



ERA CHRONICLE



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Dear founding families,

As we reach the end of our first half term, I can hardly believe we only opened our doors a matter of weeks ago. The students have settled in so well it feels as if they were always here. When I started in post in January, and began making plans and decisions for a group of students I hadn't yet met, I often imagined who might arrive through our doors. Over the past seven weeks I have thoroughly enjoyed watching our students gain in confidence and begin to show their characters and talents in school.

My highlights this half term are far too numerous to list but I have picked out a few absolute treasures.

Watching Mattie and Theo stand up (five times) in front of our audience of prospective parents at Open Evening was a moment of huge pride for me; they were eloquent, confident and did a terrific job of reassuring the year six pupils who came to look around the school.

During week three I was summoned up to the music room to hear Emilia, Abi and Atanas signing in an after school choir practice. Their voices were in brilliant harmony with one another which was a powerful reminder not just of their talent and the coaching they've received from Ms Davies but of the wonderful way our students have welcomed the three new starters that have joined us since September.

In October, a notification popped up on our school Facebook page letting us know that one of our parents had shared a recommendation of the school. Mrs Jackson's glowing recommendation was closely followed by several more. The feedback from you, our founding families, has been such a boost to us all during the hard work involved in getting the school open. The work of the Parent Reference Group at Open Evening is just one example of the many ways you have supported us and I feel very proud to have this community in our corner.

As you are probably aware, one of our students, Issy is attending school through a virtual reality robot called an AVI. While Issy goes from hospital treatment to recuperation at home she makes as much time as she can to attend her lessons through the eyes and ears of 'Vissy' AKA Virtual Issy who sits in her seat in class and even joins in with assemblies and social time fun. All of our students, without exception, have accepted and welcome Vissy into their lessons and have supported us and Issy in making sure she's always in the right place at the right time. You can find out more about the AVI here: <https://www.noisolation.com/uk/avi/>

Starting a school from scratch brings with it as many challenges as it does opportunities and this first half term has shown me that the team of staff I have around me here at Bohunt Horsham are a committed, talented and compassionate group of people, willing to go the extra mile and do far more than would be expected of them in an established school to ensure that our students are never disadvantaged by starting their secondary education with us. I must take this opportunity to thank them, to thank you all for your support and to congratulate our students on a very successful and happy first half term.

Warm regards,

Ms Ayling



Arts and Culture

by Ms Davies



The Arts and Culture faculty comprises Art, Music, Drama, Physical Education and Modern Foreign Languages, and I am often asked why these subjects are together in one faculty. I strongly believe that creative arts and sport can be the life-blood of a school and that our aspiring culture of inclusion, acceptance and diversity is perfectly encapsulated in MFL. We have been overwhelmed with the level of participation, enthusiasm and confidence of all of our students this half term, and have many achievements to celebrate.

I was extremely optimistic that when I arrived at Bohunt Horsham I would be greeted by individuals who were not only talented but also immensely hardworking and willing to try new things. An early indication of this was before our very first day, as over twenty students had signed up in the summer holidays to a multi-schools music event that they had no concept of. Our first rehearsal for 'Dragons' was at The Weald School in our second week. We joined a number of other schools to rehearse original repertoire based around the 'Dragon' poems of Nick Toczek. Our pupils were professional, confident and excited and we will



be performing these collection of songs, together with a string orchestra, at St. Mary's Church on Thursday 21st November at 6pm.

Extra-curricular music clubs are going from strength-to-strength with a diverse number of instruments being played and lots of smiling faces (if not slightly ringing ears) being seen at the end of these sessions. We really look forward to performing in front of parents at our first Winter Concert which will be taking place on Thursday 12th December at The Drill Hall. This concert will celebrate all manner of creative disciplines and will involve whole-school and tutor group performances, as well as individual ones.

The bringing together of individuals

to achieve a shared goal is seen not least in PE this half term. Mr Brooks has worked tirelessly in delivering a range of extra-curricular PE clubs for our pupils. We have already competed in fixtures and competitions, full details of which can be found in our half-termly Sports Report.

In MFL, a particular highlight for me was seeing Ms Usieto and her pupils go above and beyond at our open evening event. Foods from France and Spain were served and conversed over in their respective languages and the passion for languages was plain to see for anyone who came into the room. Individual successes include Elliot Peate and Julia Bonaccorsi for their exceptionally high test results, as well as Ella Tyler and Edward Mills for their hard work and perseverance.

As we look ahead to the rest of the year, we would encourage even more students to participate in our extensive range of clubs and activities and we have no doubt that we will be celebrating more achievements in our next edition!



STEM

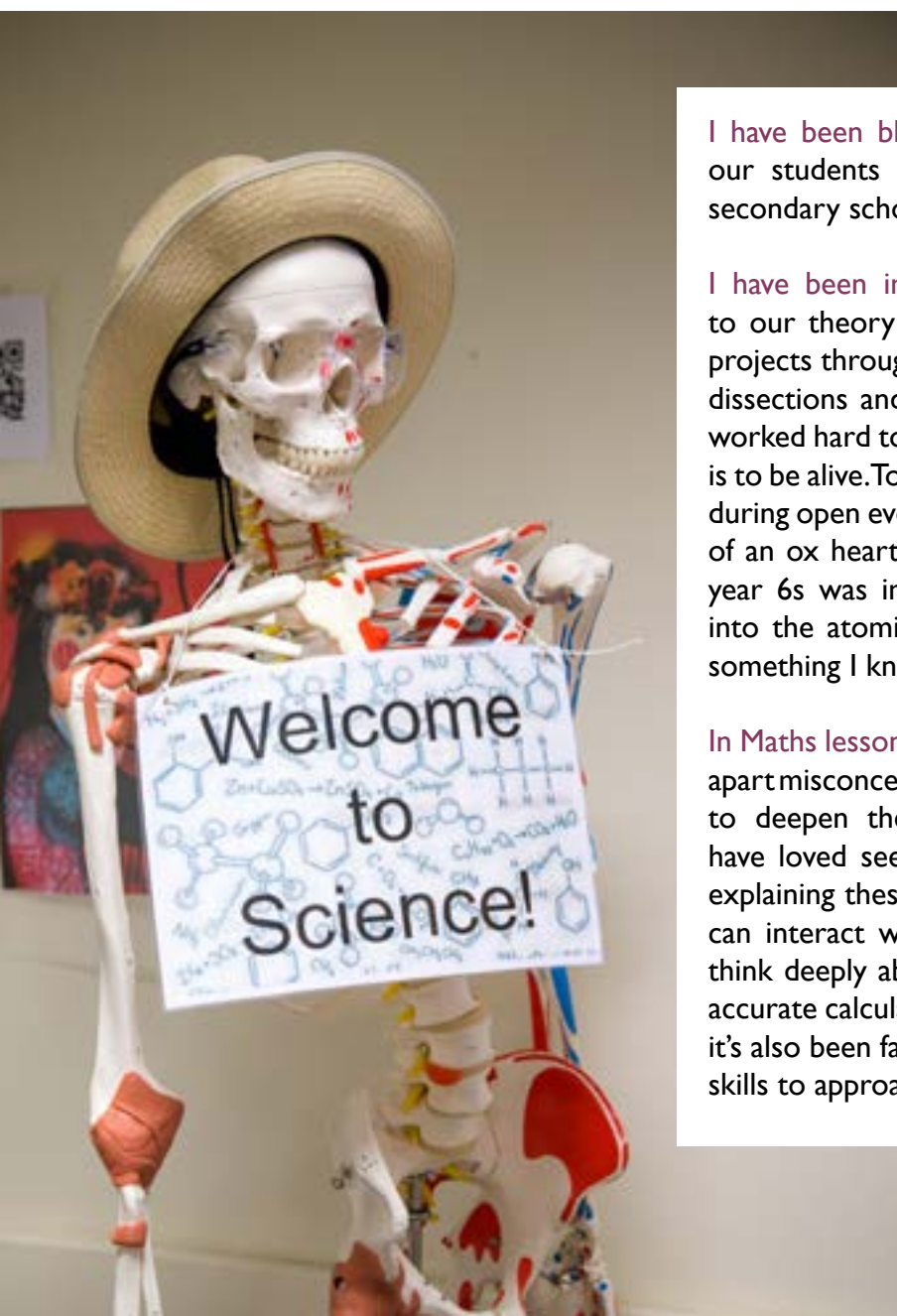
by Ms Jenkins



I have been blown away by the enthusiasm with which our students have approached their first half term in secondary school.

I have been impressed in Science with their approach to our theory and practical sessions. From creative cell projects through to collaborative work with microscopes, dissections and enzyme investigations, the students have worked hard to develop a deeper understanding of what it is to be alive. To see, just a few weeks in, some of them back during open evening to run stands, explaining the structure of an ox heart, running experiments and engaging future year 6s was impressive. Next term we're going smaller, into the atomic world as we start exploring Chemistry, something I know the students are excited about!

In Maths lessons, there have been great discussions, pulling apart misconceptions and working with a variety of methods to deepen the students' understanding of numbers. I have loved seeing the students develop videos patiently explaining these methods, showing the way in which they can interact with numbers and challenge themselves to think deeply about process. They have been focussing on accurate calculator use with their scientific calculators but it's also been fantastic to see them use their mental Maths skills to approach some very challenging calculations.



Our Computing sessions have been focussing on key IT skills to ensure we can use technology safely and effectively. The students have shown themselves to be autonomous problem solvers as they work through challenges set. We're starting to look towards future terms with a taste of coding appearing in lessons, something the students are really excited about.



STEM opportunities have seen our first ever Bohunt Horsham students make their appearance in a newspaper. Jude and Mattie were touched by the news that hedgehog numbers in the local area are declining and took action. Friends of Horsham Park continued their support by offering our students places on a workshop where they created wooden homes for local hedgehogs.



STEM Club

STEM club is up and running on a Thursday afternoon, our first competition, to build a bridge out of marshmallows and spaghetti had our students laughing, listening and thinking hard as they worked collaboratively to build their structures.



Oreo & Gingersnap

Our resident guinea pigs



Sport Report

by Mr Brooks



HONEST

HUMBLE

HARD
WORKING

HUNGRY

Physical Education Awards

Bohunt sports value 4 characteristics and each half term we award a student in each category whose contribution has shone.

HONEST: Amber Francis

Amber was in a heated tag rugby contest against The Burgess Hill Academy; with scores tied, she ran through to score. A player from Burgess Hill claimed a tag whilst the referee awarded a try, Amber admitted she had been touched and refused the score.

HUMBLE: Archie Minter

Archie is a quiet, hardworking athlete, who has come on in leaps and bounds in PE. He is willing to attempt anything and always thinks about how he can contribute to the team or the rugby club putting the team above himself. He is the silent assassin of the sports department!

HARDWORKING: Bradley Prior

Bradley has worked immeasurably hard to increase his rugby skills. Having never played before coming to Bohunt Horsham, he has sought out extra rugby and now attends our school club and is working hard to make the school team. His attitude and work-rate has never dropped come rain, mud, wind or cold and he confronts the elements with a smile on his face.

HUNGRY: Robin Rakovszky

Robin has never played sports for a school team before. He has been a consistent attender to the football and hockey clubs and has tried basketball too. His ambition to achieve has seen him selected for one of our school football teams.

Representative Honours

Mid Sussex District:

Alfie Knight, Elliot Peate, Harrison Jones, Max Dives

Sussex Hockey Selected:

Oscar Swatton

National Schools Equestrian Association:

Hattie Betchley



Bohunt Girls Scoop Awards

Mid Sussex Tag Rugby

Bohunt Girls Rugby scooped 4 awards at a hotly contested Tag Rugby Tournament. This was the girls' first rugby fixture and they punched well above their weight beating Y8 and Y9 teams from Downlands Community College and Burgess Hill Academy.

The girls were exceptional with strong performances from [Connie Wiffen](#), [Issy Scott](#), [Tilly Bridger-Stille](#) and [Emilia Raciti](#) who were all nominated for player of the tournament.

Congratulations to [Connie](#) and [Tilly](#) (pictured above) who won the Mid Sussex 'Magic Moments' Player of the Tournament award!

Bohunt Horsham Football

It has been a successful term for the Bohunt Horsham Football club. The club has consistently attracted 30+ players who have all trained hard and represented the school already.

The A team competed in the first round of the Sussex Cup and were sadly eliminated by an extremely strong team from Steyning Grammar School. The match was hard fought with outstanding performances from Elliot Peate, Emily Sturt and Harrison Jones. Furthermore, Max Dives scored Bohunt Football's first ever competitive goal.

The B team were on the receiving end of the cruel end of sport, conceding a goal with the last kick of the game against Tanbridge House in a 7 goal thriller. There were standout performances from Ellis McSharry, Ben Clifford and Oscar Swatton.

The C team led by inspirational captain Milo Byrne competed in two 7 a side fixtures against Tanbridge House with Hayden Andrew leading the way with two goals. Other highlights included an exceptional performance by stand in goalkeeper Robin Rakovszky who pulled off an outstanding quadruple save.



Sports Leaders

We have opened a leadership opportunity for 12 exceptional pupils to apply to be our sports leaders. We hope they will represent us at local primary school tournaments and lead part of our Y6 Transition sports days. Our founding sports leaders promise to be a great way of serving our community and providing great sporting role models as our school grows. Watch this space!

Opportunity

Communications

by Ms Evans



The **creativity of students** at Bohunt Horsham has been clearly demonstrated in the Communications Faculty this half term; the summer journals showed this even before the start of term. Students have enjoyed trying to solve the mystery of Harris Burdick in English, creating fabulous characters and settings around these superb images. History has got off to a stunning start with students learning about how the English throne was fought over in 1066, with iPads helping students access BBC teach videos on the key battles. We have had students as guest historians at the start of lessons, unearthing a plethora of historical treasures and artefacts including a Roman coin and a pilot's log book. A massive thank you need to go to all the students who donated items and helped out in our very

own museum on Open Evening. Students have also showed their spiritual side by creating their own religions and discussing their own belief systems in PSRE. In Geography, students have tackled travelling around the world, using QR codes to great effect in helping revise and extend their learning.

I **have been especially impressed** by how students have used the Knowledge Organiser for English. This is a specially created website just for Bohunt students to help develop and extend their learning. <https://spark.adobe.com/page/sevkAXDWGjsC3/> This website will be helpful for the rest of their learning journey at Bohunt Horsham.

The **achievement and commitment** levels to homework have been superb across Communications. Alex Welsh has been my Word King for the half term as he has created revision posters and videos to support his learning. Charlie Sparkes and Patrick Broad are just two of the students who have created trailers for their Reading Bronze award, Atanas Filchev has been so creative in his series of videos explaining key events in history that he could possibly create his own educational television channel! During our creative writing challenge lesson so many students have met the challenge head on; Elliot Peate, Issy Martin and Emilia Raciti are just a few of the many students who have blown us away with their creativity. Pia Patteri's jigsaw of key events really stood out in History as did Kyle Huddleston and Thomas Wood's brilliant writer's palette homework. I cannot wait to see what our students can achieve



Wellbeing

by Mrs Jones & Mrs Dean



Our four tutor groups are warm and inviting places for our students to be in each morning. Starting secondary school can often be a daunting experience, but we have been so impressed with how brilliantly our students have settled in and building a kind and supportive culture, starting in tutor time, has played a big role in this.

Tutor time is 30 minutes and a careful programme of activities has been designed for our students. In the first two weeks students and their tutors started to create an inclusive environment that has been decorated to suit. Since then, each tutor group has been practicing mindfulness, attending assemblies, working on safety and keeping up to date with the news through quizzes and debates whilst preparing for each day. Tutor groups have also appointed charity leaders who have begun work on their first charity project for Horsham's Salvation Army. There will be even more opportunities for leadership positions after half term so watch this space!

The newest additions to the staff team are Gingersnap and Oreo (our guinea pig animal therapists), who are settling in nicely after Nathan helped Ms Ayling transport them to us. We now have a group of very reliable and responsible guinea pig monitors who ensure that Gingersnap and Oreo are happy and comfortable. Gingersnap and Oreo are fantastic additions and have really helped some of our students settle into secondary school life.

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Important Dates

for your diary

Upcoming dates for your diary (all available on the calendar at <https://bohunthorsham.com/calendar/>)

28.10.19-31.10.19: half term, school closed to students

4.11.19: first day of the second half term

21.11.19: Physics of Science Fiction Workshop at Surrey University (see letter from Mrs Jenkins for further details)

21.11.19: Dragon Choir Perform at St Mary's Church as part of the Horsham District Year of Culture, tickets available here <http://www.thecapitolhorsham.com/whats-on/all-shows/shipleys-arts-festival-dragons/14167>

26.11.19 Bohunt Horsham INSET Day, **SCHOOL CLOSED FOR STUDENTS**

3.12.19: Year 7 Parent Event 'Internet Safety and Device Advice' (TBC, date may change dependent on speaker availability) in school, 6-7.30pm, further details to follow.

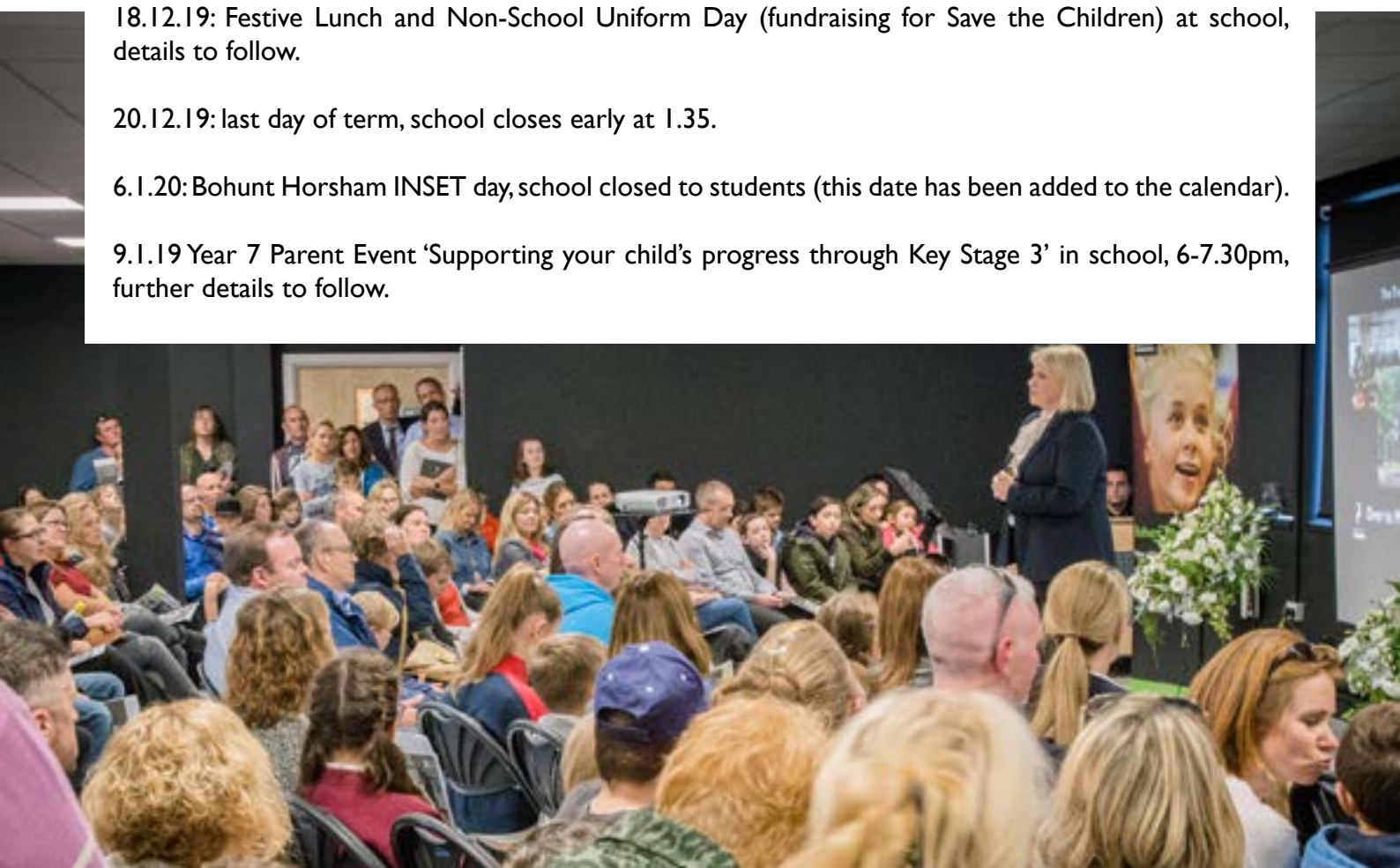
12.12.19: Bohunt Horsham Winter Show at Drill Hall, tickets will be on sale from school later in the term

18.12.19: Festive Lunch and Non-School Uniform Day (fundraising for Save the Children) at school, details to follow.

20.12.19: last day of term, school closes early at 1.35.

6.1.20: Bohunt Horsham INSET day, school closed to students (this date has been added to the calendar).

9.1.19 Year 7 Parent Event 'Supporting your child's progress through Key Stage 3' in school, 6-7.30pm, further details to follow.





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