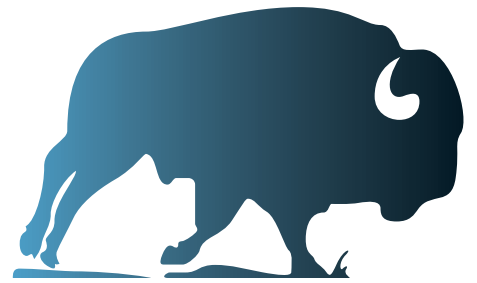


HouseHeroes



Michaelmas Term Edition No. 2

Honesty, Imagination, Courage, Passion & Generosity



Classical Elegance!

Guy Giles and Christian Reedman (pictured) on their jaunt around Turkey. Walk through warmer Istanbul, the library at Ephesus and the hot springs of Hierapolis. [PAGE 5](#)



From the Housemaster, Mr E S Davies

The past term has, as always, been hugely busy. The boys in Davies' House have thrown themselves into the life of the School; working hard at their academic studies, excelling on stage, in their musical commitments and on the sports field. It is great to see boys performing at all levels, from the 1st XV to the U14 DXV rugby team, from the music scholars to the second orchestra, playing central parts and adding their weight to the cast, yet all giving their best and growing in experience, confidence and self awareness. I have also been pleased to see a number of

members of the House fail. This may seem odd but it is in failing, reflecting, learning and improving that the boys in the House learn the resilience and self awareness that they will need to live their lives without the safety net of the School to support them.

Contained within the pages of this letter, there are some wonderful achievements and some enjoyable experiences. However, these are only a small number of the total. I have been privileged to work with the pupils of Davies' House since September and am

very much looking forward to seeing them again after the holiday. In the mean time, I wish them a Merry Christmas and a happy new year.

For those of them lucky enough to be in the Third and Fourth Years, I recommend a restful holiday; for the Sixth Form, I hope they get the balance between work and rest right, and for those unlucky enough to be in the Fifth form (with mocks starting in January), I am afraid I have to remind them to revise!

DRAMA

In the limelight

Mr. Loughe, our House tutor, had a marathon of dramas at the Abingdon Drama Festival. Thoughts? Oh yes! Read them all inside.



MUSIC

House Singing - the results!

It's time to face the music but our boys had a challenging song choice. How did they cope with it, the Davies' way?



TRAVEL

Discover Hong Kong

This half term, we take you for a walk around the world famous Tsing Ma Bridge in Hong Kong, with Thomas Yip.



Head's Praise

Matthew Lung in Year 6AJL received a Head's Praise from The Head, Miss Felicity Lusk for an outstanding playing at Abingdon's Masterclass with Levon Chilingirian. ■



Despite having a challenging song choice, our boys were ranked top four overall

The last half term ended with the annual House singing competition. In the past, the appropriateness of the name 'singing competition' has been questioned, possibly with justifiable cause.

However, on this occasion the boys of Abingdon School matched more than any previous level of quality. In these circumstances, Davies' House, with a lack of long term pedigree in the tournament might have been expected to wilt under the pressure.

Once more, the boys rose to the challenge and exceeded all expectation. The house sang Mrs Robinson, by Simon and Garfunkel, not an easy song to recreate. After several rehearsals during which the prefects were left tearing their hair out, the song gradually took shape.

We all owe a giant debt of gratitude to **Charlie Leslau (7KL)** and **Jack Swanborough (7KL)**, ably assisted by **Charlie Bateman (7MIL)**, who coaxed the best out of the boys, many of whom would not consider music a great strength, and achieved an excellent final product.

On the day, we were unlucky not to rank higher than fourth place. In spite of that, they have laid an excellent foundation for us to build upon in future years. ■

House Singing Success



Photograph on the top: Charlie Leslau conducting a choir of Davies' boys singing to the tunes of Mrs. Robinson by Simon & Garfunkel

Photograph on the left: Enthusiastic Third Formers belting out their best performance for the day

Credit: Abingdon School Photography Archive

Producer & Chief Editor

Zong Hao Tan

Editors

Harry Browning
Joel Cooper
Joey Onwughalu

Contributors

Dr. Joel E Taylor
Mr. E S Davies
Mr. A J Loughe

Christian Reedman
Guy Bud
Guy Giles
Joe Heade

Jonathon Lam
Milan Banerjee
Omoruyi Giwa-Osagie
Seb Hickman
Thomas Yip
Tom Fabes



It's time for the London Wasps

Davies' boys from left to right: Joel Cooper, Omoruyi Giwa-Osagie, Joseph Onwughalu and Philip Ivlev-Yorke

Credit: Davies' House Photographic Archive / Omoruyi Giwa-Osagie



by Joel Cooper

Just before half-term, on October 9th, a group of boarders, including four boys from Davies went down to Adams Park, in High Wycombe to watch two Premiership Rugby giants, London Wasps and Bath.

With many first team players away on international duty at the World Cup, both teams put out young and energetic sides. The rugby was played at a frantic rate, with Wasps scoring early in the first half, much to the delight of the Abingdon boys.

Just after another Wasps try, the whistle blew for half-time, London Wasps were ahead and the Abingdon boys rushed excitedly to stock up on burgers and Wasps

memorabilia. With the boys full up, the second started and Wasps continued to dominate but with five minutes to go, Bath scored to bring the visitors within three points. With this, the last couple of minutes were nail biting, but Wasps managed to hold on to secure a 27-24 victory.

After the game, the boys were lucky enough to grab pictures with players from both sides and the London Wasps Mascot, 'Sting'. It was a very enjoyable trip, one that all the boys who went wish to repeat. Our thanks have to go to Mr. Davies and all other teachers who helped organize a great day out. ■



Editor's Corner

Over the span of one half term, three members of the House - **Harry Browning**, **Joel Cooper** and **Joseph Onwughalu** - volunteered to be part of the House Heroes publication team. From working with Adobe InDesign to editorials, these fine gentlemen have the full package of becoming the next big publisher. Rewinding the tape back to the day before the half term break, I cherish the moment when Davies' House was ranked top five in the **House singing competition**, despite having a vocally tough song. In this edition, we are very privileged to have an exclusive **interview with the Head of House (Boarding)** on his role as a leader to the boarding community, his future plans and his memoir at Abingdon. Speaking of history, bring back those fond classics with **Classical Elegance**, a tale of nine courageous boys in Turkey. I have to admit that each boy in Davies' House has undiscovered talent up his sleeve. In the recent School drama productions of Cymbeline and Cruising, **Joe Heade** and **TC Chu** have again made the House proud for delivering such a **magnificent performance at the Abingdon Drama Festival**, for three days in a row! Not to forget, **Matthew Lung** also did us proud by receiving a Head's Praise for his **outstanding playing at the Abingdon Masterclass** with professional violinist, Levon Chilingirian. As we roll into the festive season, the space under the House christmas tree is beginning to fill up with gifts, and a number of boys from 6DRM are desperate to hint on the gifts they really want this Christmas. ■

Zong Hao Tan,
Producer and Chief Editor

House Heroes is the half-termly publication of Davies' House which documents the news and achievements of our House.



The gathering gloom of a late Autumn evening in Davies' House was electrified by the arrival of the girls from Headington School for a night of Jive in the Sports Centre dance studio midway through the Michaelmas term. Davies' House pupils who usually found themselves settling down to a film and some popcorn on a Friday night, experienced a strange sense of alertness and an almost supernatural desire to tap their feet. The boys arrived in the dance studio for a brief class led by Dr 'boogie nights' Jeffreys, until now only known to the pupils as their biology teacher.

The relief was palpable when the music started and the dancing began. For the first few tracks, I am afraid to say the boys could not be described as elegant, resembling nothing

so much as a strange herd of misfit elephants trying to shake off an unexpected assault by a swarm of angry ants. However, over the course of the evening a miracle occurred and they suddenly appeared to discover the meaning of rhythm.

By the end of the night, **Nicholas Chan** had almost set the dance floor on fire, **Mikhail Mikhaylenko** and **Jake Burgess** had managed to get some breakdancing into their jive, **Joe Heade's** footwork seemed to have hypnotic powers and even **Philip Ivlev-Yorke** had managed to produce enough style and swerve to distract attention away from his dubious dress sense! Then, when the music stopped, as if by magic, the spell was broken. We can only wonder at what might happen if the boys get more practice in future! ■

Jive on the dancefloor



Can you feel the Jive tonight?
When the instructor was not looking, **Joe Heade** and a Headingtonian, - pictured right - posed for the camera during the interlude

Getting into the mood: Jake Burgess (7MIL) and Mikhail Mikhaylenko (KL) - photo on the left - danced as a pair to throw in some breakdancing in between

Credit: Davies' House Photography Archive / Zong Hao Tan



Tom Fabes summarises their classical elegance in Turkey

During October half term, nine members of Davies' House went on a school classics trip to Turkey. After arriving in the somewhat warmer Istanbul we met our lovely guide Yalçın.

Highlights were the magnificent library at Ephesus and the surprisingly intact Magnesia Stadium where we had a race, which, Davies' House prefect, Christian Reedman, finished as runner up.

There were also other attractions apart from the classical sites including the hot springs of Hierapolis where Dr Burnand managed to fall in backwards. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves and it was a great success. ■

Classical elegance ... with the Davies' boys

Walking through Istanbul proves not an easy task, yet the courageous troop of Davies' boys had a surprise up their sleeves, **Guy Bud** narrates the story of their jaunt around Turkey.

On 23rd October, a motley mix of nine Davies' boys (and a few other people!) woke up at the ungodly hour of 5am, bound for the ancient sites of Western Turkey! After an uneventful flight, we arrived in the busy and cosmopolitan city of Constantinople (Istanbul to you!) and were immediately whisked away for the long drive towards Homer's 'many-towered' Troy.

Passing over the Sea of Marmara by ferry, we eventually arrived at the scene of the epic battle between Greeks and Trojans, and saw for ourselves the city of legend, with its replica wooden horse. Kudos to the (anonymous) person who asked if it was the original! After Troy, we worked our way down the coastline southwards, visiting sites along the way. Amongst them, the important city of Miletos, and Priene with its temple, dedicated by Alexander

the Great. The highlights for many on this trip was, however, the hill-top acropolis of Pergamum – with its splendid views of the surrounding area, amazing theatre and, yes, cable cars – and Ephesus, the city in contention with Pompeii as best preserved on the Ancient Mediterranean. At the Greek stadium of Magnesia, an impromptu inter-house athletics competition broke out, at which Christian Reedman snatched the prize for Davies', to much acclaim, in a display of running that even Achilles would have been proud of!

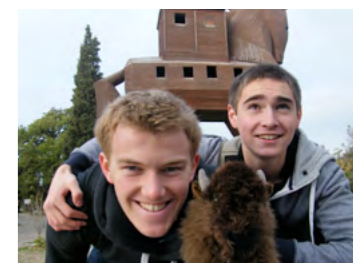
The thermal springs (oh, and ancient town) at Pamukkale offered a welcome opportunity for the boys to paddle; to wash away the strains of travel, and fall in. Much to the amusement of the rest of the company – "It's OK, I'm sure it'll dry quickly ...". My personal highlight was

the city of Aizonai, a small site so obscure, even our guide hadn't heard of it. Boasting an amazing temple, as well as a theatre and bath house, the city provided an amazing location, both to explore and to see a site a little more off the beaten track.

Arriving back at Istanbul, we went on a whirlwind tour of all the cultural sites. Despite the heated disagreements between our new pair of guides, the sites of Istanbul were unspoilt in their magnificence – particularly the Aya Sophia after its newly completed restoration – as well as the 16th century Blue Mosque. We happened to be visiting the city on the occasion of National Day, and it was fascinating to see how important the recent historical legacy of Atatürk is to many Turks, even today. The traditional end-of-trip quiz must be mentioned too. In all the Classics trips that I've been on,

I can safely say that never has a quiz been so contentious! Though the egos were strained and rivalries between Davies' 6th form (Guy Giles, Christian Reedman and I) had reached fever pitch, it seems the gods have a dark sense of humour as the quiz went to the non-Davies' team of Ed Firth. We can only hope that Davies' will do better on future trips!

Special mention must go all the teachers for this effective planning and ruthless execution of the trip as well as our Turkish guide, Yalçın, for making the trip so enjoyable and informative. ■





Photograph courtesy of Jonathon Lam and Alexander Ka Chun Lee

Jonathon Lam (Assistant Head of Boarding) speaks to **Alexander Ka Chun Lee**, the Head of Boarding at Davies' House, and also one of the very talented chess players at Abingdon School.

Alex is from Hong Kong and is currently reading GCE A level in his final year in the School. He is a football enthusiast and an approachable young man who lights everyone up in the House. ■



This time next year you will have become an OA. Can you sum up your life at Abingdon?

Time flies, I am so old already. I have made many friends among the boarding community, and this year, I got more involved in the life of the day boys. It's a pity that it took a while for me to fit in. Academic-wise, the curriculum here is very thought-provoking, and only last year had I finally discovered my passion in economics. I'm glad that the teachers and classmates have been very helpful and humorous. I am also involved in the (School's) chess team, and being a senior member I have worked alongside a bunch of bright chess players. I will be missing my time playing against **Edward O'Brien** in particular. Overall, my years at Abingdon have been a very memorable time, for aside from textbook knowledge and constant international exposure, I found some invaluable friendship that will last.

Over the years, especially in this school year, your role has changed from a follower to a leader. You are now the Head of House, a School Prefect and a key member of the chess team. How do you feel as a role model to others?

I believe everyone is unique, and I try my best to enlighten them through their journeys to discovering their talents. I never encourage them to imitate me, because I think simply following someone's footsteps will not get one too far. Every pupil of Davies' House has their own strengths, thus a different route to success. In a society we ought to learn from others, but ultimately every one of us will develop our own personality and style. As long as we stay positive, never should we be afraid of thinking big, no matter how ridiculous the idea may seem at first. It all ends up to whether the potentially-brilliant idea is crazy enough to be true. After all, being imaginative is one of the key qualities that a Davies' House pupil should possess.

As the Head of House, is there anything that you believe is the most memorable?

My most memorable time has to be Chinese New Year dinner last year. I could still remember the voices of every boarder at the karaoke. As well as chilling out with the Davies' boarding family, eating Chinese food gave me a sense of home. I was five thousand miles away home and back then this was a difficult fact to accept, and yet there was a group of people, like myself, from a variety of backgrounds, all away from their comfort zones simply striving for

“ It all ends up to whether the potentially-brilliant idea is crazy enough to be true.

a better future. I experienced no cultural barrier between them, and so well did they blend into the Chinese culture. That meal ought to be a great time of my boarding life.

Given that you are one of the best chess players at school, which piece on the chessboard do you think you are in the house?

A knight, because it has a unique pattern of movement. I am definitely not the king nor the queen, as I do not recognise myself as the most important person of the House. Although a knight might appear trivial compared to most pieces, it is one of the few pieces which could access every square on the board. I know the House well, especially my fellow pupils, and as the Head of House, this is crucial to running the House. Just like a knight in an attack or a defense, I make subtle moves which do not seem significant, but I certainly believe I am giving my best to contribute to the House.

Is there anything you would like to say to the juniors?

Aim high to get high. Opportunity only knocks once on everyone's doors, therefore remember to strike iron when it is still hot. Do not be afraid to fail, for you fail because you had great courage to attempt. After all, failure is no more than a process of learning in life. Here at Abingdon you have all you need to achieve great dreams, so just get yourself some goals and make them happen.

What are your future plans?

I'm not really that type of person who would plan ten years ahead. Who knows what will happen? For now, I'm only aiming to get into a university and complete my degree, in economics, ideally. As for what next, I will see if life is treating me well or not. If I say I'll get married in five years you probably won't believe me anyway. Jokes.

Discover Hong Kong: Over the half term break, the House Buffalo has been making full use of its time by visiting various countries, and one of those destinations was the Tsing Ma Bridge in Hong Kong. As the most sought-after tourist marvel in Hong Kong, the Tsing Ma bridge is the world's longest span suspension bridge, which connects Hong Kong to its international airport on Lantau Island. Pictured on the left is our boarder, **Thomas Yip Wei Lam**, who brought the House Buffalo to the magnificent landmark, which consists of a six-lane open roadway! ■



Old Abingdonians from Davies' at Hong Kong Reception:

Attended by over 100 guests at The Excelsior, Causeway Bay was the Hong Kong reception, an annual event to give current parents an opportunity to discuss their son's progress as parents do when they attend a parents' evening at Abingdon. It was very heart-warming to see a number of boys from Davies' House at the reception, who have now moved on to university life, taking aboard their life skills when they were at Davies'. The reception was attended by key figures of Abingdon, including Former Second Master, Tom Ayling and wife Patricia, Director of Studies, Dr. Peter Willis and The Head of Abingdon, Miss Felicity Lusk. ■



A panorama of Davies' from a Third Former: Seb Hickman, 3RP, joined the House this academic year and as a day boy, he talks about his life at Abingdon, and how the House plays an integral part. ■

Being placed in Davies' House at the beginning of term has been a blessing. The House Library, the Games Room, the easy access to the Sports Centre and, most importantly the kindness and friendliness of the people, have all been huge aid to me in my first term at Abingdon School.

On the first day, I arrived at Davies' House to everybody chatting, smiling and laughing, relating their anecdotes of the summer holidays. It was a fun, happy and friendly environment, and has continued to be throughout my time at Abingdon so far. Everybody is welcoming; people in the years above me are happy to help out and ready to point

us to the right direction if we have any issues, and the matron, Carol, is always happy to help and sort out any problems we might have.

Being able to use the House Library has been extremely helpful. Whilst other pupils in other Houses have to work in a noisy room, or make a trek to the School Library in the centre of Big School, I only have to walk upstairs and find a quiet, peaceful place to work. There are always Sixth Formers in the Library, so if you need help with your homework, they are always on hand to help.

If I don't feel like working, or have no prep to do, the Games Room is a great place to relax and socialise.

There is a table tennis table, table football, and the most recent addition, an Xbox! At breaktime, this is the part of the House where most of the Third and Fourth Formers go, to take a break from lessons.

Meanwhile, during free periods, I often come to the Games Room, or play football just outside Davies', on the Waste Court lawn. We often play with the Fourth Formers, and it is always a good kick around.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my first term in Davies' House, and I am sure that it will continue to be this way. ■



The cast of *Cymbeline*: Joe Heade (2nd left), James Steele (8th left) and Mathew Hartshorne (2nd right)

Davies' boys were out in force this week performing in a wide range of different plays as part of the Abingdon School Drama Festival, of which I had the chance to see three on one night with Mr Litchfield and Miss Lebelhomme.

First up was **Charlie Bateman** 7MIL in a fascinating production of Neil LaBute's *The Shape of Things*. The plot centres on the lives of four young university students who become emotionally and romantically involved with each other, and explores some complex and hard-hitting themes and questions about the nature of art, intimacy, manipulation, friendship and love – specifically how far human beings are willing to go in the name of love. Charlie gave an outstanding performance, honestly portraying the naivety of his character, Adam, in his quest to please his girlfriend, Evelyn (wonderfully played by Katie Pennick). Charlie was very captivating throughout, as were all the actors, making for very uncomfortable viewing indeed at the end when the audience members themselves can't help but feel responsible and party to the odious, unpredictable plot twist that sees Adam's perspective on his life change dramatically. The set, lighting and sound were also excellent – congratulations must go to Mr Phillips for superb direction and his team for really top-class production.

The Middle School production of *Come out Eli* made for an enthralling, all-encompassing theatrical experience. Based

on recorded interviews with real people involved in the Hackney siege of Christmas 2002, dramatist Alecky Blythe has her actors using her innovative 'verbatim' technique. Otherwise known as 'recorded delivery', the actors listen carefully to the lines they hear on earphones from iPods and deliver them as though spontaneously. Very skilful indeed, and expertly pulled off by the twelve strong cast of boys and girls, who played 37 different parts between them. Gritty, convincing, humorous and realistic, this production (which included Davies boy **Edward Hambly**, 5VEH) did not fail to impress the audience – who had been cordoned off themselves at the start of the play with 'Police – Do Not Cross' tape! Thought-provoking stuff.

The third and final play I attended was Mr Taylor's production of another Alecky Blythe play called *Cruising*. Using the same complicated verbatim technique, the cast of Upper School boys and girls delivered their lines (recordings of genuine interviews again) with confidence and credibility as they portrayed a number of geriatric singles whose libido has not yet dissipated as they sign up to a dating agency for the elderly. **Tom Sishton**, 6AJL gave a delightfully witty and confident performance, with particularly convincing facial expressions and excellent comic timing, while **TC Chu**, 6AJL made his Abingdon theatrical debut with zest and style as a jealous dancer not afraid to 'shake his thang' at the climactic wedding party – there wasn't a dry eye in the house!

Davies' House Live on Stage: Abingdon Drama Festival 30th November - 2nd December

The Abingdon Drama Festival comprises of no less than five plays each night in various parts of the Arts Centre. From Shakespeare to the most contemporary of British and American playwrights, the boys at Davies' House had it all covered.

Our resident tutor, **Mr. Andrew Loughe**, watched three of the plays throughout the festival, and here are some thoughts and comments.

Mrs Quick produced a 'brief' hour-long version of Shakespeare's rarely performed *Cymbeline* (expertly cut down from its original five hour length), which tells the story of British monarch Cunobelinus. Shakespeare combines tragedy and romance, dealing with themes of innocence and jealousy. Sadly, this was on at the same time as *Cruising* so I did not get to see it, but I hear on good authority that **Joe Heade**, 6DRM played his part of Cloten with great conviction and authenticity. **James Stelle** 6DRM played Pisanio and **Mathew Hartshorne** 6DRM played a leading role, Posthumus, making this production a huge treat for everyone.

The final play (another I sadly didn't get to see) was a version of *One Million Tiny Plays about Britain* by Craig Taylor – a collage of witty short sketches inspired by modern British life. **Will Nash**, 5VEH performed with intense characterisation and reliable style along side a talented cast.

All in all this first Drama Festival proved a roaring success, with most shows sold out on the final night. It was a wonderful experience for the keen audience members who revelled in the opportunity to be entertained by such a variety of plays on one night. From a Davies' point of view, it was great to see so many members of the House treading the boards – and so effectively. Do keep an eye out for future productions. Well done lads and thanks for a great evening. ■

About Dr. Taylor

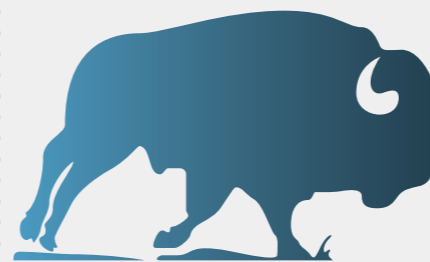
Education

PhD in Chemical Engineering from the University of Cambridge

Career Highlights

Dr Taylor coached the Winchester U14 cricket C team who won against Abingdon School in a match last year.

Join our publication team and learn some editing techniques



If you would like to get involved with House Heroes in the Lent term, then we'd be delighted to hear from you!

There is no strict application deadline for sub-editors, journalists, reporters, and photographers - we are happy to hear from you anytime!

Freshers are always most welcome.

Submit your application along with your free periods by email to: zonghao.tan@abingdon.org.uk

House Heroes had a dialogue with our new resident Mathematics tutor, **Dr. J E Taylor**, over one of the weekends. Guess what we have discovered: his PhD is in Chemical Engineering. Read on to find out why he has since decided to teach Mathematics at Abingdon School.

Dr Taylor, it is with great pleasure to have you in the House. First of all, may I ask what attracted you to Mathematics?

Well, I hold a PhD in Chemical Engineering from the University of Cambridge, where I investigated the microstructure and rheology of highly concentrated granular suspensions. So far, I have published my thesis and a paper in the Journal of Food Science. Contrary to common belief, Chemical Engineering, like all the Engineering disciplines, is another name for applied maths; so becoming a maths teacher was not a big leap. I prefer Maths, because unlike Engineering, and other experimental sciences, it has an elegance, a beauty that could only be found in a theoretical subject. Once established, a mathematical proof will last forever – it is a path to immortality. Take Pythagoras's theorem, for example: that fact is a logical certainty and will be as true in a million years' time as it is now.

So the elegance of mathematics must have inspired you to enact the subject into your day-to-day life. Do you also try to be imaginative while teaching in class?

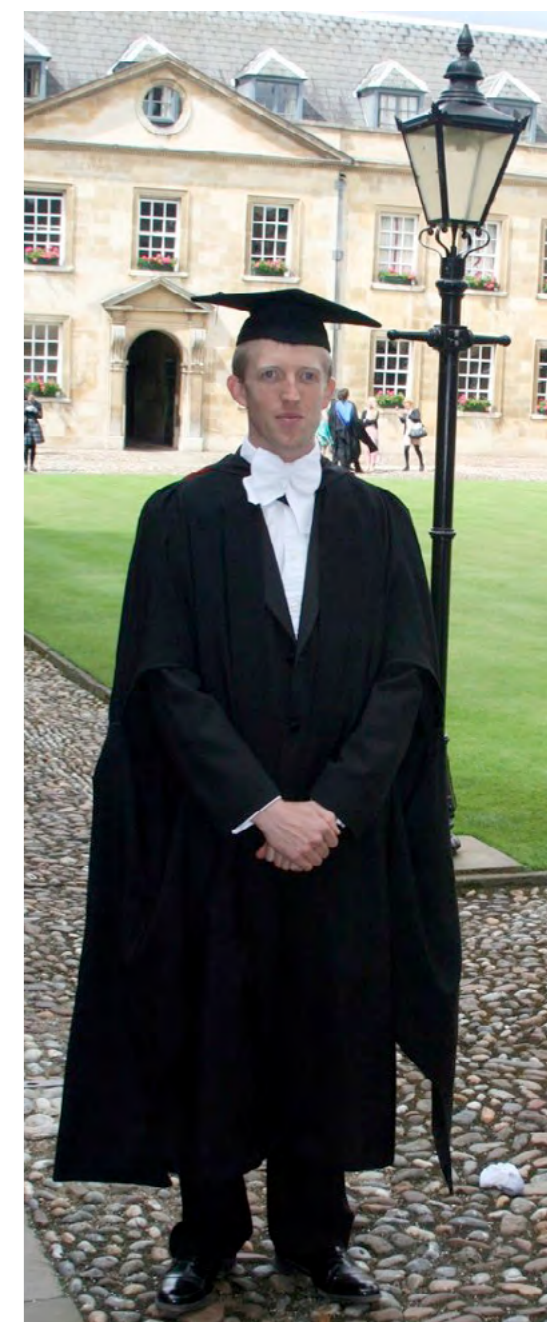
That is a very good question, and the answers to that are yes and no. During my spare time, I rank my students' marks so that they fit into a normal distribution. This gives me an idea of the standard of the questions to set. In addition, I also work out the standard deviation of class tests to estimate how far off a pupil is from his peers.

Are the students' mark distributions usually normal distributed or skewed?

I like to write test questions which produce a range of marks. However, they don't always fit a normal, or Gaussian, distribution – sometimes they fit a Lorentzian distribution! Unfortunately, being an engineer, I don't know enough about statistics to comment any further.

That is very interesting. You mentioned earlier that anything proved through mathematical logic will be true forever, but you won't have a way to verify it. What's your take on this issue?

Having studied engineering, I recognise a subtle difference between science and maths. With maths you can find and recognise patterns of features that you may never be able to show experimentally, for example, when looking at group theory involving the symmetry objects in higher dimensions. The maths proves what will happen, but you can never actually build, or even imagine these objects. That is the power of maths that science can never compete with.



Cheer up with some jokes!

Hand-picked by Joseph Onwughalu from the Jokebox

ONE

Two college seniors had a week of exams coming up. They decided to party instead. Their biggest exam was on Wednesday and they showed up telling the professor that their car had broken down the night before due to a very flat tyre and they needed a bit more time to study. The professor told them that they could have another day to study. That evening, both of the boys crammed all night until they were sure that they knew just about everything. Arriving to class the next morning, each boy was told to go to two separate classrooms to take the exam. Each boy just shrugged and went to two different parts of the building. As each sat down, they read the directions: 'For 5 points, explain the contents of an atom. For 95 points, tell me WHICH tyre it was!'

TWO

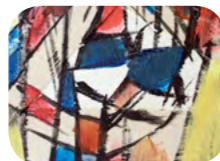
A young boy enters a barber shop and the barber whispers to his customer, "This is the dumbest kid in the world. Watch while I prove it to you." The barber puts a dollar bill in one hand and two quarters in the other, then calls the boy over and asks, "Which do you want, son?" The boy takes the quarters and leaves. "What did I tell you?" said the barber. "That kid never learns!" Later, when the customer leaves, he sees the same young boy coming out of the ice cream store. "Hey, son! May I ask you a question? Why did you take the quarters instead of the dollar bill?" The boy licked his cone and replied, "Because the day I take the dollar, the game is over!"

THREE

A Redneck buys a ticket and wins the lottery. He goes to Austin to claim it and the man verifies his ticket number. The Redneck says, "I want my \$20 million." The man replied, "No, sir. It doesn't work that way. We give you a million today and then you'll get the rest spread out for the next 19 years." The Redneck said, "Oh, no. I want all my money right now! I won it and I want it." Again, the man explain that he would only get a million that day and the rest during the next 19 years. The Redneck, furious with the man, screams out, "Look, I want my money! If you're not going to give me my \$20 million right now, then I want my dollar back!"

THE DAVIES' ART COLLECTION

Previously published: Abstract art by Joe Heade. In this masterpiece, Joe experimented with red, yellow and dark blue, with strokes of black.



Milan's weird and wonderful facts

by Milan Banerjee, 6AJL

Did you know that if you drop a penny from the Empire State Building it will go through a man's head! ... **Actually that's not true, in fact even if it is shot through a rifle it won't even penetrate the skin due to air resistance and its weight.**

All polar bears are left handed. **(Who cares really)**



There is no word in the English language that rhyme with the words orange, purple or month. **Fact!**



Here are the top five gifts 6DRM wish for Christmas!



SKYRIM



WORLD PEACE



APPLE IPOD TOUCH 32GB



CAR



BOSE HEADPHONES

Snapshots



Meet some Third Formers of Davies'

Front row from left to right: James Gordon, Seb Hickman, Micah Haynes, Christian Shrier, Daniel Fielding.

Back row from left to right: Michael Fabes, Harry Templeman, Jonty De La Harpe.



Representing Abingdon's 1st XV Rugby

Three members of the Davies' House Sixth Form represented the School 1st XV rugby team this term. They are pictured here after beating St Edward's School, Oxford 57-0. **Left to right:** Sam Hughes (Second-row), Gregor Hearn (hooker), Joel Cooper (Second-row / no. 8). ■



Remembrance Day Parade

On 11 November 2011, Abingdon School had its Remembrance Day parade (pictured above) in front of Big School. Accompanying the Head of Abingdon, Miss Felicity Lusk was The Reverend Paul Gooding, **Christian Reedman** (our House prefect from 7KL) and Head of School, Joe Hogan. ■

Waste Court Field

The Waste Court field is one of the training grounds for Abingdon's 1st XV Rugby team. Pictured on the right is Miss Felicity Lusk, the Head of Abingdon, at the Waste Court field to spectate a match of rugby against Radley on 15th October. ■



Stay in touch

☎ Keep track of our news and events online. Point your web browser to www.abingdon.org.uk/davies_house for more details. To contact our Housemaster or for any queries, please e-mail: edward.davies@abingdon.org.uk; otherwise, to contact him by telephone, please call **01235 849056** or if you prefer to stay in touch through facsimile, **01235 849101**.