









Hove Park School "Together We Achieve

Almanac 2022-23

al-ma-nac (ôl m9-năk, ăl -)

- A register of the days, weeks and months of the year, with events, anniversaries, etc, published annually.
- An annual publication containing a variety of factual information. 2.

Head Teacher's Introduction

Welcome to this year's Almanac and once again we are delighted to share with you some of our accomplishments and incredible endeavours.

I've always believed it is important that our vision 'Together We Achieve' is more than just words: At Hove Park School and Sixth Form, we believe every student is entitled to a 'whole education' that includes great teaching, the development of wider skills and the opportunity to see, hear and do amazing things as part of our Every Child Should initiative.

This year we have been recognised as a lead hub for the Ogden Trust to develop the teaching of science across our network of partner primary and secondary schools. In September we were informed that we had been successful in our bid to become one of only 15 Language Hubs across the country as part of the new DfE Languages strategy. Our recent Wellbeing Award for Schools (July 2023) highlights the value we also place on kindness and care.

I hope you enjoy reading through our journey over the last year and take collective pride in what we have achieved.

Jim Roberts
Head Teacher

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GCSE Achievements

The staff at the school would like to congratulate our students for the hard work that has seen so many achieve success in their GCSEs. They can now celebrate gaining the qualifications that will take them on to the next stage of their education at sixth form or college!

Once again, the exam results of students at Hove Park School are above the national average, with 71% of all grades marked as passes at grade 4 and above, compared to 68% nationally. The proportion of top grades at Hove Park is also above the national average, with 23% marked as grade 7 or above, compared with 22% nationally.

Head teacher Jim Roberts praised the hard work of both the students and staff. He said:

'I am very proud of the students and their achievements. The discussion about falling GCSE pass rates across the country as a whole should not distract us from acknowledging and celebrating their success. These results are a true reflection of student commitment to their studies and high-quality teaching. We wish them all the very best and look forward to hearing about all their future successes'

Brighton and Hove Secondary head teachers are jointly celebrating the achievements of our students.

'Schools have worked in partnership, closely and collaboratively, to ensure that every child in our city has access to a good education and is able to make strong progress. We take collective responsibility for a set of exams results that reflect great levels of attainment and achievement across all schools in Brighton and Hove. Today's results reflect the hard work and tenacity of a fantastic group of students, and an unerring commitment from all schools to joint practice development and partnership for the benefit of every young person in our city. We are extremely proud of the 'Class of 2023' and wish them all the very best for the future.'





A-Level Achievements

Everyone at Hove Park School would like to congratulate our 6th form students on their achievements! Their accomplishments will allow them to move on to the next step of their career pathways, whether that is university, an apprenticeship, or straight into the world of work.

Individual success stories include....

- Bernadette Has been accepted on a degree course at Brighton University to study English Language and Literature.
- Gracie Has already started a Level 3 apprenticeship in childcare.
- Louisa Has been accepted on a degree course at the University of Chichester to study History and Creative Writing.
- Nye Has started a digital media apprenticeship with a local company.

We are very proud of all our students' hard work, but also the resilience they have shown over the last couple of years. Many students who took exams this year were unable to sit GCSEs in 2021 and so this summer's exams were their first experience of external assessments.

Head teacher Jim Roberts praised both students and staff. He said:

'I would like to congratulate all our students and commend them on their achievements. Our aim at Hove Park 6th Form is to help students move forwards and take the next step in their chosen career path. These results reflect our students' hard work and the high-quality teaching and pastoral support provided to them by the school. We wish them all the very best and look forward to hearing about their future successes.'

Proud to be a Languages Hub

We are delighted to announce that Hove Park School has been selected as one of only 15 schools nationally to have achieved the prestigious role as lead Languages Hub school for the National Consortium for Languages Education (NCLE). There was a highly competitive process during the end of the summer term ending in a final endorsement of the selected schools by the DfE. The focus will be to support a network of schools in the area and address the most important educational imperatives as the country works to meet the aspirations of a Global Britain.

The key aims of the Languages Hubs will be:

- encourage high quality language teaching in schools.
- increase languages uptake at GCSE.
- support levelling up opportunities for disadvantaged pupils.
- address the performance of boys.
- better recognise and support the rich diversity of languages in addition to English spoken by one in every five of our pupils.

Hove Park has a strong track record of commitment to languages, home languages,

equalities and cultural richness and this new national role with partners at primary, secondary and sixth form in our area will enable us to develop what we do best. At the core of our successful bid, was communicating our celebration of our rich and diverse ethnic and cultural heritage and the numerous opportunities to travel and learn from other cultures, across Europe and the world. We are a school that encourages the exploration and aspiration for learning different languages, meeting different people and experiencing different places.

Our strong links with schools and students in all the languages we teach and our innovative use of digital technologies, have enabled immersive projects which have deepened cultural understanding and supported language learning. We have partnerships with German, South American, Spanish, French and Chinese schools. We are one of the few state schools with the Confucius Classroom Award and currently have over 60 students aiming to acquire a near fluent level of Chinese, as part of the Mandarin Excellence Programme. We feel proud to have been selected for this important collaborative mission with all the other schools at the heart of this 3-year adventure.





Enrichment Days: Fostering Learning Beyond the Classroom

Six days per year are dedicated to Enrichment Days at our school. These days are designed to focus on key themes that are integrated into our curriculum. During these days, the regular school schedule is set aside, and students participate in engaging and thought-provoking activities that often take place outside of the traditional classroom environment. Our goal is to develop essential skills that not only support our curriculum, but also connect the various subjects taught at Hove Park, creating a cohesive learning experience from Key Stages 3 to 4.

The first Enrichment Day of the year revolved around Equalities and involved students from Years 7 to 11. Equalities is a significant area of focus at our school as it aims to educate our young people about the diverse range of differences in the world, including ethnicity, disability, transgender topics, and other related themes. We were fortunate to have guest speakers from local businesses, disabled athletes, and experts in diversity, who contributed to the students' understanding of Equalities.

The remaining Enrichment Days this year were dedicated to Drama, Art, Music, PSHE, and STEM, involving students from Years 9 and 10. Teachers and support staff from different departments took the lead in organising and supporting a wide variety of activities. These activities included art sessions, drumming workshops, music technology lessons, and the construction of bridges and other structures. We also invited external companies and individuals to provide enjoyable and educational opportunities for our students. Some examples of these activities include Dance Day workshops, Gang Awareness presentations, Animazing presentations, Bollywood Dance sessions, and thought-provoking drama performances.



Students Experience Educators Visit Hove Park Hampton Court School

In May, Year 7 students embarked on a captivating visit to Hampton Court to gain insight into the fascinating lives of the Tudors. Led by an expert 16th Century tour guide, we were immersed in the religious transformations that unfolded during this era, which proved bewildering for the common folk of the time.

Our exploration took us through the splendid gardens, where we uncovered the sports enjoyed by the Tudors. Additionally, we delved into the enigmatic world of the Tudor Kitchens, discovering the peculiar ingredients utilised during that period. Finally, we had the privilege of stepping foot into Henry VIII's opulent apartments.

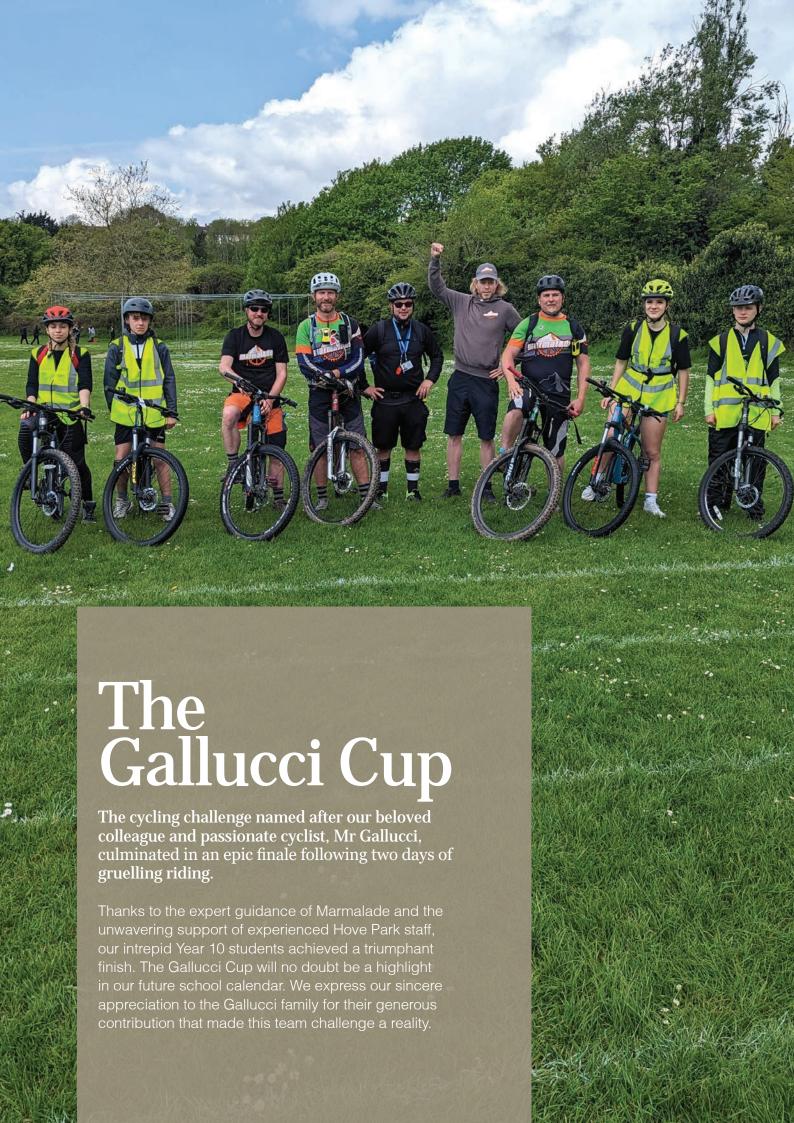
Icelandic

On May 19th, a group of educational visitors from Iceland, including head teachers, department leaders, teachers, and social educators, visited Hove Park School. The focus of their trip was to observe our 1:1 digital teaching and learning methods and see first-hand how we support our students with digital technology.

Our Digital Leaders from Year 7 and 8 took charge, leading four groups of visitors around the Valley campus, to witness a range of lessons. They then showed the visitors the LRC, highlighting how students use apps in classes and how digital technology is used to to be creative and find new ways to learn.









Year 8: A Memorable Trip to Biscarrosse

Hove Park's annual Rockley adventure in June was an unforgettable experience for Year 8 students, as they embarked on a remarkable journey to Biscarrosse, South-West France.

Throughout the week, these students had the chance to participate in a variety of thrilling activities such as pico sailing, dart sailing, kayaking, paddle boarding, and windsurfing. In addition, they were able to explore local towns, putting their language skills to the test and fully immersing themselves in the rich French culture.

Without a doubt, the highlight of the trip was the visit to Dune De Pilat, which happens to be Europe's largest sand dune. This awe-inspiring natural wonder stands tall at an impressive height of 110 metres above sea level. Spanning approximately 500 metres in width from east to west and stretching 2.7 kilometres in length from north to south, it truly captivated the students' attention. After conquering the challenging ascent to the top, the students reveled in the exhilarating experience of running, rolling, and cartwheeling down the sandy slopes.

The memories made during this incredible adventure will undoubtedly stay with these Year 8 students for a lifetime. From the adrenaline-pumping water sports to the breathtaking views atop Dune De Pilat, every moment was filled with excitement and wonder. The bonds formed and the lessons learned will forever shape their perspective on the world and their own capabilities.





Ogden Trust

At the beginning of this year, the science department began a bid to become the hub school for an Ogden Trust Schools Partnership. The Ogden Trust, www.ogdentrust.com, is focused on increasing the uptake of physics post-16, particularly in under-represented groups of students, by developing physics teaching and learning. Only fourteen schools across the country are awarded this status each year. We approached four secondary schools across the city, as well as our partner primaries to join us, and we are pleased to share the news that our bid was successful.

This now means that we will have additional funding to support the partnership, and spend on enrichment and CPD. Congratulations to Ms Lacny who coordinated and led our bid, and the science team. This is a significant achievement that will have a positive impact on science teaching across Brighton and Hove.

Dare to Dream

The Dare to Dream programme, in conjunction with Legal and General and lovelocaljobs.com, continued this week for Year 9 with Jack Hayes once again visiting Hove Park for the 2nd time to deliver and present to the year group. Following the assembly, several students took part in a workshop with Jack and the mentors from Legal & General, with some 1:1 mentoring in the afternoon.

Digital Surgery

Year 10 had a 'Digital Surgery' with MP Peter Kyle. The Politics Project supported the session, where Mr. Kyle answered questions about his politics, upbringing, and hopes for the future. Topics included freedom of movement for young people and being the first openly gay MP from Brighton and Hove. It was a great opportunity for students to share their perspectives.









Big Camp: An Enormous Success for Year 7 Students

The Year 7 Big Camp this year was once again a tremendous success. Hove Park students had the opportunity to participate in various activities, including natural fire lighting, team building, shelter building, and a full-size planetarium. Our students excelled and enthusiastically took part in all the activities.

After a busy day of activities, there was no time for rest as students faced the challenging Big Camp obstacle course. After working up a big appetite, Year 7 enjoyed a delicious meal.

Night time was equally exciting, with sixty tents set up across the field. Students prepared for bed and settled down after a tiring day.

The next morning, voices could be heard as early as 4am. With only a few hours of rest and tired eyes, we enjoyed the sunrise on another beautiful July day. The morning was relaxed as students emerged from their tents - some experiencing their first night under canvas and others their first night away from home.





Every Child Should gives our students the opportunity to spend time with their friends, taking part in a variety of school activities and events that we know are beneficial to their wellbeing and happiness.

There are 8 ECS badges to collect:

- Contribute and feel part of their local community.
- Spend a night under the stars.
- Show an interest and understanding of the wider world, experiencing the vibrant, diverse cultures and languages of those around me.
- Reflect the ethos of our shared values in the way that I participate in the life and community of the school.
- Be captivated by live theatre, music or sport
- Make a commitment to a club or activity of their choice.
- Show resilience in taking on a new challenge.
- Take pride in representing their house and / or school in an activity or event.

As part of our ECS scheme there are a team of Year 8 Every Child Should Ambassadors. They promote the reward scheme in the school by talking in assemblies, visiting tutor groups and will be at our Open Evening event. They have a great understanding of how others can earn their stars and will be able to explain how they earned theirs.















HPTV

Hove Park School launced its very first, student led, TV show! HPTV is a celebration of all the amazing things that happen at Hove Park and will be shown monthly to all students.

HPTV promises to be a dynamic and interactive experience, offering a glimpse into the diverse range of activities happening within the school. From showcasing student accomplishments to highlighting extra curricular events, the show will capture the vibrant spirit of Hove Park. By featuring interviews, performances, and behind-the-scenes footage.

Through HPTV, students will gain valuable experience in media production while also strengthening their sense of belonging within the school community. The show will serve as a platform for students to share their voices, ideas, and talents with their peers, creating a sense of unity and pride.



Exams Made Easy

Many of our Year 11 students were treated to Exams Made Easy live workshops with the external provider MADE, who specialise in helping young people succeed in their exams! The students had fun putting their memory through its paces, whilst learning at the same time!

Prefects

Congratulations to Megan, Aimie-Leigh, Katherine, Josh, Farrah, Yasmine, Del, Josie, Isobelle, and Joe for their successful application to become Prefects at Hove Park.

They underwent a rigorous selection process, which included submitting a written application and participating in a short interview with the Year 9 team. Each student presented themselves exceptionally well, showcasing their outstanding qualities.

These students are eagerly anticipating the opportunity to fulfill their roles as Prefects. Bravo!

Houses of Parliament Trip

Year 10 students visited the Houses of Parliament. They had a comprehensive tour, including off-limits areas like the King's entrance, robing room, historical paintings by Daniel Maclise, and both chambers - the House of Lords and the House of Commons.

After the tour, the students participated in a seminar on laws and Parliamentary debate. They debated whether public transport should be free for under 18s. Divided into two teams, they argued for or against the motion, with the majority voting in favour.

Baroness Finlay, a distinguished speaker, shared her work and achievements with the students. She emphasized banning smoking in public places and the dangers of vaping.





Student Leaders Collaborate with Citizens UK to Drive Change in Brighton

Student leaders in each year group meet every half term to discuss three standing items that the senior student leadership team have identified as areas to work on, as part of their development plan.

One area recognised was safer spaces and an opportunity presented itself to work alongside other community groups, as part of Citizens UK – Brighton. Our senior students held local councillors to account in an assembly attended by nearly 300 participants, representing 50,000 people. They had previously taken part in a campaign to improve lighting in Hove Park, which gained local media interest and as a result the council performed a U-turn on a previous decision. Further to this, some of our lead students were invited to speak at this years manifesto launch with Citizens UK, at Brighton town hall, highlighting their hard work and outlining how it felt to be leading on change.

We listen carefully to what our students are saying and their voice is being heard. Our team will be working with other students across the city (again through Citizens UK) finding out other shared experiences. Post pandemic a lot of students have reported that feelings of anxiousness are on the increase.

We will look closely and work alongside other schools that have been successful in providing resources when funding these services has been reduced. This alongside how students are rewarded at school and increasing our work in the local community, are focal points for the upcoming academic year. Well done to all involved in a very successful year.





Equalities Team Recognised for Dedication

The Year 11 Equalities team was honoured with a special lunch to express gratitude for their remarkable dedication. They have fundraised for numerous local and international charities, assisted primary schools in establishing their own equalities groups, conducted assemblies, and motivated younger students in the school to continue their important work. Working with them has been an absolute pleasure as they have consistently demonstrated kindness, thoughtfulness, and enthusiasm. Their presence will be greatly missed next year. We are confident that they will continue their outstanding efforts in college and we wish them the best of luck.

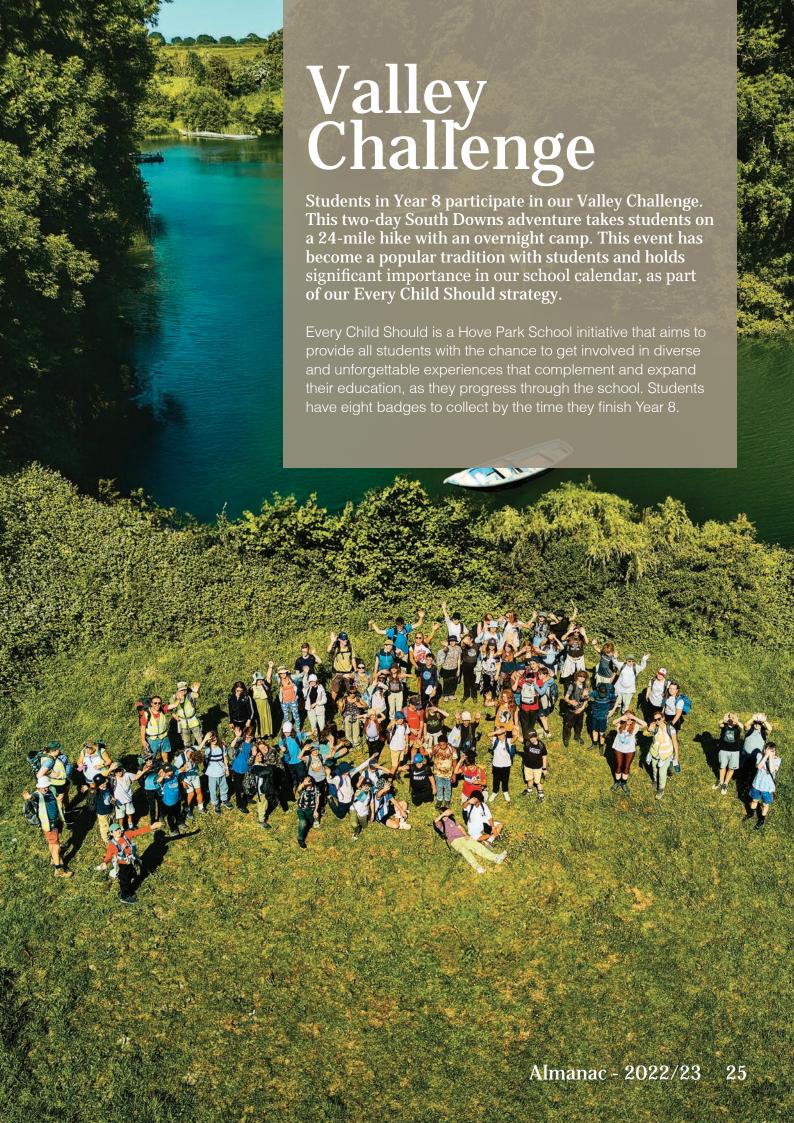
Woolly Jumper Day

Hove Park Students were encouraged to make the world better with a sweater and raise funds for the Martlets! We managed to raise a total of £531. Thank you to all the participants who joined in and contributed to this wonderful cause.

Helping Sussex Police

Our senior student leadership team played a crucial role in assisting the Sussex Police and the Police and Crime Commission in determining their priorities for young people in the county.

During their collaboration, they engaged in thoughtful discussions on various topics such as perceptions, safe spaces, crime reporting, and ideas for the future.





Students Excel in DofE Award

The Duke of Edinburgh award is an outstanding mark of achievement for a young person and it begins with the Bronze award which Hove Park offers to all students in year 9.

After enrolment last September, Year 9 students began achieving their goals in activities in three sections; volunteering, a skill and a physical activity. Many students gained credit for all the amazing things they were already doing, while setting goals within the framework of the Bronze award, to give these activities more focus such as to become a better goal-scorer, achieve level 3 piano, complete a coding project.

Many students discovered volunteering for the first time, helping in their neighbourhoods, beach cleaning, working with young people in primary schools, where they had been pupils and being a volunteer with Park Run, or even helping younger brothers and sisters with homework. Many students have completed some of their sections, others are still ongoing.

The highlight is the expedition which happened in June. Ninety students, over half of the Year 9 cohort, took the opportunity to go on the Bronze expedition.. After training in navigation and camperaft and help with planning, they completed a two day hike in the South Downs National Park in perfect summer weather, showing their ability to be self-reliant, work as a team, be resilient in the face of adversity as well as practise the life skills they had learned. Many students in year 10 also completed the Silver expedition in July and some of our students leaving this year plan to continue with Gold at college.

The programme continues this academic year and we continue to support current participants to complete their bronze before they leave.





Rainbow Flag Award

At Hove Park School, we are committed to improving the lives of all the young people we work with, and ensuring that all our community feel safe and happy at school. To support this aim, we are working with Allsorts, (an organisation that supports students within the LGBT+ community) to achieve the Rainbow Flag Award. This will enable us to identify areas we are good at, and areas we need support to improve on.

The Rainbow Flag award is a national quality assurance framework for schools and youth organisations. The award focuses on positive LGBT+ inclusion and visibility. It encourages a whole organisational approach to LGBT+ inclusion, as well as developing strategies to effectively challenge and combat LGBTphobic bullying.

The award is a year long process of self-assessment, with ongoing monitoring and feedback from Allsorts. There are six areas of assessment that need to be achieved in order to gain the award. So far, we have been accredited with the Skilled Teacher section, Inclusive Curriculum and Student Voice. We are working towards Supportive Parents and Governors, Effective Policies and Pastoral Support. We hope to have completed these sections by the end of September 2023.



Wellbeing Award

At Hove Park we have recently been awarded the prestigious Wellbeing Award for Schools for the second time, celebrating our ongoing commitment to supporting students' mental health and wellbeing. The award recognises our innovative whole school approach, as well as our specialist interventions delivered by our integrated Wellbeing Team.

The Wellbeing Award for Schools focuses on transforming the long-term culture of the entire school community. By utilising an evidence-based framework, we have been able to drive meaningful change and prioritise the mental health and wellbeing, of both staff and students. This award not only acknowledges the school's efforts in providing support, but also ensures we are continuously reviewing our staff training and policies, to ensure that wellbeing remains central to our thinking.

Showcase School Award

Our digital strategy aspires to bring out the best in all of us and prepares our students for their future careers. At Hove Park School we continue to recognise the relevance and the impact technology has on our lives. Over the last academic year, we were successful in being accepted on the Microsoft Showcase Schools incubator program. Through this, we have joined a global community of schools who use digital transformation, to inspire lifelong learning and empower their students to achieve more. Through our digital ecosystem, we aim to develop a creative and collaborative learning environment that provides our students with new ways to learn and communicate.

Peer Tutoring Empowers Students

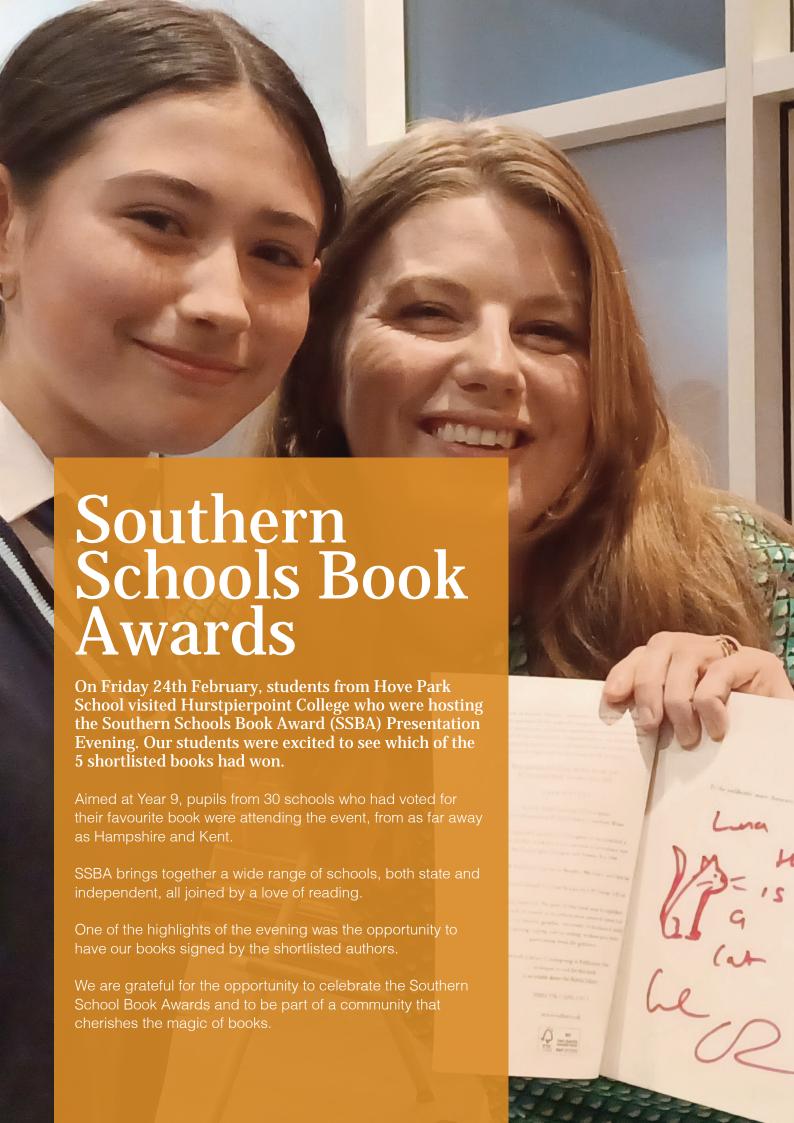
The Peer Tutoring program at Hove Park School has been successfully running for more than six years. It provides an opportunity for students to receive training at school and then apply their skills by working in local primary Schools. These Peer Tutors are student leaders who have a genuine interest in working with younger children. Over the years, we have collaborated with various primary Schools in the area, including Goldstone Primary School, Hove Junior School, Aldrington Primary and Brunswick Primary.

One of the unique aspects of our Peer Tutoring program is that the students themselves design their own activities to teach at the primary schools. This hands-on experience has proven to be incredibly valuable for them. The children at the primary schools absolutely adore having our students visit, and our students equally enjoy returning to their old stomping grounds.

This year, our students took on the challenge of creating their own maths activities and had a blast teaching these investigations to the children. This partnership between the Peer Tutors and the primary schools has had a direct impact on the students' learning within our school as well. For instance, Year 8 Peer Tutors have voluntarily come in early to tutor Year 7 students, resulting in improved performance in their classes. Some students have even been able to move up a set in maths as a result of this extra support!

Not only does participating in Peer Tutoring benefit the students academically, but it also serves as a valuable skill for their Duke of Edinburgh Award. Additionally, many of our former Peer Tutors have mentioned their involvement in Peer Tutoring in their University application forms, highlighting its significance in their personal and academic development.





World Book Day Celebrations

To commemorate this year's World Book Day, Hove Park School organised a variety of engaging activities and events.

One of the highlights of the day was a delightful World Book Day cake sale. Students and teachers alike indulged in delicious treats while supporting a good cause. In addition to the cake sale, acclaimed author Lisa Heathfield conducted an inspiring writer's workshop. Students had the opportunity to learn from a professional writer, gaining valuable insights into the craft of storytelling. Creativity was also on display with origami bookmarks being made by enthusiastic students.

Overall, the day was a resounding success, bringing the magic of books to life.

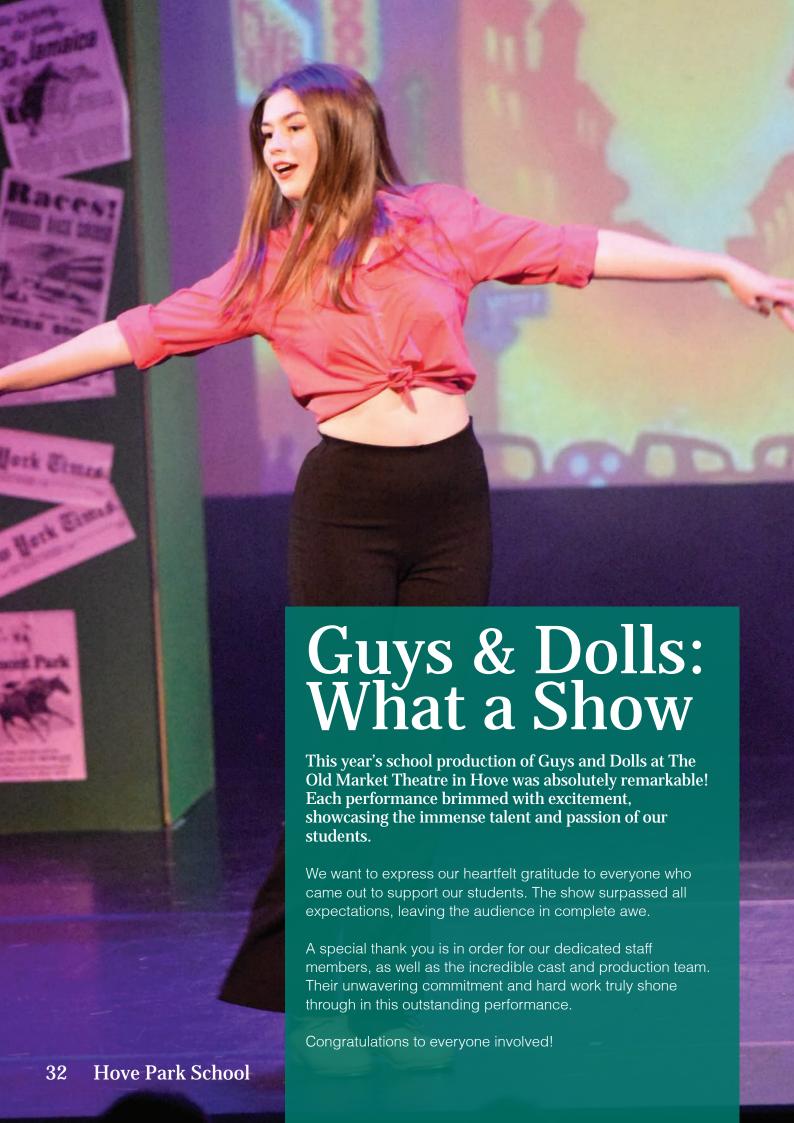
The Tempest

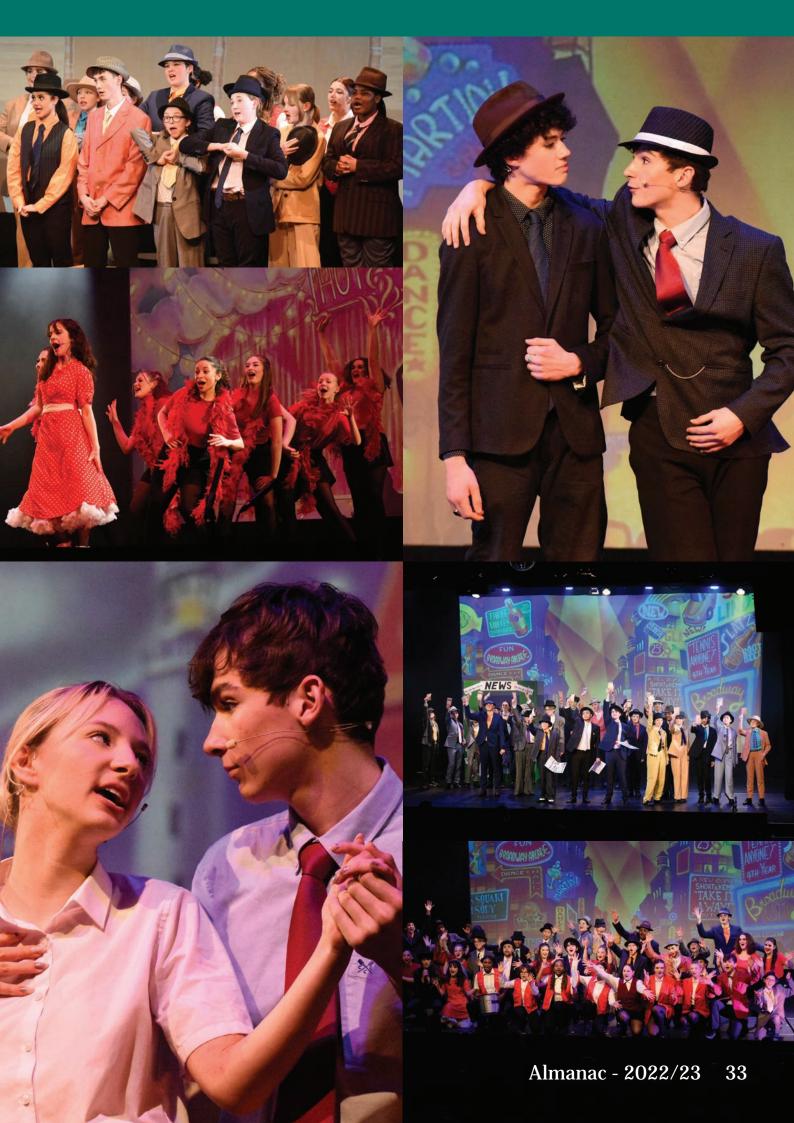
Hove Park students embarked on an excursion to witness The Tempest at London's Regent's Park Open Air Theatre. Regrettably, the weather fully embraced the play's title, as it rained incessantly throughout the day. Despite the inclement conditions, the performances were vibrant and enjoyable, with a standout portrayal by Caliban. The Year 8 students had an unforgettable experience, albeit a rather damp one.

Students Shine in Poetry Recitation

Year 10 students took to the field in the brilliant sunshine to recite (from memory) a poem from the GCSE Love & Relationships poetry anthology. They studied their chosen poem for three weeks, and their hard work was evident as they delivered their poems with confidence and style. A special mention must go to Holly, who effortlessly recited word for word the entire 60 lines of Robert Browning's epic monologue, 'Porphyria's Lover'!









Arts Festival: A Resounding Success Showcasing Student Talent

Hove Park School's Arts Festival was an incredibly successful event! The evening served as a joyous celebration of the diverse range of artistic talents within our school community. From the captivating performance of "20 Minute Romeo & Juliet" to the vibrant melodies of the live music, and from the breathtaking artwork to the exceptional photography, the festival showcased the remarkable creativity that our students possess.

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated staff members who worked tirelessly to organise this extraordinary event. Their hard work and commitment ensured that every aspect of the festival ran smoothly, allowing our students' artistic endeavors to shine brightly.

Of course, none of this would have been possible without the immense talent and dedication of our students. Their passion for art, music, and drama was evident in every piece they presented, leaving the audience in awe of their incredible abilities.

We are immensely proud of the artistic achievements of our students and look forward to future events that celebrate their talents.







Winter & Spring Concerts

The Winter and Spring Concerts at Hove Park were both incredible showcases of musical talent and dedication. The Winter Concert, hosted by Year 11 students Samin and Anageem, featured a variety of performances from students across all years. It was a resounding success and left the audience in awe.

The Spring Concert took place at the Nevill Campus in March. It was a lovely evening filled with passionate musicians and outstanding performances. Not only was it a celebration of music, but also a recognition of the hard work and dedication put in by the students.

Both concerts provided an opportunity for the school community to come together and celebrate student achievement. They were wonderful ways to end the term and left a lasting impression on everyone who attended.



GCHQ Competition

Hove Park School's three teams - The Ambitious Tough Rooks, The Sensible Superb Dolphins and The Charming Steel Mosquitos, battled with hundreds of other teams from schools across the country in last week's National Language Competition.

The teams completed a range of online challenges involving languages from Afrikaans to Japanese, in this competition organised by GCHQ, Britain's intelligence, cyber and security agency. Congratulations to Ebony, Farrah, Zara, Raul, Kitti, Yasmine, Aimie-Leigh, Ruby, and Sofia for their excellent teamwork and performance.

Virtual Study Trip to China

Year 9 Mandarin Excellence Programme (MEP) students join a 3-day virtual study trip to China. This incredible opportunity was made possible through the collaboration of the Mandarin Excellence Programme, the Center for Language Education and Cooperation (CLEC) in China, IOE (UCL's Faculty of Education and Society), and the Department for Education in England, along with the support of the British Council.

During this immersive programme, participating schools had the privilege of connecting virtually with 13 universities and two schools located in 11 different cities across China. Since its inception in 2016, approximately 10,000 students from 79 schools in England have taken part in the MEP. In March 2023, the UK Government announced plans to expand the programme over the next two years, with the goal of increasing the number of participating schools to 100 by 2025. The programme not only provides students with the opportunity to learn Mandarin Chinese from teachers and peers in China, but also aims to foster cultural understanding and mutual appreciation.





Students Attend 'Journey to the East' Event

Year 10 students from the Mandarin Excellence Programme, travelled to Birmingham for an event with Chinese students from over 50 schools nationwide.

'Journey to the East' was designed to give Year 10 students insights into the history, politics and culture of China. Students heard from renowned experts and authors on China, listened to amazing musical performances, and took part in some interesting cultural experiences including calligraphy and paper cutting led by experts.

Hove Park students said their favourite parts of the trip were the authentic Chinese meal they had on the evening they arrived, as well as the talks about Chinese anime, and a fun talk on Chinese science fiction, they also loved the musical performances.

Chinese Culture London Adventure

Year 8 MEP (Mandarin Excellence Programme) students embarked on an exciting journey to London to explore a multitude of captivating Chinese attractions. Their adventure began at the prestigious British Museum, where they immersed themselves in the awe-inspiring Chinese section, brimming with authentic and remarkable Chinese artifacts. The students were enthralled by the museum's offerings, taking their time to thoroughly investigate and absorb the cultural richness.

Following their enriching museum experience, the students strolled through the vibrant streets of Chinatown, eagerly anticipating a delightful lunch at an authentic Chinese restaurant. This was a momentous occasion for some of the students, as they had never dined in a Chinese restaurant before.

Arsenal Coach Empowers Students to Learn Arabic

12 boys from Year 9 and 10 had the incredible opportunity to participate in a football coaching session, funded by the British Council. The session was led by Steve Easton, an esteemed coach from Minglaba who has previously worked with Arsenal. Steve is also a former lead for their Double Club Languages in the Community program, which focuses on promoting languages.

The main objective of this session was to train the students to become coaches themselves, enabling them to work with students from our feeder primary schools. Additionally, the session aimed to teach Arabic through the exciting medium of football! It was an innovative approach to language learning, that combined the passion for sports with the desire to expand linguistic skills.

EF International Languages Sponsors Kit

A huge thank you to EF International Languages on behalf of Hove Park School basketball programme, for sponsoring our new basketball kit. Representatives from EF attended a handover to see the kit in action during a 3v3 tournament in our brand new Sports Hall with Mr Roberts and representatives from students in Year 9, 10 and 11.

The kit sponsorship has been immensely important in tough financial times and gives our students an aspirational basketball kit for fixtures which otherwise wouldn't have been replaced.

Students were delighted to be able to play in it at the handover, all commenting on how smart it was. The new basketball kit will ensure students are proud to represent Hove Park and be well used in future fixtures against other schools.



2016/

Almanac

New Exchange Partnerships and Cultural Immersion Opportunities for Students

As part of our commitment to developing our exchange partnerships in all languages taught in school we have this year founded a new link with a school, in the French speaking area of Wallonia in Belgium, near the Luxembourg border. The school, Athenee Royal Vielsalm – Manhay has 900 students and parallel to the usual academic subjects, offers vocational courses in cooking, patisserie and chocolate-making, hairdressing, motor, electrical and food engineering and building. Our students will be going over for the first time in the new school year to make the most of this beautiful part of the world in the Ardennes, an area also steeped in history.

We are also in the final stages of establishing a Spanish exchange with a school in Huelva in Spain. This will complete a full set of visits and exchanges in KS4, for Chinese, German, Spanish and French. This will mean that any student studying a language in KS4 will have the opportunity to immerse themselves in the languages and cultures they are studying.

At KS3 we are also going to be running a series of trips to London to explore the culture, gastronomy and history of languages taught in Y8. Trips will be similar to the one being planned for German. This will be a day trip to the Goethe Institut in London, with films and exhibitions about German life and culture followed by a meal in a German restaurant and possibly a trip to the German Consulate too!



Exploring Morocco: A World Challenge Journey

9 students from Hove Park embarked on a World Challenge trip to Morocco in July 2023. The expedition consisted of 3 phases: community, trekking, and rest and relaxation.

We started the expedition by flying into Marrakech, where we immediately felt the scorching 40-degree heat. On our first evening, we indulged in some delicious local Moroccan cuisine that exceeded all expectations.

Our next destination was Goulmima, where we began our community initiative. During our stay, we helped build a community centre. The local community warmly welcomed us, constantly treating us to tea and the delightful local Batbout bread. Despite the intense heat, our team persevered, constructing walls and windows to provide the community with a permanent place for learning and crafting, benefiting the local economy. In Goulmima, we had the privilege of spending time with a resident of the local Kasbah, engaging in a cultural exchange. We enjoyed plenty of food, tea, and dancing, creating a memorable end to this initial phase of the expedition.

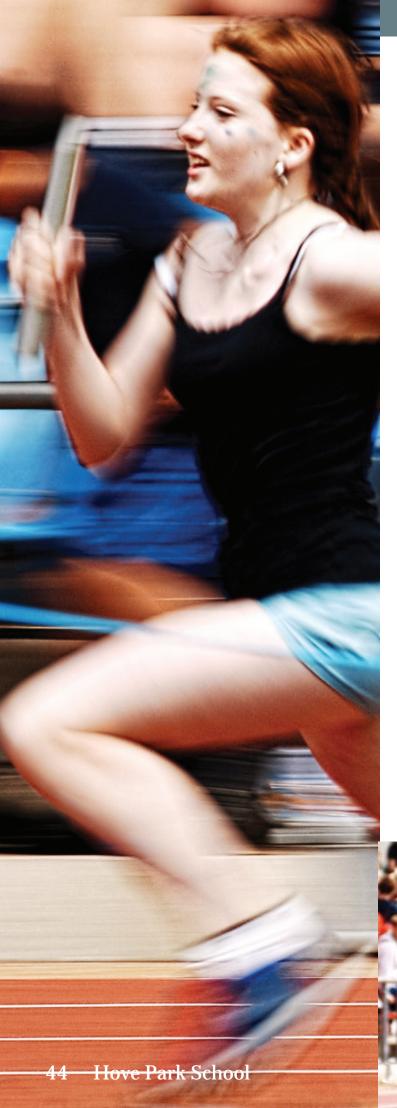
Next, it was time to escape the heat and venture into the Atlas mountains for our trekking phase. We headed to Oukaimeden, where the temperature was more bearable, preparing ourselves mentally for the challenging trek ahead.

The team performed admirably while trekking through the Atlas mountains, conquering the rugged terrain and acclimating to the high altitude (3000m). After a grueling day of trekking, we were rewarded with refreshing mint tea and generous portions of tagine, couscous, and an abundance of local Moroccan bread.

The final phase of the expedition took us to Essaouira, known as Africa's windy city, for some much-needed rest and relaxation. We immersed ourselves in the vibrant atmosphere of the Souks, taking the time to purchase well-deserved souvenirs and dine at incredible local restaurants.

After an incredible expedition, it was time to head home. The team pushed themselves to their limits and successfully battled the heat, making this an unforgettable experience for everyone involved.





A Day of Athletic Excellence and Team Spirit

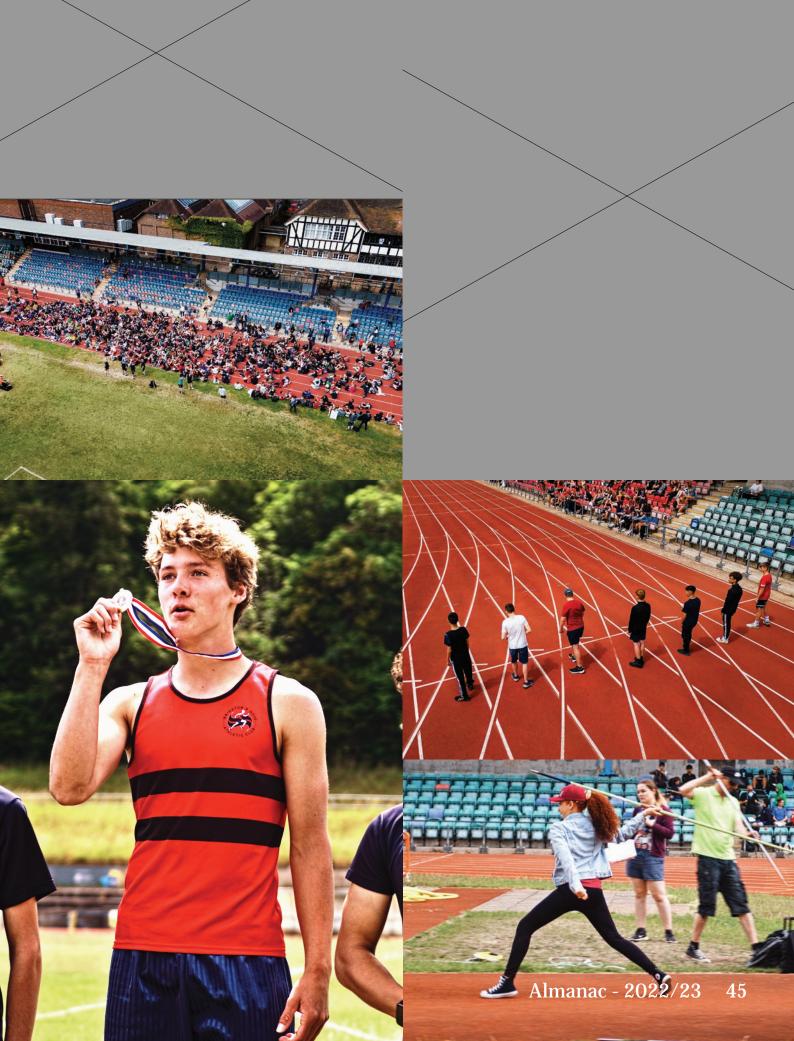
Hove Park School's Sports Day was an outstanding success! Students from Years 7 - 10 showcased their incredible athletic skills and team spirit, making it a day to remember.

The atmosphere was electric as participants competed in various track and field events, including sprint races, long jumps, relay races, long jump and more. The cheers and applause from the enthusiastic crowd added an extra boost of motivation for our talented athletes.

Not only did the students demonstrate their physical prowess, but they also displayed exceptional sportsmanship and camaraderie throughout the day. It was heartwarming to witness the support and encouragement they showed towards their fellow classmates, creating a true sense of community.

A big shout out goes to the dedicated teachers and staff who organised this fantastic event, ensuring everything ran smoothly and efficiently. Their hard work and commitment truly paid off, providing an unforgettable experience for everyone involved.

Congratulations to all the participants for their outstanding performances and congratulations to the winners who achieved remarkable results! Your determination and dedication are truly inspiring.





Let's Dance at the Dome

Hove Park performed at Let's Dance at the Dome again this year. They were performing choreography to Justin Timberlake's 'Cry Me a River'. The movement was developed by Miss Satterly inspired by an Andrew Hart piece. The dancers worked incredibly hard to learn and rehearse the dance, resulting in a stunning performance to close the show.

Swimming Gala

Some absolutely brilliant performances at the Brighton Schools swimming. A superb effort from everyone in the pool and some really great swims from every member of the team. Lots of our students competed in their first ever swimming gala and the event was a chance to shine for some of our club swimmers.

A special mention to Annabelle in Year 7 who managed to win both the breaststroke and backstroke with a third place in the freestyle. Valeria in Year 9 did superbly to achieve 2nd place in the U18s. Well done to all involved.

Year 7s National Cup Journey

Our Year 7 beat Durrington 4-2 in the third round of the National Cup. This prestigious competition, featuring a staggering 636 teams in its initial stage, propelled Hove Park into the esteemed group of the last 64 contenders. Although they faced a formidable opponent in Guldford's Rodborough School, our team put up a valiant fight and narrowly missed out on victory. Nevertheless, their performance was nothing short of exceptional, and the result they achieved is a testament to their outstanding quality.





Evie Accepted Onto Netball Development Pathway

Congratulations to Evie who successfully trialled and was accepted onto the Surrey Storm Netball U17 Player Development Pathway squad. This is also part of the England Netball Player Pathway!

Students Selected for U12 Football Squads

Huge congratulations to Clemence in Year 7 for being selected for the Under 12 Brighton Schools District Football squad! Well done, Clemence!

And let's not forget to congratulate Luciano and Tatenda for their acceptance into a highly competitive U12 Boys District team. Both boys have made significant contributions to the U12 District's outstanding start to the season, securing victories against Southampton, Bexley, West Kent, and Bromley.







Sports Leaders Shine in Local Primary School Sports Events

Hove Park School's Year 9 & 10 Sports Leaders play a crucial role in promoting and facilitating sports activities within local primary schools and communities. Recently, the Year 9 & 10 Sports Leaders showcased their dedication and skills at the Brighton & Hove Primary School Rackets Festival held at Withdean. This festival served as an opportunity to introduce young primary children to various sports like badminton, tennis, and squash. Prior to the event, the Sports Leaders underwent training to ensure they were well-prepared to assist with the smooth running of the festival and officiate games. Their efforts were commendable, and they received praise for their amazing job.



Our incredible Sports Leaders also took part in the Portslade and Hove primary school netball tournament at Hangleton Primary this year. They umpired all 33 matches flawlessly, ensuring the tournament ran smoothly. Their remarkable performance left everyone impressed. The participating schools' staff gave glowing feedback, acknowledging the outstanding work done by these students. Congratulations to all the Sports Leaders for their exceptional dedication and hard work.

Town Sports Competition

The annual Town Sports Athletics Competition at Withdean Stadium, saw the Year 7 and 8 athletics teams in action against other Brighton schools. The track and field events were fiercely contested, but our team delivered some outstanding performances, that left spectators in awe. It was heartening to see the supportive spirit of the crowd throughout the event. Congratulations to everyone who participated!

A special mention to Noah in Year 8 for an outstanding performance in the discus throwing 38.14m, not only setting a PB, but also a new championship record!



Town Sports

The Senior Town Sports Championships at Withdean, saw a turnout of 45 Year 10 and 9 Hove Park athletes. Despite the sweltering heat, the athletes delivered some remarkable individual and team performances. We would like to give a special shoutout to Tom, a Year 10 student who won the 1500m Steeple Chase and set a new championship record. Additionally, we would like to congratulate Tom and Will, both Year 10 students, for their victories in their respective events at the Sussex Schools Championships. We are proud of all our athletes who participated and gave it their all.

Students Conquer the Slopes in Austria

During the February half term holiday, 54 students from Year 9 and 11 went on a ski trip to Austria. We were thrilled to be back on the slopes after our last trip in 2020. Our destination was Nassfeld, and it did not disappoint.

Day 1 saw the groups go up the mountain on the gondola system 'The Millennium Express' and 20 minutes later, we were ready to meet the ski instructors and get started. The advanced group were instantly off exploring the resort and day 1 was brought to an end with the famous Hove Park Ski Trip Quiz.

Day 2 greeted us with sunshine and warmth. In the morning, the groups underwent assessments and once again put their skills to the test. The red, blue, and orange groups swiftly progressed to the challenging blue runs. By afternoon, these groups were conquering the highest part of the mountain, relishing the thrill of skiing throughout the entire resort. They reveled in the exhilaration of the quick, narrow, tree-lined blue runs and the vast, open reds.

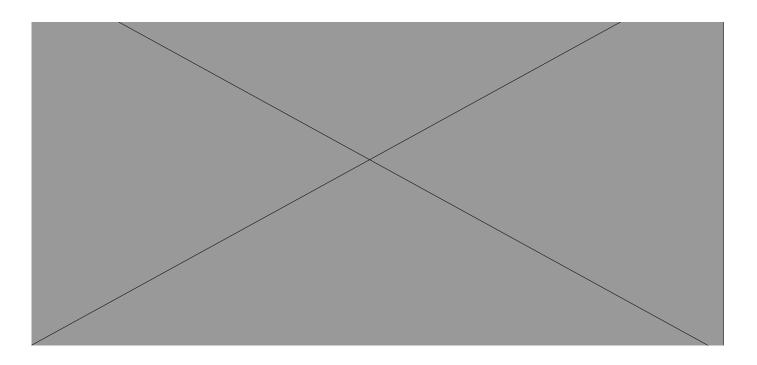
Day 2 was brought to a close by a competitive evening at the bowling alley in the nearby town of Villach.

Days 3 and 4 came and went in a blur with nearly all of the groups enjoying the 110km of skiing available in Nassfeld. The groups were even able to ski over the Italian border and enjoy a pizza for lunch. The group also enjoyed a pizza dinner at the end of Day 4.

The final day of skiing was an exhausting day after skiing for 6 hours per day throughout the week however, the groups all made excellent progress throughout the week, which was wonderful to see. The week ended with the fancy dress party where many characters from the world of film and TV could be seen!

What a week! Well done to all the students and staff that learnt to ski during the week, it was great to see you improve day after day.

Roll on Les Deux Alpes, France - Winter 2024!





Hove Park 5k: A Fantastic Community Fun Run

Hove Park School's 5k race was today and was yet again a fantastic event! This community fun run saw 400 students and some staff run a cross-country course around two local parks. We had a wonderful afternoon where the rain and wind were kind to us, students commented that it was the best one so far!

Every student received a fabulous medal, running number and wristband. Local businesses - A1 Car Search, Garden Rooms, The Space, Cafe 'O' and Oscar's On The Green all made generous donations and we thank them so much. The students also received a water bottle as a reward, even our catering company donated oranges and flapjacks!

The event was started by local personal trainer and part owner of Hove Fitness and Squash Club, Matt Lambert, who also warmed up the runners with his stretching exercises. Brighton Marathon even lent us their inflatable starting arch two days before the actual Brighton Marathon!

The race was won by Freddie (Year 10) and Clemence (year 7). They were both presented with a fantastic trophy each, these were generously supplied and funded by Hangleton Rangers Football Club. Mr Roberts shook every child's hand at the end and presented every child with their medal!

This event involves a huge amount of organisation and would not be possible without the dedicated team of Hove Park Staff who help make this fun run a real community event.





STEM Clubs

Both STEM clubs have been very busy – at Valley, we have been making trebuchets and exploring chemical reactions; at Nevill we have been investigating the chemical composition and 'crispiness' of crisps.

We also sent fifteen Year 8s to act as our very own STEM ambassadors to Brunswick Primary to help with their sustainable science week. Our students demonstrated how wind turbines create electricity and were highly commended by their teaching staff for their articulate and thoughtful presentations.

Hove Park Dominates Faraday Engineering Challenge Day

Hove Park School recently hosted the first-ever Faraday Engineering Challenge Day, a prestigious competition for 12-13 year olds that attracts participants from across the nation. This exciting event brought together two teams of Year 8 students from Hove Park, who showcased their incredible talent and ingenuity as they competed against teams from four other local schools.

Throughout the day, the students were immersed in a range of thrilling activities, including building, circuit construction, and rigorous testing. Their unwavering dedication and perseverance paid off, as our home team emerged victorious, proudly claiming the highly sought-after trophy. As an additional recognition of their outstanding performance, each team member was presented with a £10 gift voucher.

The judge showered our team with high praise, commending their exceptional skills and innovative approach. As a result of their remarkable achievement, our team currently holds an impressive 5th position in the national rankings, surpassing over 150 other participating schools. This accomplishment serves as a testament to the hard work and determination exhibited by our incredibly talented students.

Digital Day

Year 9 Computer Science and Creative Media students took part in Digital Day, a nationwide event which gives 11-16 year olds an insight into a world of digital careers. Students compete in a sponsored, nationwide digital challenge for a chance to win £500 cash for their school and some fantastic prizes for themselves.

Our partners were local digital recruitment firm Digital Grads, who came in and worked throughout the day with the students on 2 creative briefs set by Primark and Royal Mail. Our students did fantastically well, producing 6 competition entries and presenting them to staff and the @ DigitalGradsUK team.

STEM Centre

Students from Year 11 attended the opening of the Varndean College STEM centre. They experienced a Chemistry demonstration, a variety of masterclasses in their chosen subjects of engineering, forensics and biology and an inspiring speech from Professor Robert Winston. They even had time to catch up with a certain ex-head student to learn about life at Varndean College.

British Science Week

To celebrate the British Science Week theme of Connections, 15 classes of Year 7s and 8s joined a Zoom call to celebrated physicist Dr Karl Kruszelnicki in Sydney, to question him about burning scientific questions. From our students, three that were particularly interesting were:

'what can we do about climate change?' 'can we prevent bacterial resistance?' and....

'what happens when you fart in space!?'

He also shared the idea that due to modern technology, all students are now more intelligent than their teachers, a theory we are very much looking forward to them demonstrating!





Creative Art Showcase

Hove Park School students across different year groups have been actively participating in a variety of artistic activities.

In Year 7, the students have been engaging in clay sculpting, inspired by the renowned artist Kimmy Cantrell. They have also explored card relief, wax resist techniques, and incorporated elements from Cubism and African artefacts.

Moving on to Year 8, the focus has been on developing painterly skills. The students have delved into techniques such as sgraffito, dry brushing, washing, layering, and scumbling. Through these techniques, they have learned how to create textures and layers of colour to express their own unique artistic responses. Artists like David Hockney, Jade Fadojutimi, Andre Derain and local sea/cliff scape artist John Piper have served as inspiration for their work.

Year 9 students have been building upon their GCSE coursework portfolio and exploring the art of portraiture. They have honed their observation skills, analyzed facial features, and tapped into their creative right brain, to create expressive marks. Additionally, they have experimented with different paper and colour to achieve impactful outcomes. The exploration of distortion, mood and surrealism has played a significant role in this process, allowing the students to develop their own personal approaches to portraiture.

In Year 10, the theme of "telling stories" has sparked enthusiasm among the students, inspiring them to create artwork based on their individual interests and influences from books, film, animation and illustration. This project has been highly popular, providing the students with an opportunity to explore a wide range of techniques and processes.





Year 11 Showcase Exceptional Artwork

We were thrilled to participate in the May Brighton and Hove Artists' Open Houses! Our talented Year 11 students displayed their incredible GCSE artwork, allowing them to showcase their skills in a professional environment and within our community. Additionally, we extended an invitation to artists from our school community to join us and exhibit their work. Visitors had the chance to admire the art, indulge in tea and cake, and celebrate our students' remarkable creative accomplishments!

Children's Parade

Hove Park School had an absolutely fantastic time at the Children's Parade! The preparation leading up to this event was substantial, involving collaboration with Same Sky to construct a magnificent sculpture of a big top circus tent made from willow and paper mache.

Additionally, acrobatic figure sculptures inspired by the renowned artist John Rombola were created. The music department contributed to the festivities with their drumming and percussion, which helped us march through town with vigour. We also had some talented dancers leading the way at the front. On the day of the parade, our students were nothing short of amazing, and we received incredible support from parents and carers, within the school community. It was truly a day to remember!





Hove Park School Almanac 2022-23