

## *Welcome!*

Can it really be half-term? The first part of the autumn term is dominated by the analysis of exam results – celebrating success but also looking for different things to improve for next year. The A Level results are even better than we realised when we first looked at them in August: they place us in the top 10% of all schools nationally. In fact, we were one of only 10 schools in the country recorded as having no ‘poor teaching’ anywhere in the curriculum. Provisional performance tables were published last week with the progress 8 score which is the new benchmark for all secondary schools. We had the second highest score in Dorset, although as a result of re-marks and late publication of some results we think it might be even better once the validated tables are published later in the year. Well done to all!

Exam results are important but they are not everything. We had 40 students on expedition in Ecuador over the summer carrying out valuable community work as well as experiencing remote parts of South America. Their work there has been commended and local project managers labelled them ‘the little machines’ because of the way they threw themselves into what was at times, hard physical labour. Everyone who went – including the staff – should feel very proud of what they achieved. There will be another expedition in 2019 and we are also in the process of setting up exchanges with partner schools in China (Year 9) and with the USA (Sixth Form).

Although it was the rugby teams that received most attention last year, it is worth noting that we also have a very successful equestrian team. They competed throughout the summer and 10 students have qualified for the nationals at Milton Keynes over half-term – we wish them well. It is all the more commendable because they organise and finance much of what they do themselves. If anyone is willing to sponsor or help support the team, I would be delighted to hear from you.

Enjoy the half-term break which we have deliberately extended with teacher training days to provide families with another opportunity to take a holiday if they are able to.

Best wishes,

Mr. Foley



## SPORTS RESULT SUCCESS

The first term has seen some amazing extracurricular PE results throughout all year groups. The rugby season kickstarted with the 1st XV progressing to the fourth round of the NatWest Cup, beating Woodroffe, Wellington, Colyton Grammar and Kingsbridge at away matches. The U14s formed a strong team, with over 30 students regularly attending training and winning most of their first batch of matches.

The sixth form boys' football team is still in both the national and county cup competitions. The U16 girls' football team beat Poole High 1-0. They were then knocked out of the national cup, losing 3-2 to QE in a close-matched game.

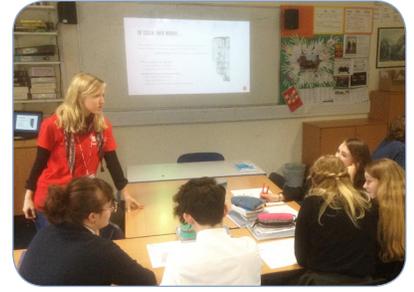
The recently formed U14 girls won their first game hockey game against Bryanston, and it is the U15 girls' turn this week. In netball, the U16s were crowned area champions and have progressed to the county finals. Finally, we have other success from cross country, equestrian, bowls and British shooting.

Follow the PE department on Twitter @thspe to keep up with results.

## *Holidays & Leave of Absence Policy*

Please could parents, guardians & carers take a look at the link below to see the new DASP policy relating to leave of absence and holiday requests.

<http://www.daspltd.com/attendance.html>



## CLASSIC ROMAN LIVES

Dr Hannah-Marie Chidwick visited Thomas Hardy School this term to deliver a workshop on the topic of ‘War in the Roman World’ to a group of year 11 and 12 students.

The students, a mixture of current and prospective A-level Classical Civilisation students, explored the life of Roman soldiers. Dr Chidwick introduced them to a range of exciting ancient sources, including the Vindolanda tablets and Julius Caesar's accounts of his military campaigns. The students learnt exactly what it took to be a soldier in the Roman army.

The workshop was sponsored by Classics for All and the University of Bristol. The school is part of the **South West Classics Hub** set up by the University of Bristol to offer support for schools across the region.

The Hub has recently donated Cambridge Latin Course textbooks to help with the new after-school Latin Club/ All students are welcome to attend:

**MONDAYS 3.30PM - 4.30PM**  
ICT ROOM  
COMMUNICATIONS BLOCK

 @SWclassicshub

## *Keeping in touch*

Would you like to receive this newsletter by email? Please contact: [admin@thomas-hardye.net](mailto:admin@thomas-hardye.net)

**THOMAS HARDYE SINGERS**

with musicians from Dorchester,  
St Osmund's and St Mary's Middle Schools  
*Louise Wayman Martin Weston*

**Peter Oakes**

**Bizet**

**Carmen** (excerpts)

**John Rutter**

**Mass of the Children**

**Wagner**

**Overture Die Meistersinger**

**Finzi**

**Lo, the Full, Final Sacrifice**

**IMPERIAL COLLEGE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**

**RICHARD DICKINS**

**SATURDAY 11<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER**

**ST MARY'S DORCHESTER 7.30pm**

£10 (£2 students) from  
THS School Office (266064)  
Nicoll World Travel (263575)  
and on the door

*The Imperial College Symphony Orchestra is performing with the Thomas Hardye Singers at St Mary's Church, Dorchester on Saturday 11th November at 7.30 pm - a great opportunity to hear and see some first-class musicianship.*

*Tickets: £10/adults £2/students*

*Available from: school reception | Nicoll World Travel | on the door*

**FIRST AID TRAINING**



This year, the school has offered sixth form students subsidised first aid training courses enabling them to learn vital life skills and achieve a qualification useful in both their social and working lives. Employers also value additional skills like this. Courses will run throughout the year. For more information, contact: [admin@thomas-hardye.net](mailto:admin@thomas-hardye.net)

**YOUNG CHEF 2018**

Two GCSE food students from year 11 took part in the school cook-off for the Rotary Young Chef 2018 competition. **Olivia Lovell** and **Beth White** both cooked two courses in two hours, whilst being judged by chef Mark Vaughan, and Rotary members Diana Apps and Les Fry. To read more news about their recipes and results, please look online [here](#).



*Dorset Teaching School Alliance*

The **Dorset Teaching School Alliance**, based at The Thomas Hardye School, offers a wide range of seminars, training sessions and talks, in the areas of Initial Teacher Training (ITT), Continuing Professional Learning, leadership development, research and school-to-school support. Guest speakers, authors and expert practitioners are regularly invited to take part. A recent "Routes into Teaching" session proved very popular. For more information on upcoming courses, contact:

[dtsa@thomas-hardye.net](mailto:dtsa@thomas-hardye.net) @D TSA20 @DorsetTeachingSchoolAlliance

**THOMAS HARDYE SCHOOL DANCE SHOW**



**30 November 7.30pm**

**School Theatre**

**£3.00 (£2.00 concessions)**

A collection of dance work created and performed by students from all year groups

*Tickets: £3/adults £2/concessions Available on the door*

**SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING**

This year's Open Evening saw record numbers of year 11 students in attendance, both current Thomas Hardye students and those studying at other schools. Many sixth form students volunteered to help guide visitors around the site. The enthusiastic students in their bright yellow t-shirts and dedicated staff (some in historical costume!) can be seen on the sixth form's Facebook page: [@thomashardyesixthform](#)

The new **prospectus & application portal** are available on the sixth form website.

*key dates*

<i>staff training:</i>	Monday 30th October
<i>back to school:</i>	Tuesday 31st October
<i>Autumn term ends:</i>	Friday 15th December
<i>Spring term starts</i>	Wednesday 3rd January
<i>staff training:</i>	Friday 9th February
<i>half-term:</i>	Monday 12th February - Friday 16th February
<i>Spring term ends:</i>	Thursday 29th March
<i>Summer term starts:</i>	Monday 16th April
<i>Bank holiday:</i>	Monday 7th May
<i>half-term:</i>	Monday 28th May - Friday 1st June
<i>Summer term ends:</i>	Wednesday 25th July

School calendar & term dates online [here](#)

*It is easier than ever for parent and carers to share in all the exciting activities, learning, triumphs and challenges that our students take part in with the wealth of social media accounts run by various departments.*

*Here are the links to the drama, science and library Twitter accounts, take a look!*

@ths\_drama\_dept

@THS\_Science

@THSBookworm