



Postcard Competition

Congratulations to fifth year, Eric Huang, who picked up first prize in the 150 years at Albert Park Postcard Competition. Commenting on the winning entry, pictured, the Headmaster said he, 'liked the fusion of ancient and modern, which captures a key aspect of Abingdon, and the fresh perspective that Eric has taken.' In second place was Hugh Price, and special commendations went to Boco To, Archie Turnbull and Adam Andrews.

Follow [this link](#) to see more of the competition entries.

Life in Lockdown

At the end of the Lent term, as schools across the UK were closed due to the coronavirus outbreak, Michael Windsor tweeted that *'this has been the most difficult term of my career'*.

We ask him for his reflections on what will become a memorable part of the School's history.

“ Fortunately, I'm a good sleeper but I have to admit that the night following the school closure announcement, I was a bit restless! ”



What are the positives that you have taken from the coronavirus outbreak?

Appreciating not only what other people do, NHS staff, care workers, delivery drivers, supermarket employees – the people who keep our communities going, but also the simple things in life. I have been struck by the kindness in the community. How friendly people are to each other.

I've enjoyed spending time with my family and not being out in the evenings as much. We are not doing anything remarkable; just having meals together, family quizzes, simple things. But it has given us a chance to connect. We lead very busy lives, perhaps too busy, and the lockdown has given us a chance to reset.

What have you learnt from the negatives?

Being forced to work remotely has opened up the technological opportunities that are out there, I am sure we can use what we have learnt going forward.

The lack of human contact has made us realise how precious our communities are and how much we need the support that they give. It is something to be valued and nurtured.

Perhaps we had begun to take for granted the privileges of being able to travel, social occasions, families, sporting fixtures, an abundance of food on supermarket shelves. I think we will look at everything differently and appreciate how fortunate we are.

In hindsight, would the School have done anything differently?

I am not complacent but I think we were prepared. An enormous amount of work went into the weeks leading up to closure from just about every department. It was five days from having everyone being in school to closure so everything happened very quickly. With hindsight, perhaps we should have seen what was coming earlier?

What are you most proud of in the way the School reacted?

The collaboration and mutual support. The sense of community.

What would you say to our 2020 leavers?

My heart goes out to them. They have not been able to finish this chapter in their lives in the same way as previous Abingdonians. They have worked hard and deserve the recognition. When the situation allows, the School will find a way to celebrate what they have achieved. They will always stand out as a year group; a special set of OAs.

But they are not alone, there have been disappointments for many, Olympiads, graduates, businesses, job seekers, the list goes on. But we have to keep perspective and consider the tragic losses that have touched many families. The lockdown saved lives.

Will school life change when we return?

The return will no doubt be challenging, people are understandably anxious and social distancing in schools has difficulties. Fixtures, trips and events are going to take planning so, yes, school life will change but I have no doubt that the character and determination of staff and boys will come to the fore.

What effect has the lockdown had on the boys' education?

The boys have been amazing in how they have adjusted. I am very impressed. It's also testament to the quality of our teaching. I don't think the boys' education will have suffered and they will have learnt new skills and the discipline to work more independently.

Have you learnt any new skills?

Personally, I have been experimenting with Charlie Parker scores on the double bass. Originally written for the saxophone, they are tricky, but worth it. I have also had some time to read and I'm currently enjoying Joseph Roth's novel, *The Radetzky March*, about the decline and fall of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Another good read was *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles.

I'd also thoroughly recommend the Flemish "Stay at Home Museum" – take a look, it's on YouTube. I now know a lot more about Jan van Eyck, Bruegel and Rubens!

Will you change anything about how you live your life?

I suspect we will all emerge with a better appreciation of what's important. The non-material things: interaction with people, bird song, nature, spring – things that we can overlook in 'normal' life.

Globally I think the need for business travel will decline, office working will become less of a norm perhaps. Benefits could be a rejuvenation of our city centres and better use of spaces.

What are you most looking forward to post-lockdown?

A pint in a pub! Oh, and of course, seeing my mother!

Craig Williams, Headmaster of Abingdon Prep School, gives his reflections on the coronavirus outbreak in Abingdon Prep News.



Embracing languages

The MFL department had a tremendous response to their Duolingo initiative where boys and staff signed up to study up to five languages over the Easter holiday. Welsh, Portuguese, Hindi and Japanese were just some of the languages that were explored. Congratulations to Pranit Narain who won the competition and studied Portuguese followed by Ben Byrne in second place and Philip Ashton in third place.



This year's Young Enterprise South Oxfordshire regional final was an online submission and presentation. Both teams performed very well with team Chopping Wood winning two of the seven categories: best business plan and the sustainability award.



Other Half gardeners

Gardening Club has been pursuing their Other Half activity in their own gardens and enjoyed photographing spring flowers.

MFL Creative Project Prize

Congratulations to Charles Maddison in the Fifth Year who won second prize in the Modern Languages Creative Project Prize, 2019.

Me and the boys about to send a message of acceptance and freedom to the entire planet on June 26, 1963.



Modelling skills

Second year and aeroplane enthusiast Aleksandar Ustic has been using his time at home to develop his model-making skills. He has recently built a 1/72 scale MiG-29 "Swifts" aircraft and put together a timelapse video to show the process.



Farewell to Sir Eric Anderson

The School community was saddened to hear of the death of Sir Eric Anderson, who was Headmaster at Abingdon School from 1970-1975. Sir Eric Anderson was recognised as one of the leading headmasters and educators of recent times. He was a hugely popular Headmaster, admired by boys, staff and parents. He was a modest, approachable and very talented leader, with broad interests in the arts and sport as well as strong academic credentials. Read his [obituary](#).





Lower School Holiday Challenges

Boys in the Lower School were given the option to undertake various challenges over the Easter holiday. Culinary activities included cooking (and clearing up) a two course meal to baking an Easter cake. Musicians were asked to attempt to play a tune on water-filled glasses and film fans were challenged to recreate a scene from a Star Wars film. Other tasks included designing experiments, models, and obstacle courses, or undertaking chores around the house. A huge amount of creativity was shown by the many excellent entries but particular congratulations go to the following: Joint runners up - Oliver Sherratt and Finn Walsh - Overall winner - Sam Wormald.

Introduction to Project
We have designed Space Factory as a commercially viable moon base. There are many challenges in achieving this, and we have developed creative and realistic solutions to all these problems. In order to show these solutions, we have used a number of methods including flow diagrams, drawings and especially designing a full 3D CAD model of the base, using professional architectural software, Autodesk Revit and Fusion 360.

Moon Base
This base needs to provide living space and the support for the 40 people who will be living there for several years at a time. The base will be made up of many of ways to manufacture repeating modules, which can be manufactured on the moon and added over time to improve the base. There will also be two large domes which will provide more space for larger equipment, where the raw materials will be processed and the satellites will be assembled.

Transport
Earth to LED
In order to assemble the moon base, a large mass will need to be launched to the moon, and it will also have a safe crew launch capability. This is achieved with this rocket, with a large, fully reusable first stage, disposable second stage and launch abort system, with a capacity of 40 tonnes.

Earth orbit to lunar orbit
The moon LED launch vehicle must fully reusable, orbitable on the moon and able to go quickly enough to have a high carrying capacity. This is achieved with a reusable rocket, which heats hydrogen and fires out the back of the rocket in order to generate thrust. This hydrogen can be produced on the moon.

Moon to lunar orbit
To take crew and equipment from the moon's surface to rendezvous with the earth to lunar orbit vehicle, a reusable system is needed. It is conventionally fuelled with hydrogen and oxygen.

Aluminium Extraction
Much of the lunar surface is made out of anorthosite, a highly reflective, crystalline, aluminium, iron, and calcium silicate. We can extract the aluminium by smelting a mixture of molten anorthosite, iron, and calcium silicate in a molten calcium chloride bath with an inert electrode. We will impact the resulting molten metal and other impurities, necessary to the reaction, then use the aluminium produced to manufacture the rest of the base. Once the base is operational, we will use the aluminium to build satellites.

Commercial Activity
Space factory will work to manufacture and launch satellites from the moon to LED. This will be able to use current launch options such as SpaceX because the launch of satellites can be made much easier and fully reusable. The satellites will be made, by mass, at least 75% on the moon, as the solar panels, aluminium and fuel can be made on the moon, while complex electronics or sensors will still be launched from earth.

Mining Activity
We needed to come up with a vehicle to do the mining on the moon, taking the water ice to provide hydrogen and oxygen, as well as regolith from which aluminium could be extracted.

Transportation
Reusable, Efficient, Scalable
We needed to design a vehicle that could take the water to the moon. We are using a 3 stage system to have increased the reusability aspect of the design and increase efficiency. From the earth to earth orbit, earth orbit to lunar orbit and finally down to the lunar surface. Each stage is outlined in detail in our documents, with detailed designs for each of the stages. The key element of the first stage is the use of a double keel transport aircraft in conjunction with a High Galactic orbital space plane to get the Earth to Space Station. This will consist of a combined flight to 750km altitude. The second stage will be a conventional orbital space plane to get the Earth to Space Station. This will consist of a combined flight to 750km altitude. The third stage will be a conventional orbital space plane to get the Earth to Space Station. This will consist of a combined flight to 750km altitude.

Commercial Activity
Our commercial activity achieves the challenging prospect of making money on the moon, and provides us with a revenue to which to go to the moon. Our fundamental idea is to extract the Helium-3 from the lunar surface, and then the plan is to transport it back to Earth to create the Helium-3 fuel for nuclear fusion reactors and scientific research. The amount of Helium-3 that can be extracted from the lunar surface but this will be mostly used on the moon. The Helium-3 and Charon's Lunar Space Station can also be used as a potential stop off point of commercial missions to the moon. Water will be provided from the moon. Facilities will include a medical bay, workshop, living area, storage amongst other essential facilities. Life support will be provided by oxygen from the atmosphere processing and other gases to make up the atmosphere. Food will be provided by the moon.

Habitat
The habitat will be a large, inflatable structure that will be able to support the crew and life support systems on the moon. Water will be provided from the moon. Facilities will include a medical bay, workshop, living area, storage amongst other essential facilities. Life support will be provided by oxygen from the atmosphere processing and other gases to make up the atmosphere. Food will be provided by the moon.

Team Farr Out
Transport:
To transport our astronauts and equipment to and from the moon we chose to use SpaceX Starship. Our design closely follows the Starship design but is tailored to the lunar environment. It has a launch cost of around 2 million USD and can hold 100 tons of cargo. The Starship is powered by 33 SuperDraco engines and can be launched from the Cape Canaveral Space Launch Complex 40. The Starship is the only vehicle that can be used for both Earth to Moon and Moon to Earth transport.

Railgun:
In order to reduce the economic cost of the project, we decided to use a railgun to transport our crew and equipment to the moon. The railgun will be located on the Earth and will launch our crew and equipment into a low Earth orbit. From there, the crew and equipment will be transported to the moon using a conventional orbital space plane.

Mining:
We had planned on mining the lunar surface for Helium-3. However, we decided to use a more realistic approach of mining for aluminium. We will use a conventional orbital space plane to transport our crew and equipment to the moon. From there, we will use a conventional orbital space plane to transport our crew and equipment to the moon. From there, we will use a conventional orbital space plane to transport our crew and equipment to the moon.

Blott Matthews awards

Four teams of lower sixth boys took on the Blott Matthews Engineering challenge to celebrate the ten Apollo lunar missions and the 50th anniversary of the first of the six Apollo Moon landings. The teams worked extremely hard creating a commercial activity on the Moon, designing a Moon base and transportation. Unfortunately the presentation day was cancelled but their outstanding work was recognised with a first for team Space Factory, a third and two merit awards and a prize for best poster.

Helping out with PPE



Many thanks to Dan Hughes and Mark Johnson from our DT department who designed and made visors for key workers. Spare masks from the Health Centre were also given to GPs running a fever clinic and goggles from the science centre went to the Haematology and Oncology Unit at the Cancer Centre at the Churchill Hospital.



Staff 'upskill' during lockdown: podcasting to language learning

Staff as well as boys have been using the lockdown to try out new skills. These have been many and varied with Mr Broadbent, Mr Knowland and Dr Ambrose all learning new languages and doing extremely well in the MFL Duolingo competition, with Mr Broadbent picking up the first prize for the staff.

Director of Drama, Ben Philips, has extended his teaching remit to online cooking lessons and Director of Rugby, Matt Gold, treated us not only to a rendition of 'Yellow Submarine' on the ukulele but is now also a dab hand at podcasting. You can follow [this link](#) to hear his inaugural podcast with OA and London Irish professional Theo Brophy Clews. Theo joined Abingdon in the Lower School and went on to captain England Rugby at U18 and U20.



Mr Philips has taken up online cooking lessons



Mr Gold's inaugural rugby podcast with OA Theo Brophy Clews

Run the world

In order to stay active and connected, the Abingdon community set itself the challenge of running and/or walking the circumference of the world. Can we lap the globe as a collective? Circumference of the world: 40,075km

Students, OAs, staff and families from the Abingdon community are all taking part. If you want to be part of the journey simply join our **Strava Club** - 'Abingdon School Cross-country'

Once you have joined the club, each time you log a walk or run it will count towards the collective total.


The 'run' set off from School on Monday 4 May, and the first stop was London. Take a look at the route and the landmarks, care of Google Earth, on the **website**.

Weekly updates on our progress are available via the Abingdon Athletics and Cross Country Twitter account. (@AbingdonTFXC).

*n.b. Please make sure your exercise is carried out in a responsible way, adhering to the social distancing guidelines. Please also follow best practice privacy guidelines on your Strava account by clicking this **link**.*

ABINGDON SCHOOL RUN THE WORLD CHALLENGE


Staying connected during a time of isolation



Goal: To collectively run the circumference of the world 40,075km

How to take part

- Join the Abingdon School Cross-country Club on Strava for your walk or run to count to the community total. Access the club page via this link;
- <https://www.strava.com/clubs/337541/leaderboard>



Who can take part?

- Pupils | OAs | Staff | Parents.
- If you are overseas and want us to run through your city let us know so that we can plot the right route!



Follow @AbingdonTFXC on Twitter for weekly updates, leader boards and a virtual map of the journey.

The Environment in Lockdown

Fifth year students, Jacob Drew and Noah Chakravarti, who are on the School's Eco Committee, have come up with some ideas and tips for considering the environment during lockdown. They have also made some thoughtful suggestions for how we can help. Learn more about their **ideas**.

COVID-19
STAYING
SUSTAINABLE.



Abingdon School Eco-Committee



Crescent House boarders and day boys enjoyed taking part in a Lego MOC (My Own Creation) competition, and submitted photos of their imaginative and clever designs. The Crescent tutors voted on all the entries, with the winner being Laurie Clark's model of a house, closely followed by runner-up, Joshua Ebner's tanks.

Historical distractions

First, second and third year historians have been encouraged to undertake optional tasks that will take them away from their screens during the lockdown period. So far we have had trench cakes and Motte and Bailey castles and some pupils have even been through the family archives to source original newspapers from Victory in Europe Day, 1945.



Poems for lockdown

Second year students have been using their English lessons to write some excellent poems about the coronavirus lockdown. Here are just a few examples of their writing.

I look at the world: Covid 19 Edition by Oliver Veal

I used to look at the world and there was so much to see,
but everyone in it was stuck on a screen,
I walked this way, blue light. That way, blue light.
All on social media, obsessed and uptight.

I look at the world and there is less to be seen,
there isn't much to do now but look at your screen,
the shops are empty, so are the streets,
Our time in isolation is just obscene.

I will look at the world after all of this is done,
there will be kids in the park, having lots of fun.
The shops will be packed, to go outside we'll be keen,
and hopefully, we will stay off our screens.

Rupert Mathieson reads his poem in this [video link](#).

Read more of the boys' [poems](#).

Creating modes of transport

The second task in the Lower School's Taskmaster Challenge was to create and demonstrate a mode of transport in the house. Congratulations to Josh Bromley for winning – he clearly knew the way to appeal to Star Wars aficionado, Mr Jenkins, not least by producing his entry on May the Fourth! Watch the [video](#) of the boys' creations.



Budding film critics

Third year boys have been looking at reviews of plays and films and were asked to write a negative review of a film they didn't enjoy, and then turn their review into a dramatic performance. Here is [Ollie Clark](#).



Running to fundraise

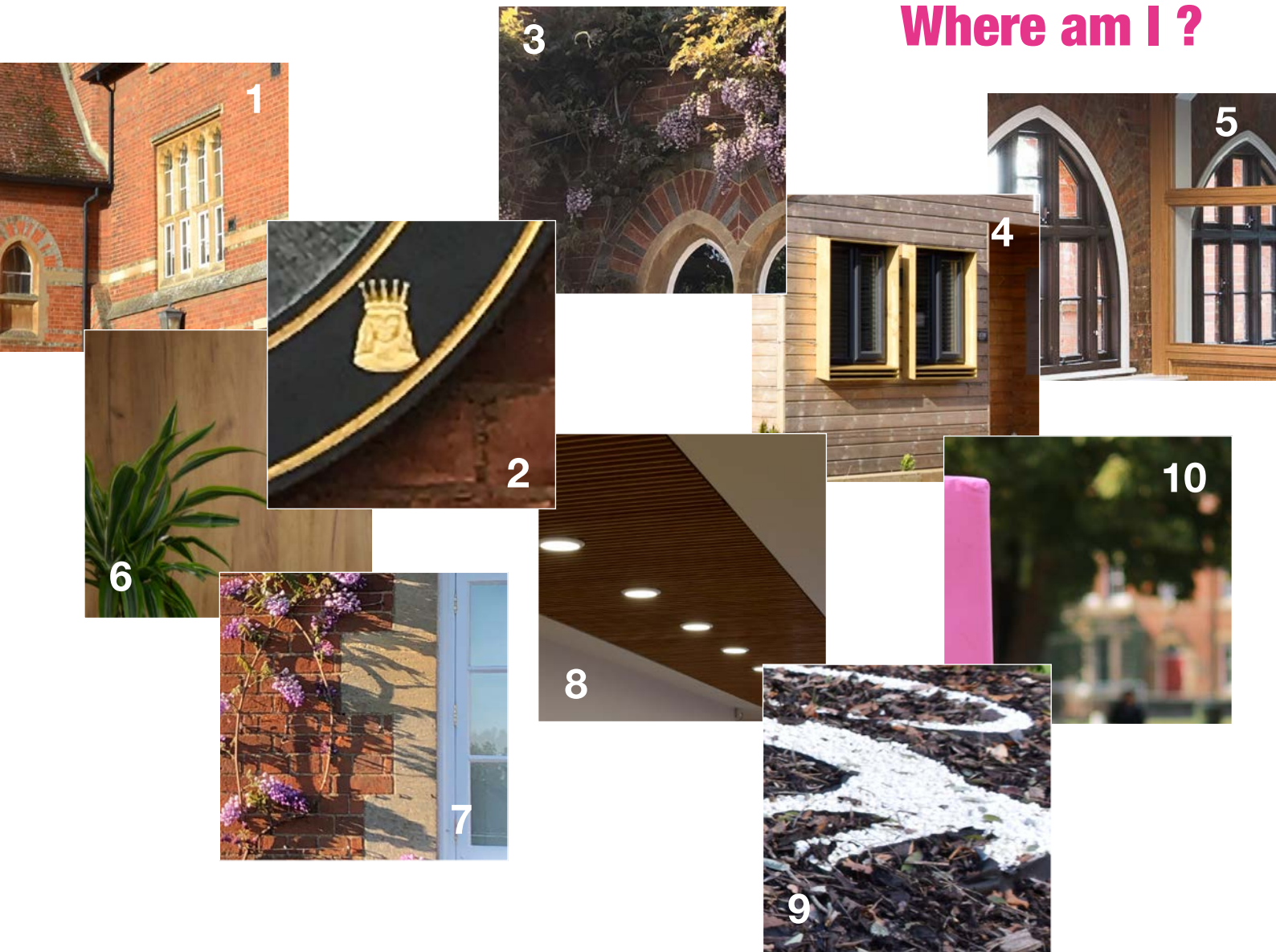
Congratulations to Charlie Taylor in the first year who, with his team mates from Abingdon United U12 football team, has raised a total of £1360 by running 150km in a week. The money is being split between the football club and the NHS.



Keeping the elderly entertained

Community service volunteers who are unable to visit local care homes have been compiling a compendium of quizzes, poems, photographs and artwork for the residents to enjoy.

Where am I ?



You haven't seen these places in a while; can you work out where each photo is from?

Turn to the back page for answers.

The Donnelly House bake off

The Donnelly's House third year boys enjoyed a social evening in the kitchen undertaking a Pizza Bake Off challenge, with an Abingdon theme. The boys had 45 minutes to decorate and cook a pre-bought pizza base (though some decided to make their own pizza bases). The creations included griffens, rugby posts, sports jerseys and more, all of which went down very nicely!

Congratulations to the winning entry, pictured, from Alex Mapplebeck.





History and Politics magazine – a preview

Third to fifth year boys in the History and Politics Society are busy working on articles for the soon to be published History and Politics Magazine which will be sent electronically to all parents. Below is a taster by third year, Dhruv Hegde, on newspaper bias in the UK press and there are some other gems on the [website](#) about Donald Trump and Norse mythology. They offer an interesting preview of content to come when the magazine is published online.

Do newspapers really tell the truth?

Many newspapers have a view and will support different governments and political parties. They also create hype around certain things such as the coronavirus. This means that they can sway the mood of the population and hijack their views. In this article I will highlight which UK newspapers support which parties and how they stir up the population.

Labour – *The Guardian, The New Statesman, The Daily Mirror*

Conservative – *The Financial Times, The Times, The Daily Telegraph, The Sun, The Daily Mail, The Daily Express*

Lib Dems – *The Economist*

Neutral? – *London Evening Standard*

Here we can clearly see that the Conservative party has the most press backing.

The newspapers also tend to stir up the population by putting half-truths on their papers. For example, all newspapers will make a problem seem much bigger than it really is. Another thing that newspapers tend to do is put negative news on their papers as the reader will then take more interest in the news. We find negative news more compelling without even realising it. This is called the 'negativity bias', the term used for our hunger to hear negative news. This is what draws the reader in. Newspapers are a lot like books in the sense that they have to draw the reader in in order to gain their attention.

As a result I believe that it is better if you take in a wide range of views on a certain topic and create your own conclusion rather than theirs.



Tutor group breakfast

Fourth years from Pygott's House enjoyed a virtual tutor group breakfast. There was an eclectic range of foods from Mr Bignell's full English, prepared live on camera, to a bowl of popcorn!



Lower School Public Speaking

The final rounds of the annual Lower School Public Speaking Competition took place via Zoom culminating in the Grand Final between first year winners 1C, and second year champions 2G. 1C (Charlie Taylor, Sam Wormald and Barnaby Hill) spoke about environmental issues and, in particular, the dangers caused by bushfires, while 2G (Sam Siriwardene, Alexander Woolmer, and Henry Drake) spoke against animal testing. All the speakers did a great job, especially given the fact everything was happening remotely. Mr Hindley had a difficult time separating the two teams but, by the narrowest of margins, he declared 2G the victors for 2020.



Practical physics at home

The Physics department challenged the fourth year boys to apply the ideas they had been learning about in remote lessons and to video the results of their investigations as a prep task. The topic they had been covering was Forces and Momentum which asks them to explain the principles behind crumple zones, air bags and other safety features designed to reduce impact forces. Watch the [video](#).

Commemorating Victory in Europe Day

Speaking about VE Day, the Headmaster, Michael Windsor said,

“ The 75th anniversary of VE Day gave us the chance to reflect upon the sacrifices that many made during the Second World War, including the 49 Old Abingdonians who gave their lives in the conflict. At this time of crisis, I am sure that the celebrations of VE Day reminded us how countries and communities pulled together 75 years ago, just as we need to do now. ”



Victory in Europe Day, VE Day, on 8 May 1945 marked the unconditional surrender of German forces to the Allies following five years and eight months of war in Europe. It came eight days after Adolf Hitler's suicide on 30 April, after which the mantle of President of Germany had been taken up by Admiral Karl Donitz. VE day was a decisive moment: the final defeat of one of the most murderous and ideologically malevolent regimes in history.

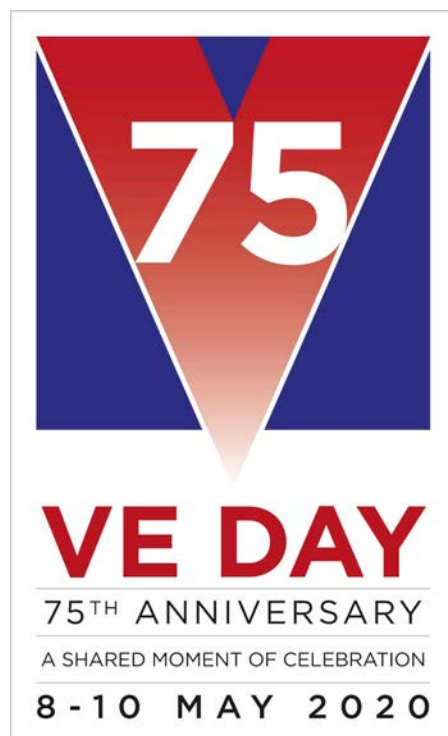
When the 75th anniversary of VE dawned on 8 May 2020, many Europeans reflected on the enormous sacrifices made by so many Allied soldiers, including millions from British and French colonies. Due to the global Covid-19 pandemic, Europe did not have the opportunity to celebrate in the same way that so many did in 1945. Yet, we could still memorialise and remember. For those in Germany, of course, reflections were more complicated. Donitz, it should be remembered, was seeking to preserve the lives of millions of Germans who had suffered during the war and also faced an uncertain future at the hands of occupying forces.

In Abingdon School's Jekyll Gardens is a memorial stone commemorating the lives of 16 Old Abingdonians who died during the Second World War. Dating from the 1960s, and originally located in front of what is now Beech Court, it was paid for by Old Abingdonians who had attended the school in the 1920s and wished to pay tribute to friends who had given their lives in the service of their country. The inscribed initials provide a poignant reminder that these OAs who died fighting in the war were fathers, husbands, sons, siblings and friends. They are always sorely missed.

The Abingdonian Magazine of Christmas 1945 lists 49 former pupils who lost their lives in service; several further names were added in the Christmas 1946 issue, which also includes the reflections of OA Stanley Paige ('S.D.P.') on his time in the RAF, operating in the Middle East and Mediterranean. VE Day was for many a day of great relief and hope, a significant unifying moment; but for some there was not the opportunity to see the liberation of the brave new world that they fought to defend. To borrow Churchill's wonderful words: whether it is those that died during the war, immediately after or survived much longer, or are surviving today, we can only say that never was so much owed by so many, to so few. It is beyond argument that a world dominated by Nazi Germany would have been one of further, unimaginable horrors.

Read the full article [here](#).

Nicholas Knowland, *Head of History, Abingdon School*



CCF salutes VE Day

The School was not able to come together for our planned VE Day 75 commemorations. However, we refused to let this important date pass us by, and so Abingdon School CCF cadets donned uniforms at home and saluted. See more [photos](#).



Other Half choices have been adapted to suit remote learning so boys have been experimenting with new activities including online cookery lessons. Dishes explored range from macaroni cheese and tomato sauce to pasta and veggie chili.

Worldwide boarding quiz

A group of Abingdon boarders, along with a few Crescent day boys, took part in an online quiz. With 20 entrants across at least five countries, it was great to see the boys together on Zoom. Competition was fierce, but Harry Nye was the winner with 45 out of a possible 50 marks.



Abingdon News

Sport & PE News

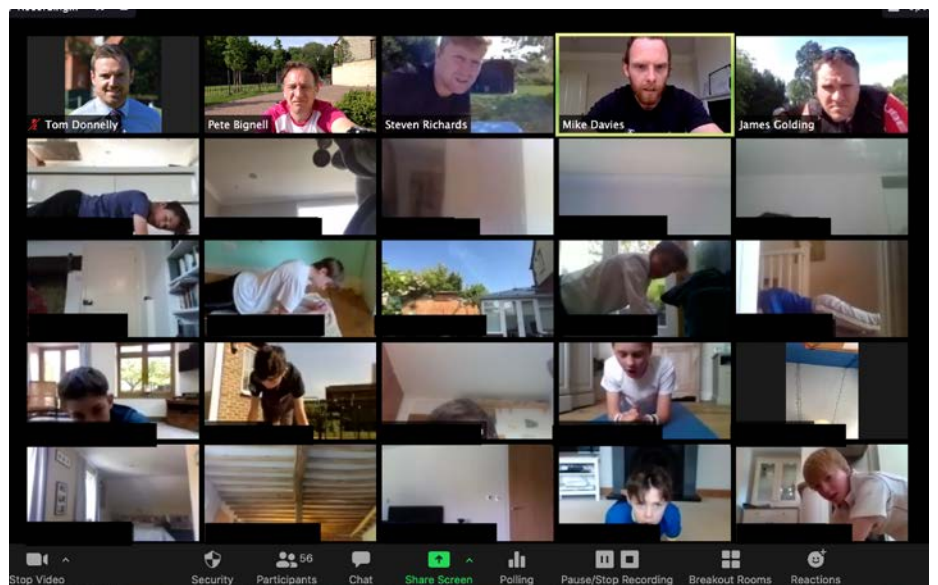
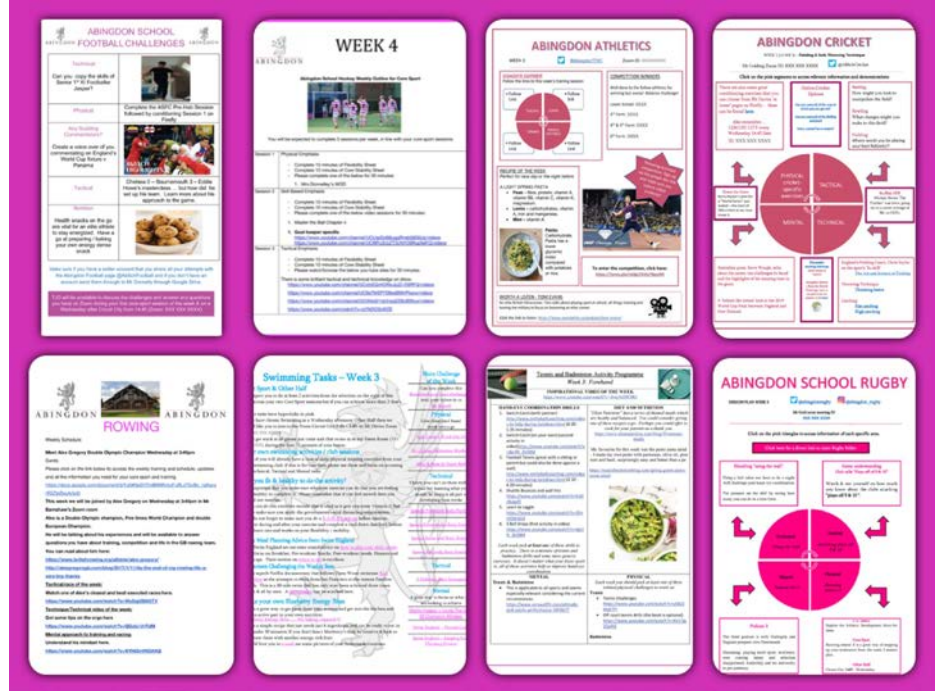
A new remote learning curriculum was put together by the PE department which keeps the boys active but also can be adapted to each student's individual home environment.

There are 'live' PE lessons that focus on the five pillars of the Abingdon Movement Skill curriculum – Squat, Pull, Pillar, Push and Hinge through a range of body weight exercises.

All boys have also chosen one 'focus sport' from athletics, cricket, hockey, football, rackets, rowing, rugby and swimming. They are also encouraged to look at participating in any activity from the focus sports. Each week for their chosen focus sport, boys receive a sport specific task sheet to work through in their two core sport lessons.

Boys are also encouraged to be active outside of their timetabled lesson times through three main challenges;

- the weekly Zoom Circuit City - a live circuit hosted by all members of the PE department.
- the 'Run The World' challenge
- a weekly sports video competition where boys are encouraged to email Mr Bignell with a short video of their sporting efforts throughout the week.



Charlie Atkinson signs for Wasps

Abingdon and England U18 Fly Half, Charlie Atkinson, starts his professional career with Wasps Rugby in July. Charlie is taking a gap year before beginning a part time course at Birmingham University alongside playing for Wasps.



The toilet roll challenge!

Lower school boys have found a good way of keeping in touch during lockdown by taking on the Toilet Roll Challenge. Watch the [video](#).

Life lessons for leavers

Our sixth form team have put together a series of lectures and tutorials designed to help our 2020 leavers prepare for life after Abingdon. The programme covers topics from managing your money to cooking on a budget alongside tips to make the most of academic opportunities at university.

Take a look at this inaugural programme for **leavers**.



Kitchen sports

Taskmaster challenge 3 for lower school boys was to create an epic sporting moment in their kitchen. Congratulations to Ben Cuthbert for winning with his Lego stop frame animation diving scene. Watch the [video](#).



Raising money for Moldova

Each year we raise money for Agape, our partner charity in Moldova, by rowing 398km, the distance the river Dniester flows through Moldova. Lockdown prevented this year's fundraiser but the ever-resourceful boys took to whatever exercise equipment they had available at home and exceeded the distance, covering close to 500km.

Some of the money raised will be used to help buy plant seedlings and livestock for families in Moldova as they struggle to cope with the impact of coronavirus in what is the poorest country in Europe.

Connect 4

The Director of Sport, Mr Bignell, took on his tutor group at Connect 4 with the boys taking it in turns to select their next move. Unfortunately, in the words of Mr Bignell, "The combined intelligence of eleven 15 year olds against one ageing Director of Sport won the day in the best of three!"



Abingdon Music



Oliver Glover in the Fourth Year submitted a beautiful recording of Gabriel's Oboe as his entry for a competition that his teacher, Maddy Aldis-Evans, ran for her pupils. The piece by the composer, Ennio Morricone, is the main title theme from the 1986 film, *The Mission*. Listen to the [recording](#).

Musicians play on

Lock down did not prevent our musicians, and music teachers playing together. Our Jazz musicians, under the guidance of Simon Currie, each recorded their separate parts of a track from their homes and used their phones to record themselves. The recordings were then compiled to form a band. Have a listen to the very accomplished end result in the [video](#).



Three Abingdon School pupils, Lachlan Keene, Roddy McVie and Ashwin Tennant, featured in a remotely recorded video by the National Schools Symphony Orchestra, NSSO. The "Sunrise Project" was recorded over the Easter holiday, when there should have been a residential course. The music is an extract from the opening of the symphonic tone poem, *Also Sprach Zarathustra*, by Richard Strauss. The music will be more familiar to many as it was used for Stanley Kubrick's iconic 1968 film, *2001: A Space Odyssey*.

It is both amazing and heart-warming to see the extent of musical creativity going on in these challenging times, both at a local, regional and national level. Watch the [video](#).



Sam Wormald

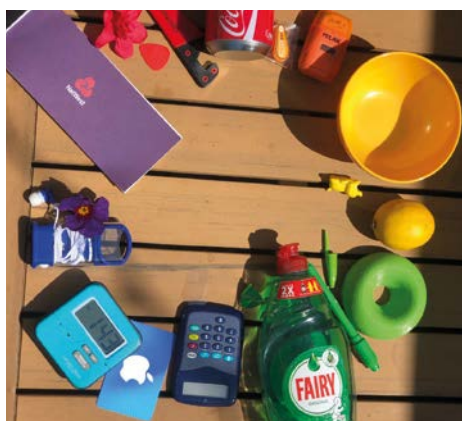


Harry Baston-Hall

ART IN LOCKDOWN



Harutyun Badalyan



Max Cranstoun



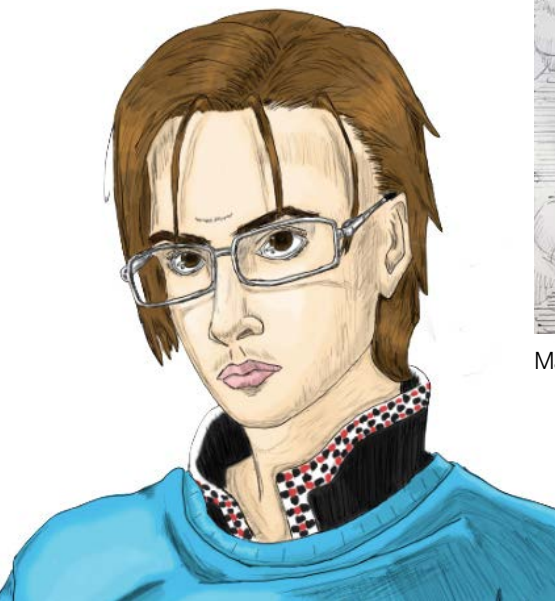
Sam Penrose



Max Silverwood



Dominic Wood



Alexey Soloviev

Boys have enjoyed the time in lockdown to be especially creative. From imaginative collages to doodles of castles, the standard of work has been superb.



Samuel Price

#AbingdonSaysThanks



During the lockdown it is important to reflect on our amazing community both within and beyond the School. At Abingdon we engage on many levels with the broader Abingdon community as seen by our burgeoning partnership program. People in and around Abingdon are working tirelessly to keep everyone safe, fit and healthy as well as ensuring vital services continue to function. These people, be they members of the National Health Service, childcare providers, staff at schools, care workers, public transport workers, those working in food and delivery services, public utilities and all levels of government deserve our appreciation and gratitude.

We would like to say 'thank you'.

If you, as a member of the Abingdon community, want to express your appreciation to an individual or group please record a short, 30 second, video and send it to communications@abingdon.org.uk explaining who you are and who you would like to say thank you to.

Thank you for taking part and for showing your appreciation for our amazing community during these extraordinary times.

Watch the **Headmaster's** #AbingdonSaysThanks.

Delivering science at home

With no hope of running Abingdon Science Partnership, ASP, activities with our partner schools, our ever creative ASP moved resources online to help parents and teachers of key workers' children.

ASP Co-ordinator Jeremy Thomas developed a set of science lesson plans with the help of Holly Irving, Year 2 teacher and Science Co-ordinator at Caldecott Primary School, and Ruth Barnett, Year 1/2 teacher and Science and Maths Co-ordinator at Sunningwell Primary School.

The ASP also worked alongside colleagues running Oundle School's OPEN Learning Partnership enabling the sharing of Home Science resources developed in collaboration with their partners at Imperial College. These resources can be found [here](#).



Experimenting with crystals at home

Answers to 'Where am I?'

1. Big School
2. Griffen plaque on Big School
3. CMR window
4. Estates Hub
5. Lower School House room
6. Sixth Form Centre
7. Park Lodge Reception
8. Sports Centre Lighting
9. Griffen by Roysse Alley
10. Waste Court view of Crescent

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