

#### NEWSLETTER TERM 3, 2023

### Welcome

As I write this message for our Term 3 Newsletter, we are all getting ready for our Graduation and Awards Ceremony which will mark yet another Term of outstanding commitment and achievement at Bishopstrow. Over 50 students will be graduating this time, mostly after having been with us since the start of the academic year, whilst around 30 will receive awards for their contribution and success within their academic subjects, their sports and activities, as well as for their attitude, behaviour and participation within the boarding house. There is indeed much to celebrate and of which to be proud!



I have found this past term particularly enjoyable and rewarding, not only with the above in mind, but also because I have had the opportunity to meet many of our agents and partners through a range of activities and events. These have included delivering an International Student Safeguarding Presentation to the Boarding Schools Association; meeting many of our school partners at the recent Independent Schools Fair in London and also hosting webinars on "The Bishopstrow Way" for admissions officers, registrars and agent partners . It has also been a pleasure to host visits to Bishopstrow for a number of our partner schools. One thing above all seems to connect these much-valued interactions and that is how much Bishopstrow continues to be able to offer students who are starting out on their pathway to a British boarding school. It is all about that essential nurturing and developing both as English language speakers but also as international boarders with a whole new cultural experience to enjoy and make the very best of.

And so on to Term 4, which at Bishopstrow is like no other as not only do we welcome, or welcome back, those students who will be with us for the whole term, but we also look forward to seeing our Academic Summer Programme students who will join one of two five-week courses. Each year, these students contribute so much to the College's character and personality, bringing with them a commitment and enthusiasm to pack into five busy and active weeks as much academic and extra-curricular experience and achievement as they can. I sense an enjoyable term ahead!

(Photo features Mario Di Clemente and Matt Williams, Headmaster of Warminster School at Graduation)



On Thursday 8 June, the College community gathered at St Aldhelm's Church in the village of Bishopstrow, for the Term 3 Graduation. Staff and students were joined by parents, guardians and agents, plus our Guest Speaker, Matt Williams, Headmaster of Warminster School. We were also delighted to welcome a number of our partner schools, including Oswestry School, Padworth College, Rendcomb College and Warminster School

During the ceremony, we heard from Mario Di Clemente, Principal and our Guest Speaker. Matt Williams shared some words of wisdom as the graduating students look ahead to

#### Term 3 Graduation

joining their mainstream boarding school in the UK in September.

This was a fantastic event, where we were able to celebrate the myriad achievements of our students over the past few weeks, months and beyond, both inside and outside the classroom. In addition to those students who were graduating from the College, prizes and awards were presented to students and houses in relation to sport, boarding and academic achievement. Congratulations to all our prize winners, with special thanks to our guest speaker!

### New Teaching Partnerships

We are delighted to confirm that we have recently established new Teaching Partnerships with Trent College and Pangbourne College. Under these Teaching Partnerships, students with a confirmed offer of a place at Trent College or Pangbourne College can attend a pre-sessional programme at Bishopstrow College, where the partner school issues the CAS and Child Student visa, covering the programme at Bishopstrow. In some cases, the pre-sessional programme is embedded within the overall admissions and enrolment process of the partner school.

### Sports Update

Sport has once again been a focal point of life at Bishopstrow with students taking part in various different sports in lessons and activities. We have been blessed with some good weather during Term 3, providing the opportunity for students (and staff) to enjoy being outside. During the first half of the term, we focused on tennis, volleyball and cricket, three sports that require a lot of skill and understanding with some very strange and complex rules! The students rose to the challenge as ever and performed brilliantly. There was no shortage of spikes, aces, and sixes - words that form part of the new vocabulary that comes with every new sport we learn! During the second half of the term, we moved onto rounders and most importantly athletics. Within athletics the students covered 9 different disciplines from sprinting to long distance running and from javelin throwing to high jump. All of these were in preparation for the end of term Sports Day, the final and most competitive inter house event of the year. The students as always have played with great spirits, learned new skills and put in some great performances.



## Creative Arts

For our Junior and Middle College students, weekly Art lessons complement their English and academic lessons in the classroom and sports. During Term 3, they have been busy throughout the term in Art, creating a wide range of 'masterpieces', including these self portraits! Well done to all those involved.





# Inter-House Rounders

Towards the end of term, we enjoyed the Inter-House Rounders Competition, which was held on the nearby Bishopstrow Village Green. It was a close contest that went down to points difference as Blake, Newton and Pankhurst all won two games.

However, Pankhurst were awarded the winning trophy, having scored the most rounders. Many congrats to all involved in such a close run contest!





### Destination Schools Update

Many students enrolled during Term 3 have now completed their studies at Bishopstrow and will be enjoying a well-earned break during the summer. Almost all of those students who are planning to continue their education in the UK have already secured a place at their 'destination school' for September 2023 entry. A small number are still progressing through admissions processes for their target schools.

To date, we are delighted to confirm the following destination schools:

**Prep Schools:** Bilton Grange School, Brambletye School, Highfield School, Horris Hill, Ludgrove School, Orwell Park School, Sunningdale School and Windlesham House School.

Senior Schools: Abbey College Cambridge, Abbey College Manchester, Bournemouth Collegiate School, Box Hill School, Bromsgrove School, Cardiff Sixth Form College, CATS College, Concord College, DLD College London, Felsted School, Greenfields School, Haileybury, Hurtwood House School, Kent College, King's Ely School, King Edward's School Witley, Kingsley School, Millfield School, MPW, Oswestry School, Padworth College, Queen Ethelburga's College, Reading School, Rochester Independent College, Royal Russell School, St Joseph's College, St Lawrence College, St Margaret's School, Sherborne School, Sidcot School, Stonyhurst College, Taunton School, The King's School Canterbury - International College, Trent College, Tudor Hall School, Woldingham School and Woodbridge School.

Congratulations to all our leavers!

### Weekend Excursions and Activities

During Term 3, we have enjoyed a wide variety of weekend excursions and activities. These have included the coronation of King Charles III, when we enjoyed our own celebration with a fabulous afternoon tea and a full day excursion to London, visiting many of the historical sites, including Tower Bridge, Trafalgar Square and Horse Guards Parade. A boat trip down the River Thames was one of the highlights.









## Availability for Term 1, 2023

We still have a small number of places available for Term 1 commencing Monday 18 September. For further details, please contact our Registrar, Amanda Neill at <u>enquiries@bishopstrow.com</u>



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