

## Remembrance Day The Last Post

Kim Meadows (student)

I was contacted about a project similar to last year- to play The Last Post for everyone in college to start the 2 minutes of silence. This year it had to be done differently.



I got in contact with some other musical students and arranged the piece so that it could be recorded and edited into a video that could be played in each class.

I really enjoyed getting to lead a mini project, particularly in music because it's what I will be studying at university.

It was good working with younger students to help them to record their parts and seeing their reaction to the final video. Also, arranging a piece was very new for me and I enjoyed the challenge and experience.

## Bar Mock Trial

The BMT is a simulation of a real court case where students form two legal teams - defence and prosecution - to argue the case of R v Peters. Each team consists of 2 barristers, 2 witnesses, and 1 administrative individual (usher or clerk).



Across both teams the college recruits 5 jurors who are trained to hear the opposition's case as well and are heavily involved in the case preparations.

The opposition will be another college.

Our YR1 students are representing the prosecution and our YR2 students representing the defence. Preparations are currently heavily underway and the teamwork is coming together nicely with barristers preparing to question and cross-examine the witnesses.

## Ready Steady Cook at Dixons Sixth!

Exciting things have been happening at the college since September, with the launch of a cooking programme to prepare our students for university and life beyond college.



The cooking workshop proved very popular last term with over 40 students taking part, some in a live cookery session, others catching up around their busy schedules!

**Cooking has bought our students together and allowed them to showcase their amazing skills, from beginners to those with a little more experience.**

We have created exciting dishes including, veggie pasta, chicken burgers, fritters and of course a little sweet treat – chocolate slices!

Students have developed the ability to use a wider range of ingredients and items that may be at home and would often be overlooked!



*The phrase "new normal" has been used a lot recently, and nowhere is it more apparent than at the Sixth Form. In September 2020 our second cohort of students joined us in unprecedented times, and our founding year group returned as second year students to a college that appears vastly different from when their first year was dramatically cut short. But what does this mean for Teaching and Learning for our students and teachers?*

*Sanitising, social distancing and reduced movement around the building all became commonplace. Students have got used to working at home for our remote enrichment and remote support, with an awful lot of teacher-student interaction taking place via 'Teams'. This technology has fundamentally changed students' access to their teachers and may well continue post-COVID.*

*In lessons, (when not in full lockdown) students are limited in their movement - but they have risen to the challenge, figuratively if not literally. Teachers too are limited to the front of each classroom and cannot circulate in the usual way, which brings challenges in terms of checking student understanding and providing feedback to students. Teachers have adapted their teaching brilliantly - checking understanding in new ways, whether through carefully crafted questioning or submission of work online. Practical work has recently returned to science subjects in new, COVID-secure ways to the benefit of science teachers and students alike!*

*Despite all of the challenges, we've seen productive lessons every single day, with teachers teaching brilliant lessons. Students are learning though synchronous lessons, in classrooms, and at home, with their expert teachers - a luxury that we did not have during the last lockdown - and a "new normal" that we are all grateful for.*

So thanks to you all,  Mark Rothery, Principal





## Results 2020

As our first cohort of students are only half way through most courses we only had a relatively small number of students entering final qualifications in the summer of 2020.

The qualifications we did enter were AS Further Mathematics, A level Arabic and certificate in Medical Science – we're delighted that our students achieved a 100% A\*-B pass rate! The bar is now set for future success.



## UKMT Senior Maths Challenge

In November 2020, 25 students from across the College sat the UKMT Senior Maths Challenge. This is an annual nationwide competition that tests the problem solving and logical thinking abilities of students. We were delighted to be able to overcome the logistical difficulties presented by COVID to enable our students to sit the challenge and were rewarded by 3 Silver and 7 Bronze awards.

Congratulations to all students who took part with special mention to Ashhab Imran (Silver - Best in College) and Reyhan Malik (Silver - Best in Year 1). Other award recipients were Arifa Mehri (Silver) and Jawairiyah Arshad, Bilal Hussain, Hannah Hussain, Mohammad Majlisi, Kimberley Meadows, Surayya Mushtaq and Anisha Razzaq (Bronze).



## Oxbridge and Medical applications

**Our students applying to Oxbridge and medical courses completed additional entrance exams and made their applications at the start of October.**

**Currently they are going through the interview and (hopefully) offers stage of the application cycle.**

**With eight students being interviewed for Oxbridge and 20 medical applications we are excitedly waiting to hear how their applications progress.**

## UCAS Update December 2020

With 297 live applications it has certainly been a busy Autumn. It has been impressive to see how our students have managed the system, written their personal statements and applied to a huge variety of institutions despite all the obstacles COVID has thrown in their way.

**Here are some figures for the applications that have gone in.**

- 634 course applications at 75 different institutions.
- Offers are starting to roll in and at time of writing there were 171 offers from 37 institutions.
- Of these 41% are from Russell Group Universities.
- The range of subjects is astounding with Law (23), Business and Finance (23) and English (19) and History/Politics (19) leading the way.

**Well done to all students and thank you to all our staff for supporting them.**

## Foodbank at D6A

In December our students and staff donated food, toiletries, cleaning products and pet food in amazingly generous quantities, all in the cause for Bradford North Food Bank in Eccleshill. We also collected money and that was given to Bradford Central Food Bank. It was a brilliant effort on behalf of staff and students. Community spirit and generosity that will have made a difference to families across Bradford over Christmas.



## Bank of England Competition

Congratulations to Year 1 Economics student Sana Khan who has produced a thought-provoking entry into a national Bank of England competition. Given the task of looking into the future Sana has researched multiple, advanced, academic sources to predict the future shape of the UK economy following the recent global pandemic.

Sana has analysed the impact on our towns and cities and assessed how economic organisations can best respond. We await a decision from the judges, but Sana will be a very strong candidate.



## HE YR1 Schemes

**HE Plus - This is Cambridge University's WP programme.**

D6A dominated the applications from Bradford schools (we accounted for @40% of local applications).

**100% of those applying (57 students) from D6A were offered a place.**



## Making a difference: Charity

Cellar Trust (By Clive Nutton – Enrichment Coordinator)

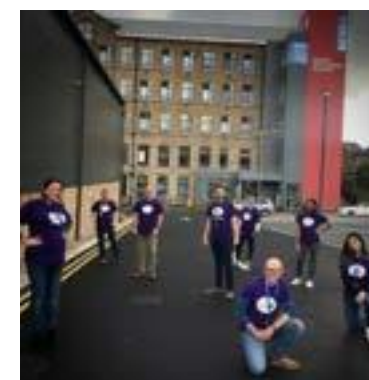
Our students chose to support The Cellar Trust as our local charity in for Term 1.

I have a slight connection with the charity as they run a café, garden, and workshops in my neighbourhood, which function therapeutically, alongside more traditional therapy spaces and their HQ.

My main interest, though, is in their café which really is excellent for lunch if you're in the Shipley area. However, I have also benefited from their work, during a brief period of minor ill health some years ago and met people who were "really struggling".

Thanks very much to our students for their contributions. They will make things better for people at the absolute end of their thread.

**Total raised: £732.65**



## Children in Need

*Rimsha Asghar (student)*

On November 12th 2020 we raised money for Children In Need, a BBC charity whose mission is to help ensure every child in the UK is safe, happy, secure and has the opportunities they need to reach their potential.

**Dixons Sixth Form raised £450 for this important charity.**

Shahlena Khan and myself were very excited to organise the day, from putting bunting and posters up to standing outside in the cold to collect student donations.

It was a tricky to come up with an idea of what we could do due to COVID-19 regulations, but we decided that the students and staff should come in sports kits, spotty dress or something yellow.

It was amazing to see so many people getting involved. It was a great experience, and I am proud of what our Sixth Form community achieved.

