholars performing their pieces, which were displayed at a booth at the First Light Festival. QR Codes were put on display for people to watch and listen through their devices. Miss Baumgartner (English) congratulates all who took part.

Royal Norfolk Show Trip: Nearly 100 Year 9 scholars had the opportunity to attend the Royal Norfolk Show on 25 June as part of their careers programme. Scholars were able to speak with employers and post-16 education providers in the STEM Village and Careers Centre where they asked questions about employment opportunities, apprenticeships and higher education. After this, scholars were provided with maps to help them navigate the showground which, due to the intense heat on one of the hottest days of the year, had water and shade points added. Dr Wright (STEM), Mrs Hammond (English) and Mr Mullender (Careers) congratulate all scholars on their behaviour and enthusiasm, in spite of the heat.



Sixth Form College Trips: On 22 June and 2 July, scholars in Year 10 were invited to attend two trips as part of their Upper School careers programme. The visits, to Lowestoft Sixth Form and East Norfolk Sixth Form respectively, gave scholars the opportunity to attend sample lessons linked to their interests and ask questions of college staff and students about life at Sixth Form and the big differences to high school. Mr Mullender (careers) extends his appreciation to the college outreach teams for their hospitality, the Year 10 team for their support and to Year 10 scholars for their maturity and professionalism across both visits.

Britten Round-Up

Year 10 Parkrun: On Sunday 10 May, the Britten Parkrun team visited Lingwood. This was a three-and-a-half lap run which sounded very complicated but was dealt with without any great challenge. Congratulations to Mr Flanagan on a Personal Best and for driving the minibus on a Sunday. Thanks are also due to Mr Sweetman for pacing 25-minutes and to Mrs Kitching for timekeeping. Congratulations are extended to Mrs Poole (SENDSCO) and to Mrs Thurbon (headteacher) for taking part. The Britten runners also tackled the Rendlesham Forest Parkrun on Saturday 27 June during a heatwave, which was a tremendous achievement.



Learn with the Lords Event: On Friday 1 May, the School was visited by Lord David Anderson, KC, a member of the House of Lords. A number of scholars representing all year groups, including members of the School Council, enjoyed an extremely informative presentation and Q&A session where topics included how to become a Lord, what is the role of the House of Lords, counter Terrorism, global politics and many other topics. Scholars were exemplary representatives of the School, asking lots of questions. Indeed, Lord Anderson commented on how impressed he was by our scholars and their awareness of a wide range of topics. Mr Sweetman (maths) congratulates everyone who took part.



East Restaurant Visit: On 8 May, Year 10 GCSE Hospitality & Catering scholars visited the Professional Cookery Department at East Coast College. Working alongside Catering students from East Coast, they cooked a two-course Italian themed lunch in the professional kitchen, which is a very different experience to cooking in the school classroom. They made garlic doughballs with roasted garlic butter, made and shaped fresh pasta with roasted tomato sauce, and finished with a tiramisu. Scholars used commercial equipment, including motorised pasta machines, and learned dovetailing and sequencing which will help them with their upcoming mock practical exams. They ate their meal in the East Restaurant at East Coast College, before heading back to school. Mrs Abel (Food Tech) congratulates Chef Kinzel for their hospitality and support and to former Britten scholar and catering college student Gabriel Sanford (Leaver 2023) for his assistance.

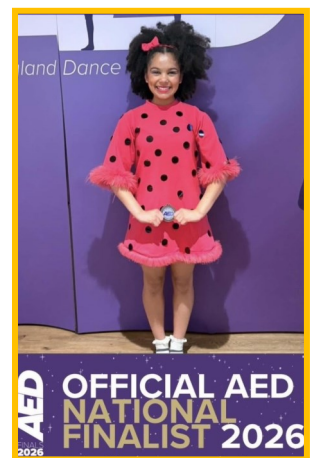


In Other News...

Open Afternoons: Year 5 Open Afternoons on 23 and 24 June once again proved a great success, in spite of the heatwave. **This year the School welcomed 250 Year 5 pupils from a staggering 17 different Primary Schools.** Pupils were made very welcome and given a sample timetable of activities to see what life at high school entails. Mrs Armon (Head of School) and Mrs Reynolds (Transition Lead) extend their appreciation and congratulations to the Year 9 Transition Ambassadors (*see right*) for lending their help in making the days run so smoothly.



Performance Success: A huge well done to D. Simms for her outstanding achievements in performing arts outside of school. She recently competed at the All England Dance Regional Finals, where she was awarded runner-up in musical theatre. She has now qualified for the National Finals in Eastbourne which provides an excellent opportunity to perform on the national stage. Alongside her success in dance, she has also performed as a soloist with the James Paget Hospital Choir for the past three years, helping to raise money for charities including the JPUH, St. Elizabeth Hospice, Dementia UK and the Stroke Association. Earlier this year, D. Simms was awarded a scholarship and bursary to attend the Performance Foundation Course at the prestigious Tring Park School for the Performing Arts in Hertfordshire. The whole School wishes her the very best.



Skating Success: Year 9 scholars H. Hughes and D. Bligh recently competed in the East Anglian Open Skating Competition, achieving some fantastic results. D. Bligh placed first in her Newcomers routine, first in her Novice team event and third in her Newcomers Solo Dance, walking away with an impressive three medals and two trophies. H. Hughes competed in six events and won five medals overall, including first place in the Duo event, two second-place finishes and two third-place finishes, including joint third in Open Standard. The entire School is very proud of them and their fantastic achievements.



Proms Recognition: The School recently received recognition in the BBC Proms Guide for 2026. The Guide, published nationally as an accompanying piece to The Proms music festival, which runs from July to September, contains an article about Britten's significance to classical music and his continued relevance entitled 'Britten Today' written by Dr Lucy Walker. An excerpt of the article reads:

"The Aldeburgh Festival, which Britten co-founded in 1948, is still going strong. Britten's birthplace in Lowestoft has been recently adorned with a statue entitled 'Britten as a Boy'. And Year 7 schoolchildren from the Benjamin Britten Academy in the same town have an annual trip to The Red House baked into their schedule. An outsider in English music on several levels, Britten forged his individual path in the sanctuary of Suffolk, steeped in the community where he became a local hero."

In Other News...

Football Success: In May, Year 9 scholar, M. Lake's Fakenham EJA Team won their league, with M. Lake being leading goal scorer. The team then went on to win the County Cup, where he scored a hat-trick and was awarded Player of the Match by an F.A Official. He was also awarded the match ball for outstanding performance. Over of the weekend of 16 May, his Suffolk County team won the East of England County Cup, unbeaten in their group, then proceeded to win the semi-final to play Kent in the final, which they won with a comprehensive 3-0 victory, the first time Suffolk has won the GE Knowles Cup. An Ipswich Town FC scout was sufficiently impressed by M. Lake's performance to offer him a trial at Ipswich Town FC Academy starting in July. The whole School wishes him the best of luck.



Charity Action: On Sunday 10 May, Year 9 scholar F. Smith took part in the Beccles Cycle for Life, a 25-mile bicycle ride around the country lanes near Beccles in support of the Beccles Rotary Club who support good causes in the local area and the East of England Air Ambulance. F. Smith and other intrepid cyclists were waved off from the start point by the Mayor of Beccles and other enthusiastic supporters and after several gruelling hours under a blazing sun, successfully completed her ride. The School congratulates her on her efforts. On Saturday 9 May, Year 10 scholar I. Lincoln-Cooper (see right) completed the Norwich 5K Race for Life 'Pretty Muddy Run', which involved climbing and running across mud-covered inflatables and other obstacles in aid of Cancer Research UK. Her sterling efforts raised a fantastic £300 for Cancer Research UK in just over an hour of exhausting climbing. The whole School congratulates them both on their fundraising activities.



GCSE Art Exhibition 2026: It was a busy night at the end of year show for Year 11 GCSE Art and Photography scholars whose work was put on public display in the School Library on 17 June. Artwork had been moderated earlier in the week and parents were invited to view the outcome of two years' hard work. Congratulations to E. Wood, E. Goddard, E. Meadows and A. Turk (see below) who all won the staff and scholar choice awards and to all Year 11 work which was outstanding. In her final exhibition before retirement, Miss O'Leary (art) extends her thanks and appreciation to the artist Geoff Litchfield for his opening speech, to the Visual Arts Team for putting on a fantastic show and to the Site Team for setting up the exhibition.



In Other News...

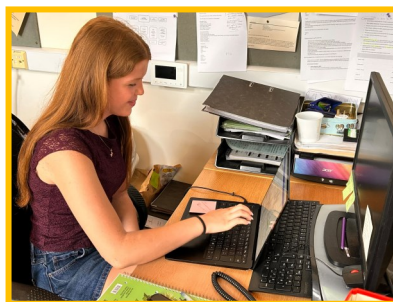
Sailing Success: Year 9 scholar H. Calver sailed in the RS Terra National Championships held in Pwllheli, Wales, over the half-term break in May. He finished a creditable 14th place after three long days of racing out at sea – a courageous undertaking at his comparatively young age. The whole School is extremely proud of his achievements and look forward with great anticipation to his World Championship debut in Germany in the summer for which the School wishes him the very best of luck.



Former Britten Scholar Success: Former **Head Boy Henry Cole (Leaver 2022)** was counted among 250 young people from across the country in attendance at a special ceremony at Windsor Castle on 26 April, in recognition of achieving the King's Scout Award (KSA). This traditional event, which has taken place for the last 90 years, saw young people congratulated by the Chief Scout Dwayne Fields after gaining the highest achievement in scouting for adventure, leadership and skill development, before parading in the Castle quad before His Majesty The King. Henry, along with two other Scouts from Lowestoft, were part of the Lowestoft Explorer Unit. He is currently studying physics at York University where he helps with a local scout group. He is also District Youth Lead Volunteer at Lowestoft. On 7 June, former **Head Girl Georgia Boyd (Leaver 2023)** returned to the School in the role of UEA Student Ambassador during a 'Future Me' workshop held in the Theatre for Year 7. She spoke to scholars about life at university, including sports and societies, and encouraged them to try their best at everything in school. Georgia is studying Pharmaceutical Science, a four-year degree course which involves written assignments, work placements and 20 hours of volunteering per month. Upon graduating, she intends becoming a Registered Pharmacist. The School wishes them both the very best of luck in their endeavours.

Staff Farewells: Miss O'Leary retired at the end of the summer term as Head of the Visual Arts Department after ten years of working for the School. Miss O'Leary played an integral role in modernising the art rooms and was the driving force behind the annual GCSE Art Exhibition which celebrates the success of GCSE art and photography scholars with a wider audience. Miss O'Leary is succeeded by Mrs Ludlam as Head of Art. Teacher of music and Year 9 form tutor, Miss Wareham, also departed the School at the end of the summer term to take up a teaching post with an International School in Cambodia where she will continue bringing the joy of music and performance to a new audience. The entire School thanks them for their service and wishes them well in their next steps.

Work Experience: Head of Year 10 Mrs Adams and Pastoral Head of Year 10 Mrs Knights are pleased to report that this year's work experience placements were a great success. Practically the whole year group succeeded in finding at least one placement for the ten day work experience window during the last two weeks of the summer term. Feedback from staff who visited scholars on placement was overwhelmingly positive. A special mention must be made of N. Richardson (*see right*) for securing a placement in the research department at University College London (UCL) and S. Whyard (*see above*) who gained a place at the Somerleyton Estates Office where she was able to learn how the estate operates and lend her skills to the task.



And Finally...

Krispy Kreme Fundraising 2025-26: Miss Pankhurst (maths) congratulates all her helpers this academic year who assisted with staffing the ever-popular Krispy Kreme doughnut stall. Each term, in the Mathematics Centre, Miss Pankhurst and her team sell hundreds of Krispy Kreme doughnuts at break and lunch to support fundraising efforts and share our charitable nature as a school. All proceeds go towards the Year 11 prom and nominated inclusion week charities. In total, this academic year, **over £1,300 was raised!** A fantastic effort which would not have been possible without the support of our helpers who volunteered to give up their break and lunchtimes to serve the enormous crowds.



SCHOOL — KEEP — CLEAR

The School respectfully requests that parents & carers exercise consideration when parking in the local community while collecting their children from school.

The roads adjoining the School are residential areas that need to remain accessible at all times.

Please pay attention to double yellow lines, zig-zag markings, dropped kerbs and driveways when waiting with or parking your vehicle.

Your consideration of others will make our roads safer for all.

Thank you for your help in this matter.

SCHOOL — KEEP — CLEAR