



## Bishopstrow College – September 2018 Newsletter

### End of Term Graduation



On June 7, 2018, we were delighted to welcome Stephen Ilett, Headmaster of Port Regis School as Guest Speaker at the College's End of Term 3 Graduation Ceremony.

On a sunny June afternoon, we celebrated the success of those students who had completed their programme of study at Bishopstrow. College staff and students were joined by agents and parents. We were also delighted to welcome a number of representatives from Bishopstrow's Partner Schools, including Downside, Kingswood, Mill Hill School, Monkton Combe School, Oundle, King Edward's School Witley and Wycliffe College.

Whilst the success of all students was celebrated, particular attention was made to the 50+ students graduating from the College. Most of the leavers are continuing their studies at a leading boarding school or college in the UK, including Ampleforth College, Concord College, Earlscliffe, Godstowe, King's Junior School Canterbury, LVS Ascot, Marlborough College, Mill Hill International and Prior Park College.

A full list of destination schools for 2017/18 leavers will be published shortly on the College's website, [www.bishopstrow.com](http://www.bishopstrow.com)

### Students Celebrate Exam Success

We are delighted to report another excellent set of IGCSE examination results. Overall, students enrolled on both the 1 Year IGCSE Programme and Senior College Programme performed well, with 96% of grades for this cohort between A\* to C (up on 90% in 2017 and the strongest set of A\* to C passes the College has ever attained). Separately, 41% of grades were either A\* or A.

In addition to securing excellent examination results, students on the 1 Year IGCSE Programme (who sat IGCSEs in up to 8 subjects) secured entry to some of the UK's best boarding schools, including King's School Canterbury, Marlborough College, Prior Park College, St Edward's School, Oxford, plus Institut Montana in Switzerland.

Commenting on the results, Lorraine Atkins, Principal said: "I am delighted that our students have achieved such terrific results. Their hard work and determination has been exemplary and the results are particularly outstanding as they are studying in a second language."

We would like to congratulate all students on their examination results and wish them well as they continue their studies in the sixth form at boarding schools and colleges across the UK. Further details of the College's 1 Year IGCSE Programme can be found at: <https://www.bishopstrow.com/1-year-igcse-programme/>

Our congratulations also go to those students who sat Cambridge English Language Assessment examinations in 2018. The cohort maintained the College's excellent record of results with 100% of students achieving a passing grade, and 86% of students being awarded a Merit or Distinction.

### Update on Extra-Curricular Activities



Outside the classroom, in addition to the wide variety of daytime clubs, the College organises a busy schedule of weekend trips and excursions. Highlights during the summer term included a number of cultural and historical visits, including Corfe Castle, the Roman Baths, Salisbury Cathedral, Southampton Art Gallery and the historic caves at Wookey Hole. We were also delighted to support a number of events in the local community, including the Bishopstrow Village Summer Fete and Sutton Veny Flower Show. Of course, the students were also able to enjoy a number of fun excursions, including Dorset Water Park, Longleat Safari Park, Thorpe Park and Weymouth Beach.

We were also able to make the most of the fabulous weather over the summer, with a regular weekly evening walk to enjoy some of the beautiful local countryside, such as the White Horse at Westbury.

### New Head of Boarding

At the end of last term, we were sorry to say goodbye to Alison Rigby, who was a committed and supportive Head of Boarding. After a number of years focusing on pastoral roles in boarding schools, Alison decided to return to full-time teaching and has taken up a teaching position at Stonar School. We wish Alison and her family every happiness for the future.

Alison is being replaced by Ian Ravenhill, who has more than 10 years of experience in the boarding schools sector, including senior roles at boarding schools with an international student focus. Ian was most recently Head of Boys Boarding at Abbots Bromley School. Prior to Abbots Bromley School, Ian was Director of Boarding at Bolitho School and Head of Boys Boarding at Fulneck School.



Ian will be supported in his role as Head of Boarding at Bishopstrow by his wife Susanna. Susanna's previous experience includes more than 5 years as a Houseparent and EFL Teacher at Abbots Bromley School and Bolitho School.

We look forward to welcoming Ian, Susanna and their young son Thomas to Bishopstrow.

### New Teaching Partnerships Announced

We are pleased to confirm that we continue to establish Teaching Partnerships with leading boarding schools in the UK. In the past few months, UKVI has approved Teaching Partnerships with Ashville College, Haberdashers' Monmouth Schools, Lancing College and Sidcot School.

The College now maintains Teaching Partnerships validated by UKVI, with c.90 schools. Under these Teaching Partnerships, students with a confirmed offer of a place at a partner school can attend a pre-session programme at Bishopstrow College, where the partner school issues the CAS and Tier 4 visa, covering the period of study at Bishopstrow. Details of all of the College's Teaching Partnerships can be found at: <https://www.bishopstrow.com/partner-schools/>

Should you have a student who wishes to apply to a boarding school that is not on the list of Teaching Partnerships, please let us know and we would be happy to make contact with that school.

### Places for the Upcoming Academic Year

International students who have attended Bishopstrow prior to progressing to their destination school, find our preparation-for-boarding programmes to be of great benefit, not just from an English language perspective, but as importantly, in being prepared to continue their education at a mainstream boarding school. As a result, they are better placed to 'fit in' when they arrive at their next school.

Against this background, we still have places available for Terms 1 to Term 4 for the upcoming academic year, which at Bishopstrow commences on Monday 17 September, 2018. Do please get in touch if you have any students who you feel would benefit from enrolling on one of the College's programmes.

### New Prospectus for 2018/19 Academic Year

Finally, we have recently published our prospectus for the 2018/19 Academic Year. A PDF and 'flip book' version is available on our website at [www.bishopstrow.com/prospectus](http://www.bishopstrow.com/prospectus) If you would like to receive some hard copies, do please get in touch.

### Contact us

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