



# Hove Park School

*“Together We Achieve”*

## Almanac 2023-24

al·ma·nac (ôl' mə-nāk', ăl'-)

*n.*

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

# 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 students have travelled to Tanzania and China as well as demonstrating their resilience in completing the Valley Challenge, Big Camp and Duke of Edinburgh Award. These are just a few of the amazing opportunities that students at Hove Park can get involved in. We continue to lead the teaching of science across our network of primary and secondary schools, as lead hub for the Ogden Trust. We are also driving the teaching of languages across the South East region as one of only 15 Language Hubs nationally, in the new DfE Languages strategy. Our Wellbeing Award for Schools (July 2023) highlights the important 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 in-line with the national average, with 67% of all grades marked as passes.

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. They have shown incredible resilience and determination in navigating the challenges of the last few years. These results are a true reflection of student commitment to their studies, high-quality teaching and caring pastoral support. We wish them all the very best and look forward to hearing about all their future successes'.*

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

*We are thrilled to jointly celebrate the remarkable achievements of our students across Brighton and Hove. Through steadfast partnership and collaboration, our schools have collectively ensured that every child in our city has access to a high-quality education, enabling them to make significant progress.*

*We take immense pride in the exam results this year, which reflect fantastic levels of attainment and achievement across all schools in Brighton and Hove. These results are a testament to the hard work and resilience of a brilliant group of students, as well as the unwavering commitment of our schools to practice joint development and collaborative efforts for the benefit of every young person in our city.*

*The success of the 'Class of 2024' is a shared accomplishment, and we are extremely proud of each student. We wish them all the very best for their future endeavours and are confident that they will continue to thrive and excel.*





A group of six students, three boys and three girls, are standing in a line on a red carpet. They are all wearing bright yellow t-shirts with a small logo on the left chest. Behind them is a large, colorful climbing wall with various holds in red, blue, green, and orange. To the left of the students is a man in a dark blue jacket, and to the right is a man in a dark suit and glasses, identified as HRH Prince Edward. The students are looking towards the camera with neutral to slightly smiling expressions.

# HRH Prince Edward Visit

Hove Park students participating in the Duke of Edinburgh Award had the opportunity to meet HRH Prince Edward at Boulder Brighton. Six students, who were either completing or had finished their Bronze DofE award, were selected for this special meeting.

During his visit, Prince Edward observed the progress of the DofE award in the city. The students engaged with him in group discussions about the award, demonstrated their bouldering skills, and shared their enthusiasm for the program. Raul also explained the climbing grading system at the center.

All the students were involved in the Bronze award, with some using bouldering for their physical section. They described the afternoon as fantastic, noting how approachable Prince Edward was and what a memorable occasion it had been.

# Proud to be a Languages Hub

Having served as a language hub for a year now, we are proud of the progress we've made and remain committed to advancing language education through a variety of impactful initiatives.

Hove Park School is one of only 15 schools nationally to achieve the prestigious role of lead Languages Hub school for the National Consortium for Languages Education (NCLE). Through a highly competitive process last year, we earned final endorsement from the DfE. Our focus this year has been to support a network of schools in the area and address the most important educational imperatives as the country works towards the aspirations of a Global Britain. The key aims of the Languages Hubs are:

- 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 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 we are proud to celebrate 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.





# 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 have been working with Allsorts, (an organisation that supports students within the LGBT+ community) to achieve the Rainbow Flag Award.

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. We are excited to share the news that we fulfilled all the requirements of the course, and Hove Park have now been awarded Rainbow Flag status.

The award was a year long process of self-assessment, with ongoing monitoring and feedback from Allsorts. There are six areas of assessment that we have achieved in order to gain the award. The areas accredited include; the Skilled Teacher section, Inclusive Curriculum, Student Voice, Supportive Parents and Governors, Effective Policies and Pastoral Support.

We will continue to work with All Sorts to ensure our provision and support for our LGBT+ community remains a focus for the school.



# Primary Festive Roadshow

At the start of the academic year a group of Year 9 and 10 Peer Tutors embarked on a Primary Festive Roadshow to 3 of our local primary schools.

We visited over 200 students ranging from Year 3-Year 6 at Aldrington Church of England Primary, The Bilingual School and Stanford Juniors. Our Peer Tutors delivered a series of seasonal festive phrases to the students in 4 languages – Chinese, French, Spanish and German!

Our students received considerable praise from the staff and students at all the schools and Mrs Hunt and Mr Sandford were very proud of their commitment to the ethos of our primary outreach work. Students presented all the activities and worked in groups to really embed the languages. A huge pat on the back for all those involved!





# Benfield Valley Hike

The entire Year 7 cohort embarked on an adventurous hike up to Devil's Dyke as part of the Benfield Valley Hike, marking a significant milestone in their school journey. The day was filled with excitement and anticipation as students set off to explore the stunning landscapes of the South Downs. Despite the rain that briefly passed over, spirits remained high, and the students demonstrated remarkable resilience and determination. The hike provided an excellent opportunity for students to bond with their peers, enjoy the beauty of nature, and challenge themselves physically. Reaching the top of Devil's Dyke was a rewarding experience, offering breathtaking views and a sense of accomplishment. This memorable day not only highlighted the students' perseverance but also their ability to work together and support one another. Congratulations to Year 7 for achieving such an amazing accomplishment and for making the most of this enriching outdoor adventure!



# Legal & General Visit

A group of our fortunate Year 10 students recently had an incredible day at Legal & General. They participated in an engaging music industry game that offered them valuable insights into teamwork, creativity, and pitching skills. Throughout the day, students collaborated with peers, developing innovative ideas and honing their communication abilities. This event was made possible by our fantastic partners IntoUniversity, who helped organise the day to ensure it was both educational and enjoyable. It was truly inspiring to see the students' confidence and ideas grow as they tackled various challenges. A heartfelt thank you to Legal & General and IntoUniversity for providing such a transformative and enriching opportunity for our students.









# Enrichment Days: Fostering Learning Beyond the Classroom

Six days per year are dedicated to Enrichment 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 included: Dance Day workshops, Gang Awareness presentations, Animazing presentations, Bollywood Dance sessions, and thought-provoking drama performances.







# Awards Evening

Over 100 students shone at Hove Park's annual Awards Evening at The Old Market.

Students across all year groups and faculties received awards, cups and shields for outstanding achievements and progress in learning. This year, we also added special cups to honour our school's Shared Values.

The evening wasn't just about accolades; we also welcomed a special guest, Councillor Bella Sankey, who highlighted her inspirations, celebrated our students and talked about the exciting plans for our city.

Stunning individual and group performances saw the wealth of Hove Park School's creative talent on show including reprisals of Dance At The Dome and Sister Act, and some particularly memorable musical performances.

Congratulations to our talented students and special thanks to our hard-working staff who made this night a success!







# Student Leaders

Year 8 Student Leaders are a group of exceptional students who have achieved all eight Every Child Should stars, by the end of Year 7. Their dedication and hard work have allowed them to explore new experiences and conquer challenges, that pushed them beyond their limits. From representing the school to taking on new challenges, joining clubs, assisting at parents' evenings, contributing to food fairs, and even participating in the HPS 5k race, these students have shown incredible determination and growth.

To further nurture their leadership skills, the Year 8 Student Leader Program offers a series of challenges divided into three distinct colours: blue, green, and red. Each student proudly wears a shield-shaped badge corresponding to the colour they are currently undertaking.

Already, the Year 8 Student Leaders have held a meeting to plan various house activities within their tutor groups. These activities include: organising ice cream and book sales, contributing to Hove Park TV by filming club

activities and conducting student interviews, as well as assisting with tours during the upcoming Open Evening. Their commitment to making a positive impact on the school community is truly commendable.

Here are some words from the Year 8 Student Leaders:

'I like being a student leader because it helps me boost my confidence and I can step out of my comfort zone. There are many fun activities to do to help the school such as hosting a club or presenting in an assembly and you can have nice badges!'

**Zoe Year 8**

'...I can accomplish new challenges and do things I would never normally do at school! It also allows me to step out of my comfort zone. Another reason is it allows me to build up my confidence when talking to other people.'

**Lily Year 8**





# Sea Swimming

At Hove Park, we relish learning beyond the classroom. This year 31 Year 7 students participated in a sea swimming event at Brighton beach, focusing on tides and sea safety.

The day started with a safety briefing on tides and currents, equipping students with essential knowledge. They then practiced swimming and explored tidal movements through interactive activities, reinforcing their curriculum and fostering teamwork.

This hands-on experience boosted students' confidence and respect for nature, embodying our commitment to holistic education.







# Ski Trip to Les Deux Alpes

Hove Park School embarked on an exhilarating ski trip to the stunning slopes of Les Deux Alpes this year, providing students with an unforgettable experience in the heart of the French Alps. Over the course of a few fantastic days, our students embraced the snowy adventure, honing their skiing skills and creating lasting memories.

For many of our beginners, the trip was an introduction to the world of skiing. Under the guidance of experienced instructors, they quickly learned the essentials of turning and stopping, and by the end of the first day, they were confidently navigating the slopes like pros.

The rapid progress and enthusiasm displayed by our students was truly commendable, setting the tone for an exciting and rewarding trip. The instructors were impressed by the students' eagerness to learn and their ability to adapt to the challenges of skiing. Each day brought new opportunities for growth, as students tackled more complex slopes and refined their techniques. The supportive environment fostered a sense of achievement and boosted the students' confidence, encouraging them to push their boundaries and enjoy the thrill of skiing. Additionally, the breathtaking alpine scenery provided a stunning backdrop, enhancing the overall experience and inspiring students to appreciate the beauty of nature.

To celebrate their achievements, we held daily awards for 'skiers of the day,' recognising those who showed exceptional skill, improvement, or sportsmanship. Beyond the slopes, students enjoyed exploring the local town, including a fun-filled evening out for pizza, which added to the camaraderie and enjoyment of the trip. The shared experiences and laughter during these outings strengthened friendships and created a sense of community among the students.

Here's to our Ski Trip 2025!







# Life Saving Winner

Tegan proudly represented Brighton Surf Life Saving Club at the Wessex Regionals, Eastern Regionals, and National Championships last summer. She achieved remarkable success, earning numerous medals and claiming the title of board champion in her age group.

Life Saving is an exhilarating and demanding sport that puts athletes' skills and physical fitness to the test. Competitors must excel in various water and land-based disciplines, including: swimming, board paddling, board and tube rescues, beach sprints, and flags. These events can be participated in individually or as part of a team.

Brighton SLSC conducts training sessions every Saturday in the sea near the Sea Lanes, supplemented by additional pool-based training during the week.





# Food Festivals

Students from Equalities groups from Years 7 to 11 organised 2 international food fairs this year to celebrate diversity and raise money for local charities. The variety of food on offer was nothing short of spectacular, and many students enjoyed wearing traditional clothing from different cultures.

The students put a great deal of time and effort into planning these highly colourful, visually exciting and very professional events, where food from many cultures and nationalities is shown off and shared amongst peers and staff alike!

The festivals are always a huge success, enjoyed by both peers and staff alike. Congratulations to all those involved!



# Brighton & Hove Albion Trip

As part of a diversity programme run jointly by the AMEX and Brighton & Hove Albion, a group of students from Hove Park were offered the opportunity of a lifetime - hospitality tickets to a Brighton Women's match, a three-course meal with unlimited snacks and boxes of pies to take home, premier seats at the match, plus meeting a player after the game!

# Sustainability Champions

Our first group of Sustainability Champions took part in a One City, One World leadership training event to prepare them for a Student Summit that was held in December.

Hove Park joined a city-wide initiative to promote Net Zero by 2030 and enable all of our students to become citizens of the future, campaigning for a greener school and city.

# Climate Summit

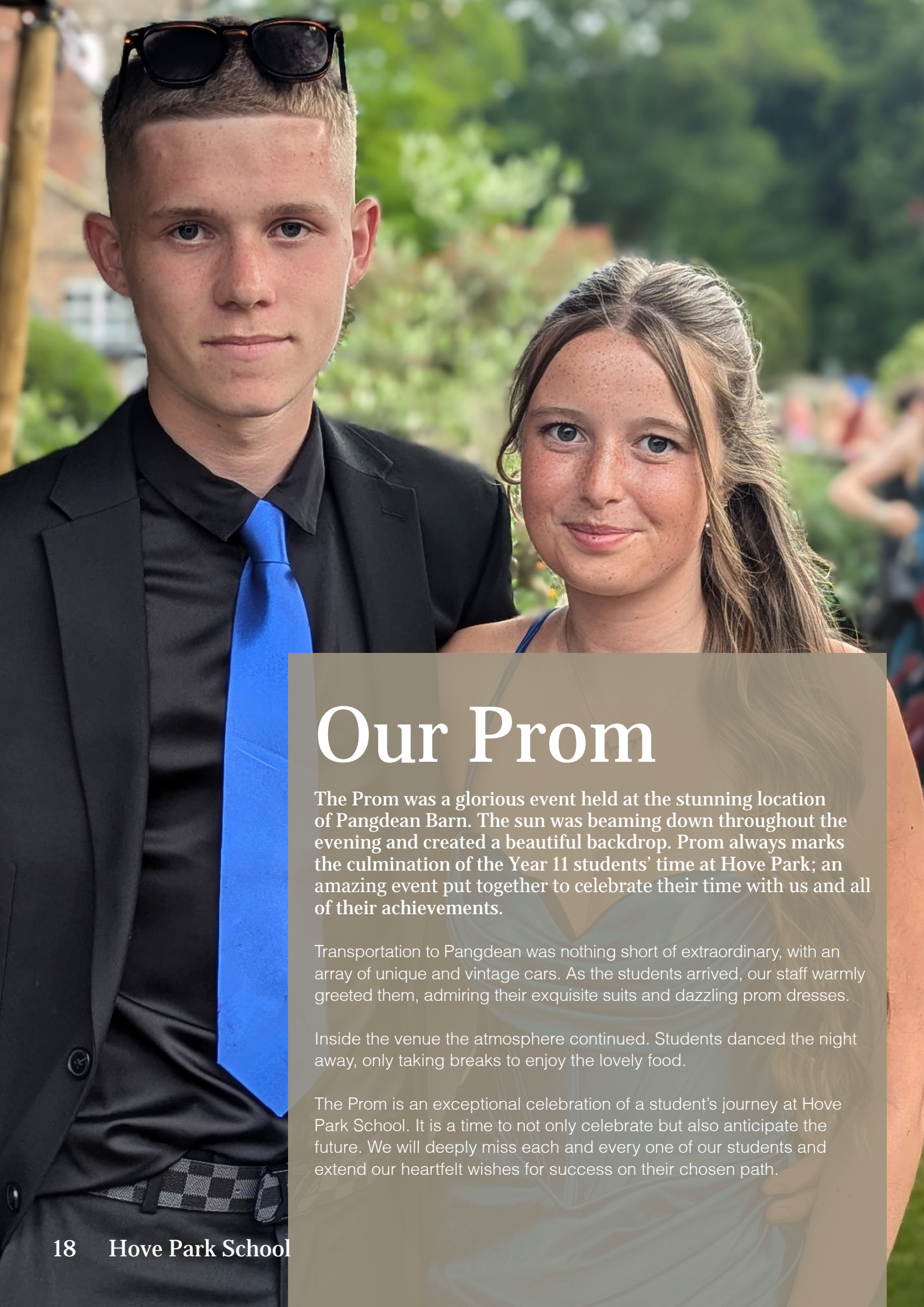
Our Sustainability Student Leaders took part in a Climate Summit to pitch their plan for a greener city to local leaders and other schools.

Our theme was transport and they made an impassioned and well-researched presentation about how we can improve transport across the city. Other schools gave talks on energy, biodiversity and water but it was the waste presentation that convinced the voters, with transport coming in a close second.

Heads from all the secondaries made pledges on how we can make our schools greener, and following on from this our Sustainability Team will start campaigning to reduce plastic waste in schools.







# Our Prom

The Prom was a glorious event held at the stunning location of Pangdean Barn. The sun was beaming down throughout the evening and created a beautiful backdrop. Prom always marks the culmination of the Year 11 students' time at Hove Park; an amazing event put together to celebrate their time with us and all of their achievements.

Transportation to Pangdean was nothing short of extraordinary, with an array of unique and vintage cars. As the students arrived, our staff warmly greeted them, admiring their exquisite suits and dazzling prom dresses.

Inside the venue the atmosphere continued. Students danced the night away, only taking breaks to enjoy the lovely food.

The Prom is an exceptional celebration of a student's journey at Hove Park School. It is a time to not only celebrate but also anticipate the future. We will deeply miss each and every one of our students and extend our heartfelt wishes for success on their chosen path.





# OUR PROM





# 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 fire lighting, team challenges and shelter building. 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

Every Child Should (ECS) is a Hove Park School initiative, to ensure that all students get the opportunity to participate in a variety of memorable and enriching experiences, as they journey through the school, which in turn will complement and broaden their education.

Each theme is represented by a coloured star badge, that students can wear on their blazers. The challenge is for students to achieve all 8 badges by the time they leave the Valley campus, at the end of Year 8 and move to begin their GCSE courses, on the Nevill campus.



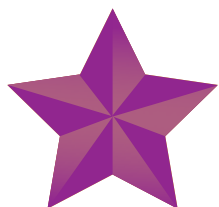
Every Child Should gives our students the opportunity to spend time with their friends, taking part in a variety of school activities and events that we know are beneficial to their wellbeing and happiness.

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 my choice.
- Show resilience in taking on a new challenge.
- Take pride in representing my 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.

The success of Hove Park's Every Child Should initiative has been so remarkable that it has been captured on film and is now available for viewing at [www.hovepark.org.uk/every-child-should](http://www.hovepark.org.uk/every-child-should). This program has significantly enriched our students' educational journey by offering them diverse and memorable experiences.







# Fun Run

Hove Park School was buzzing with excitement and energy as students and teachers came together for our annual Fun Run. This event wasn't just about running; it was a celebration of community spirit.

The afternoon kicked off with a warm-up session led by local personal trainer and part-owner of Hove Fitness and Squash Club, Matt Lambert. Everyone stretched and got their hearts racing in preparation for the run.

As the whistle blew, waves of runners set off on the track that wound through the school grounds and a local park. Some were in it to win, sprinting ahead with determination, while others took a more leisurely pace, enjoying the journey with friends.

The winners this year were Tom, Year 11 (whose brother won last year's race) and Bethany, Year 8. A total of 250 students ran and again the event was sold out with students from Year 7 to Year 11 and some brave staff!



# Maia Chosen by English Youth Ballet to Perform Coppélia

Our Year 11 Team were thrilled to announce that Maia has been selected by the prestigious English Youth Ballet, to perform in the classic production of Coppélia at the Hawth Theatre in Crawley. This opportunity marks a significant milestone in Maia's dance journey, offering her a platform to showcase her talent on a professional stage. The rigorous selection process and Maia's dedication to her craft have culminated in this fantastic experience, highlighting her exceptional skills and passion for ballet.

In addition to Maia's achievement, a group of students from our school had the unique opportunity to attend a full dress rehearsal of the ballet. This invitation allowed them to witness the intricate details and behind-the-scenes efforts that go into a professional ballet production. Watching Maia's captivating performance was a highlight for the students, who were inspired by her grace and poise on stage. The rehearsal provided an educational experience, offering insights into the world of professional dance and the dedication required to excel in such a demanding art form.

The students thoroughly enjoyed the performance, gaining a deeper appreciation for ballet and the arts. This experience not only celebrated Maia's success but also enriched the cultural education of our students, fostering a greater understanding and love for the performing arts. The event was a testament to the talent within our school and the opportunities available to our students to pursue their passions and achieve excellence.







# Hove Park Students Cheer on Fat Boy Slim

On Wednesday 27th September Fatboy Slim completed a half marathon walk around the majority of the Brighton & Hove 'Shaun by the Sea' sculptures, to raise funds for Martlets. Hove Park students were one of two schools invited to participate in a portion of the walk alongside Norman Cook. Eleanor and Eleni from Year 9 and Milo, Amber and Sonny from Year 8, the winning artists from Hove Park School's Shaun the Sheep design competition, cheered on Norman Cook through the Brighton Lanes, visiting 7 sculptures along the way.

Each Shaun sculpture has been hand-painted by an artist and sponsored by local businesses and organisations creating fantastic community connections. The Art Trial, by Martlets Hospices and Wild in Art, is set up to raise life-changing care for terminally ill patients and their families. All 42 individually designed sculptures and 1 bench were auctioned off at the end of November with all proceeds going to the Martlets.

It was a fabulous atmosphere as students cheered on Fat Boy Slim while he posed for selfies by the beautifully painted Shaun Sculptures. They handed out Shaun stickers and drummed up fantastic encouragement from the crowds and passers-by! The students visited: The Shaun Regent by Kirsty Davidson, Beats and Blossoms by Claire Havell, Shaun the Shapes by Mister Phil, Happy Planet by Kat Irvine, Gratitude by Emma Fish, Anarchy in the Ewe-K by Francesca McLeod and Eden by Hove Park art teacher Katherine Griffin. One of the highlights of the day was when the students performed a dance for Norman Cook who said 'It made his day!'

The winning Hove Park School design, a steam punk inspired Shaun by the very talented Eleanor was displayed at our Hangleton Library in the form of Gerald the Mechanical Marvel, mini Shaun.





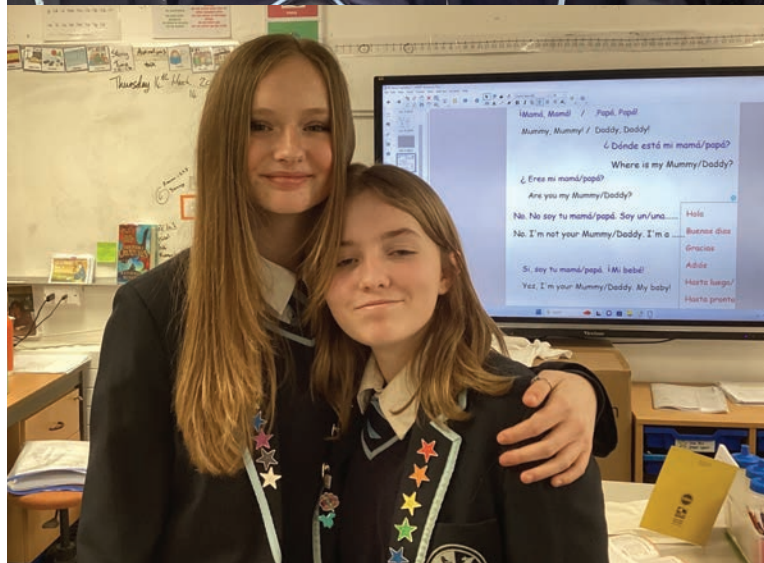
# Peer Tutoring Empowers Students

The Peer Tutoring program at Hove Park School has been successfully running for more than seven 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.







# Christmas Market

Thank you to everyone who made our Christmas Market a success! The event was a festive celebration, bringing together students, staff, families, and the local community in a joyful atmosphere.

The market featured a variety of stalls with local sellers and artisans showcasing handmade crafts, unique gifts, and delicious holiday treats. Visitors enjoyed browsing through ornaments, jewellery, homemade jams, and baked goods, finding something special for everyone.



# Black History Month

Students from our Equalities Groups recently delivered assemblies to their peers to celebrate Black History Month. The Year 10 Equalities Group presented an assembly to Year 9, and also presented to their own year group.

They spoke with incredible maturity and confidence, with two students agreeing to stand in for students who were unwell on the day. They should all be congratulated for being such positive role models.



# Diversity Workshop

Students from the Year 7 and 8 Equalities group attended their third diversity workshop, in partnership with AMEX. The theme was anti-racism, and students discussed stereotypes, discrimination and how to be an ally. Their behaviour was exemplary, and the volunteers from AMEX were impressed with their maturity and sensitivity. Well done to all students involved for being great ambassadors for the school.





# Valley Challenge

Students in Year 8 participate in our Valley Challenge. This two-day South Downs adventure takes students on a 24-mile hike with an overnight camp. This event has become a popular tradition with students and holds significant importance in our school calendar, as part of our Every Child Should strategy.

Every Child Should is a Hove Park School initiative that aims to provide all students with the chance to get involved in diverse and unforgettable experiences that complement and expand their education, as they progress through the school. Students have eight badges to collect by the time they finish Year 8.







# 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. 130 students, over half of the Year 9 cohort, took the opportunity to go on the Bronze Expedition. After training in navigation and campcraft 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 October 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.









# Tanzania

Ten Key Stage 4 students embarked on an enriching two-week expedition in Tanzania, filled with diverse activities and learning experiences. During their stay, they collaborated closely with a local charity to establish a sustainable farming area at a primary school. This involved planting banana trees and various vegetables, which not only helped feed the local children but also provided a source of income for the school, ensuring its sustainability and growth.

In addition to their work at the school, the students spent several days camping with the Maasai, a unique opportunity that allowed them to immerse themselves in the local culture and traditions. They participated in safari walks, where they had the chance to observe giraffes and other wildlife in their natural habitat, further enhancing their understanding of the region's biodiversity.

Throughout the expedition, the students served as excellent ambassadors for their school and local community, demonstrating responsibility, teamwork, and cultural sensitivity. They eagerly anticipated the upcoming safari and trekking phase, which promised even more adventures and learning opportunities, allowing them to deepen their appreciation for the natural world and the diverse cultures within it.









# Jamie Littler Visit

What an amazing assembly Year 7 experienced with the author: Jamie Littler! Jamie captured our students with his energetic talk about writing and illustrating books.

His 'live' draw along entertained everyone and some creative characters were captured on paper by our Year 7 students. Students are looking forward to reading his books – especially 'Arkspire'.



# World Book Day Celebrations

We have been celebrating World Book Day with a variety of events and activities. Year 8 students have taken part in a Malorie Blackman on-line British Library author talk; we have also had our Year 7 and 8 students reading and researching for the National Literacy Trust competition 'We Wonder: Journey into Space'. A group of KS4 students were also involved in the Southern School Book Awards and attended the prestigious evening event at Hurstpierpoint College where they met the shortlist authors.

On World Book Day, a group of Year 10 students went on a visit to the Jubilee Library in Brighton where they were given a tour of the Library and shown all the amazing facilities on offer: book loans, café, free wi-fi and charging, study spaces, Rare Books Room, Business & IP Area (free advice on starting your own business), and the students also joined the Library and came away with their Library card and some book loans. Some students also registered interest in the Youth Volunteering opportunities in the Library that are available in summer term.

## Origami Trees

These are the latest KS3 Origami and Book Making Club creations - book folding festive trees. Students upcycled a book, carefully folded 100 pages then decorated their 'trees' with ribbons, stars and jewels.

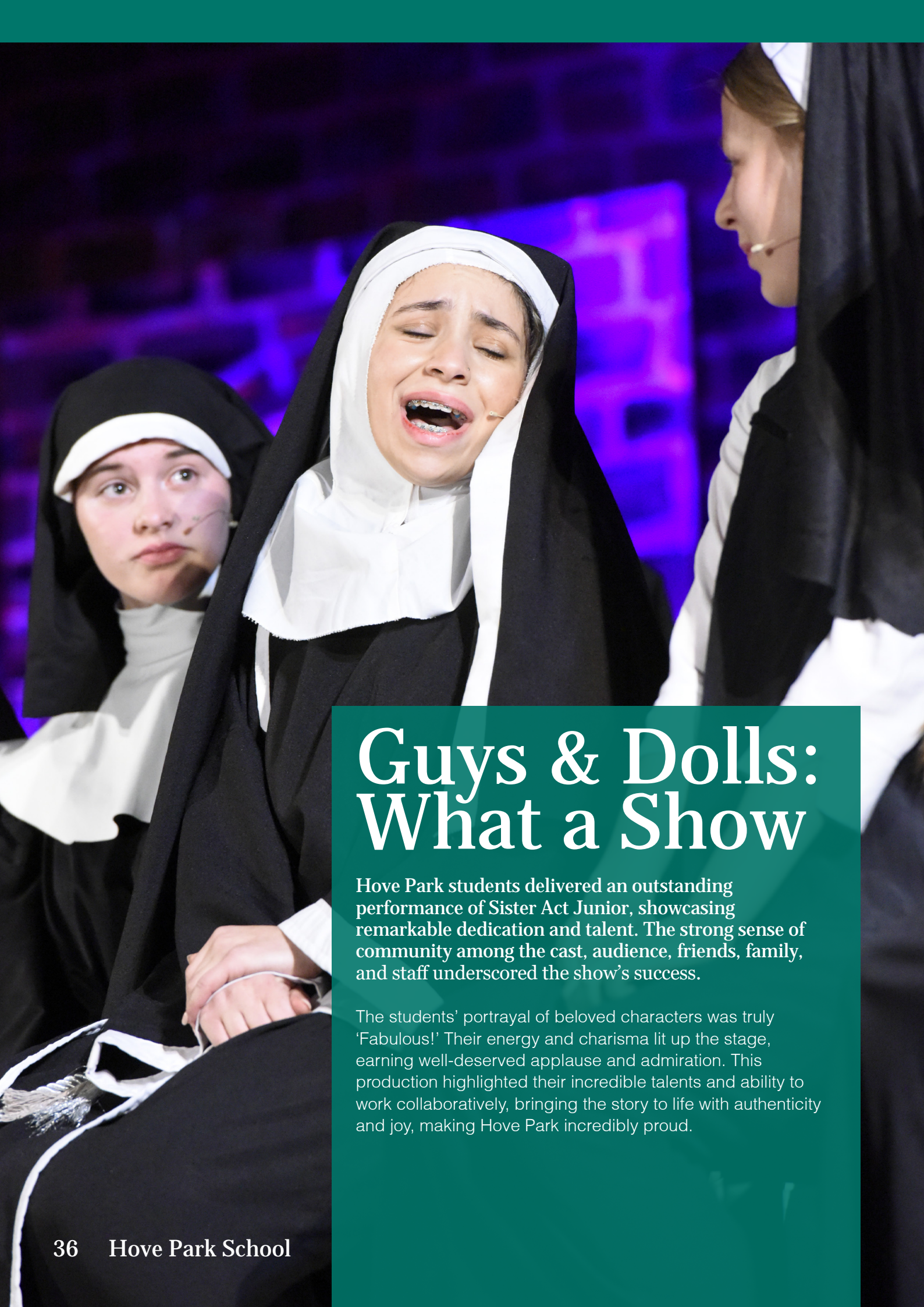
## Sparks Reader

This year we have been using Sparx Reader which has encouraging students to read for pleasure and explore a wide range of genres. Sparx Reader aims to get all young people reading regularly to build reading confidence. Up until 27th June our students read a whopping 1,426 books which equates to 6,086 reading hours. Well done to all our students for engaging in reading on Sparx.



Your students have completed  
**6,086 hours**  
of careful reading this year in Sparx Reader.  
Great effort!





# Guys & Dolls: What a Show

Hove Park students delivered an outstanding performance of *Sister Act Junior*, showcasing remarkable dedication and talent. The strong sense of community among the cast, audience, friends, family, and staff underscored the show's success.

The students' portrayal of beloved characters was truly 'Fabulous!' Their energy and charisma lit up the stage, earning well-deserved applause and admiration. This production highlighted their incredible talents and ability to work collaboratively, bringing the story to life with authenticity and joy, making Hove Park incredibly proud.







# Arts Festival: A Resounding Success Showcasing Student Talent

Hove Park School's Arts Festival was an incredibly successful event! The evening was a joyous celebration of the diverse range of talents within our school community. From the captivating performance of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, to the vibrant melodies of the live music, 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 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.





# German Exchange

**Our German Exchange Students spent the day with their German Counterparts in Brighton on Tuesday 7th November.**

They began the day by visiting the Royal Pavilion on a self-guided tour which also saw a mock wedding set up and an explanation of how the meat kitchen worked! Once we finished the tour, students took part in a Treasure Hunt, which required them to follow a series of clues around the Lanes.

Students then had some free time in the afternoon before meeting up again in the evening for ice skating at the Royal Pavilion Ice Rink! We were all exhausted by the end of the day but a great day was had by all!

Our German Students joined us in school on Thursday 9th November to see first hand what an English school is like, before all meeting up again in the afternoon to watch films they produced and having a last late lunch together at Nando's.



# Belgian Exchange

In languages, we are delighted to announce the launch of our brand-new Belgian exchange partnership. On Monday 20th – Saturday 25th May, we hosted the inaugural visit of 12 Belgian students and their teachers. The students shadowed their Year 9 buddies to experience a typical day at Hove Park School. We also enjoyed some lovely sunny evenings together with meals out and visits to Brighton seafront, culminating in a Friday night Ghost Walk around The Lanes.

The visit was a huge success and our students and families did so well in making our visitors feel welcome. Well done to all the students who took part for their efforts. By Saturday everyone was sad to wave goodbye at Brighton station, but we look forward to our reciprocal visit to Belgium in October and we know some lasting friendships have been made.

# China Day at the University of Southampton

This term, Year 10 students from the Mandarin Excellence Programme at Hove Park participated in a China Day at the University of Southampton. The day included engaging workshops where we delved into Chinese culture and poetry, sang Mandarin songs, and attended a presentation on the importance of language studies at university.

It was a highly educational and enjoyable experience that left our students inspired and eager to continue their learning journey. Adding to the excitement, Hove Park School clinched third prize for their video project showcasing their hometown in Mandarin.





# China Trip

Hove Park School students recently embarked on an exciting cultural exchange trip in China, where they fully immersed themselves in the country's rich tapestry of sights, sounds, and experiences.

This journey was more than just a trip; it was a profound educational experience that significantly broadened their horizons. By engaging directly with the local culture, students had the unique opportunity to deepen their understanding of a different way of life, observing and participating in customs and traditions that were new to them.

The exchange allowed them to gain firsthand insights into the diverse cultural landscape of China, enriching their global perspective and enhancing their appreciation for the world's cultural diversity. Through this immersive experience, students not only learned about China, but also developed a greater awareness of the interconnectedness of cultures around the world.











# British Museum and Chinatown

Exploring the British Museum and Chinatown: A Day of Cultural Immersion for Year 8 Students

Despite unpredictable weather, we gathered at Brighton station for the Mandarin Excellence Programme's trip to the British Museum and Chinatown. Led by Mr. Knox, students were fascinated by the China, Japan, and Korean exhibits.

En route to Chinatown, students experienced "The Butterfly Trail," a popular 3D display by Pixel Artworks. They then enjoyed Chinese food, bubble tea and explored local markets.

Mr. Waite praised the memorable experiences and student camaraderie, and parents loved hearing their children's excited stories.

Mr. Sandford highlighted the value of such excursions beyond academics, with more Year 8 trips planned, including one for German students in that took place in December.

# Trip to the Goethe Institut

Earlier this year, 20 Year 8 German students visited London for a day immersed in German language, culture, and cuisine. They began at the Goethe Institut, engaging in lessons on topics like graffiti art and the Berlin Wall, and participated in a library quiz, winning third prize. Students also interacted with the Goethe robot in German. In the afternoon, they watched a German film and enjoyed traditional dishes like Schnitzel and Currywurst at Stein's restaurant. The students were praised as exemplary ambassadors for the school, with organizers calling them "the best group of students in the classroom they had ever had!"



# Bilingual Primary School Visit

These 15 Year 9 Peer Tutors visited the Bilingual Primary this term to deliver a Literacy session. They designed and made some super festive games and tasks that the children absolutely loved!

# Chinese New Year

Hove Park School's Chinese After-School Club hosted a captivating Chinese New Year event for Year 7 to Year 10 students in the Mandarin Excellence Programme. Students watched videos, participated in quizzes, and engaged with Chinese culture, deepening their understanding. A highlight was the “pasting Fu (福)” activity, where they created symbols of happiness and good luck for the Year of the Dragon. They also learned to say “Happy New Year” in Chinese and received red envelopes with chocolate coins, adding warmth to the event. The Nevill cafeteria was decorated with Chinese elements, creating a festive atmosphere that celebrated traditional festivals and promoted cross-cultural exchange.

# Language Hub Website

We launched our Language Hub website this January. [www.adurlanguagehub.co.uk](http://www.adurlanguagehub.co.uk) – and work with our 6 partner schools and affiliated Key Stage 2 and 5 partners is set to provide our students with many opportunities to celebrate their language learning and deepen their experiences. We are entering several competitions and awards this spring including the prestigious Anthea Bell Translation Award run by Oxford University – more in our next report!



[Home](#) [About](#) [Blog](#) [Newsletter](#) [Schools](#) [CPD](#) [Event Bookings](#)



## Promoting Language Learning in the South East

We believe that languages and intercultural ability can help to foster universal understanding and contribute to building a peaceful and harmonious world future. We recognise that Global Britain needs more and better language skills. In our globalised economy, language skills and intercultural understanding add value and widen opportunities for individuals, communities and society.

Within our local context we aim to drive the teaching of languages forward and to encourage the very best practice in the classroom to be shared and celebrated. The employers in our communities stand to benefit from a richer pool of languages expertise. It is a core part of the celebration of the richness of our communities that we embrace not only the main languages used in trade but also appreciate the home languages spoken in our communities. We all benefit from this shared appreciation of our diverse backgrounds.

[GET IN TOUCH](#)







# German Exchange

8 students took part in this year's German Exchange Trip to Düsseldorf between the 18th and 22nd of October. Activities included a joint project in a film museum, a visit to Düsseldorf, a guided tour to the German History Museum in Bonn, and a fantastic lunch in an authentic restaurant in Cologne as well as a visit to the cathedral there.

The students also had the opportunity to take part in an Escape Room Challenge as well as a chance to bring out their competitive side by playing bowling. They were a real credit to the school and learned a lot about German culture and had ample opportunity to practice their German too!



# Head of Francophone Countries for HSBC

A former Head of Francophone Countries for HSBC, Michael Grainger, came in to our Valley Campus to speak to the Year 8 cohort before their options evening.

Michael shared his experience of growing up without a strong background in languages at home and his journey through school, college and then university where he continued his passion for French and German.

Michael became very successful within the multinational bank HSBC and he put much of this down to his employer's appreciation not only of his excellent communication skills in other languages but also his deep appreciation of other languages and cultures, which language study afforded him. Michael is a Brighton resident and is working with us in school to help develop links with local companies and develop our work experience offer.





# Sophie Lau Visit

Recently, we welcomed visitors into school who were supporting our German studies. The poet and polyglot Sophie Lau worked with Year 9 students of German on a poem written and delivered by a famous German singer, Julia Englemann.

The workshops developed translation skills with students putting their skills into practice writing their own poems.

The visit also included drop-ins into classes by Pauline Wick of the Goethe-Institut London. This work with the Goethe Institut is core to the aims of our Adur Language Hub, aiming to promote the positive aspects of language acquisition in school and to promote German as a language key to business and career possibilities.



# 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 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.









A photograph of two young women, Amelia and Amie, smiling and wearing climbing gear and medals. They are standing outdoors at what appears to be a climbing competition. The background shows other people and a clear sky. The text 'I MADE THE CLIMB' is visible on their gear.

# World Champion!

Hove Park School is thrilled to share the outstanding achievements of two of our talented students, Amelia and Amie, who recently excelled in cheerleading competitions in Florida and the Bahamas.

Amelia, a member of the Under 12 team Top Gun UK Lime, showcased her exceptional skills by winning gold at the Allstar Worlds competition, earning her the title of World champion among 160 competing teams. She continued her winning streak by securing another gold medal at the Youth Summit event.

Amelia and Amie then joined forces with their Under 16 team, Top Gun UK Mint, where they continued to shine by clinching two more gold medals at the Summit competition in the Bahamas, where they were crowned champions and Grand champions.

Their dedication, hard work, and talent are highly commendable, we are incredibly proud of their accomplishments and look forward to supporting them in their future endeavours.



# Worthing Rugby Festival

A group of Year 7 students represented Hove Park at the Worthing Rugby Festival. The festival was made up of sixteen teams from around the county, and the standard of play was extremely high. Some of our girls have played very little full-contact rugby, and they were all absolute warriors, battling against the rain and mud, pushing themselves to their limits and growing in confidence with each game.

They worked so hard, playing eight games in total, in very swampy conditions, and every member of the team shone and played their part in some magnificent wins against much more experienced sides. We finished second in our league in the morning, with only one loss, so got promoted to the 'super league' where we finished a very impressive fourth in the overall competition.

The girls did themselves and the school proud, displaying the true characteristics of rugby - fair play, commitment and most of all resilience. A huge well done to all involved.

# Sussex Schools Cross Country Championships

The Sussex Schools Cross Country Championships in January and February featured impressive performances by Hove Park students. In January at Waterhall, six students competed in challenging races, with Tom and Freddie placing third and fourth in the Intermediate Boys race, qualifying for the All England Championships in March. In February, the Year 7 & 8 championships at Christ's Hospital saw the team show grit and determination on a muddy course. All team members ran brilliantly and enjoyed the experience. Well done to everyone!







# National Plate Final

Clemence from Year 8 was playing for the Brighton District Schools Football team against Sheffield Schools in the National plate final at the Sixways Stadium, Worcester, recently.

The game went to 4-4 at full time but Brighton won on penalties! Clemence successfully scored her penalty too! Huge congratulations to Clem and the team.



# Super 6 Athletics Competition

Year 7 & 8 students participated in a Super 6 athletics competition with other Brighton and Hove Schools. Despite the damp conditions and slippery track, Hove Park students put in some brilliant performances with notable results in the 100m, Tatenda and Zak winning both their heats of the 100m races. Amelie won her 100m race and Bea won the shot putt event. All the students competed brilliantly! Each student completed one track, a field event and a relay in what is a great event in the athletics calendar.

A big well done to all the supporting Sports Leaders, Juliette, Maya, Lily, Summer and Obiani who ran the long jump event in the competition.

# Sussex Athletics U13

Huge congratulations to Amelie in Year 7 who has been running really well for her club B&H AC (150m and 100m relay) and has been selected to run for Sussex over the summer. She is pictured with a silver for the relay at the Sussex Athletics U13's track and field championships a few weeks ago.

# English Schools Championship

Congratulations to Noah for securing 2nd place in the discus at the English Schools Athletics Track and Field Championship last weekend! He achieved an impressive throw of 41.94m, nearly four meters beyond his previous personal best. Well done, Noah!





# Sports Leaders Shine at Primary Schools

Our fantastic team of Sports Leaders went to Hangleton Primary to assist with the running of the Hove and Portslade netball tournament.

It was great to see so many schools attending and kids having fun, whilst representing their school in the tournament.

Well done to our excellent Sports Leaders who umpired all of the games, kept score of the tournament, led each school to the correct courts/games, gave coaching tips in between matches and made the event run smoothly.

So many of the schools mentioned what a great job the students did and have asked for more opportunities where our Sports Leaders can assist with the running of events like this.

Our Sports Leaders also assisted at a Primary school Racket Festival at Withdean on Tuesday the 4th and Thursday the 6th of June. The Racket Festival was aimed at introducing young children to the sport.

The Sports Leaders attend training sessions beforehand, where they were taught how to assist with the running of an event and learnt how to officiate games in several different racket sports.



# Volleyball

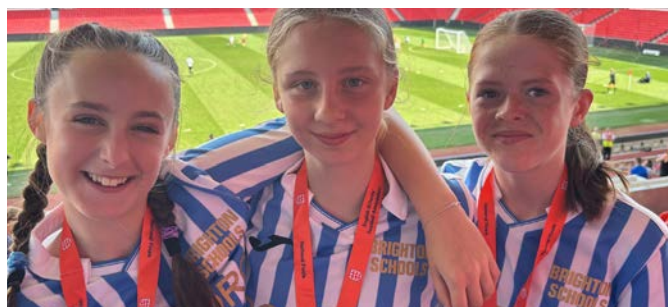
Year 7 and 8 students enjoyed fantastic sessions at Yellowwave, Brighton's Beach Volleyball Centre. After eight weeks of Thursday coaching with Yellowwave coach Niel, they participated in a competitive tournament against PACA and Cardinal Newman School on the sand. A big thank you to Yellowwave for organising this great opportunity. It's wonderful to see competitive volleyball gaining the attention it deserves in Brighton schools.



# National Cup Finals

Congratulations to three of our Year 7 football girls who represented Brighton & Hove U12 in the ESFA National Cup Final held at Stoke's Bet365 stadium.

The team gave everything but came up against an excellent Liverpool school team, who were worthy winners. All three are going on to represent Brighton & Hove at the Gothia Youth World Cup in Sweden. We wish them luck!







# Most Valuable Player

Year 11 student Tumay, is making waves in the world of water polo. Tumay, who plays for Worthing Water Polo, has been demonstrating exceptional talent and skill in the sport, earning him a number of prestigious awards and recognitions.

Tumay's list of accolades is impressive. He has been selected as the Under 17 Bronze Medal Winner at the England Water Polo National Age Group Championships, representing his club, Worthing Water Polo. But that's not all. Tumay also clinched the title of Under 17 Top Goal Scorer at the same championships, showcasing his offensive prowess in the pool.

The success didn't stop there. Tumay went on to win the Gold Medal in the Under 19 category at the England Water Polo National Age Group Championships, once again with Worthing Water Polo. This achievement underscores his ability to compete and excel against older and more experienced players.

In addition to these national honours, Tumay was named the Most Valuable Player at the BMC Cup 2023 - U18 Dunfermline. This award recognises the player who made the most significant impact during the tournament, and it's clear that Tumay left a lasting impression.

Currently, Tumay holds the position of Current Top Goal Scorer in the National Conference Water Polo League. The league is still ongoing, but Tumay's performance so far suggests he is a strong contender for this title.

Tumay's hard work and dedication has not gone unnoticed. After participating in training camps with the National Academy, he has been offered a place in the Great Britain U18 squad. This is a significant opportunity for any young athlete, and it's a testament to Tumay's potential in the sport of water polo.

It's clear that Tumay has a bright future ahead in this sport. We look forward to seeing what he will achieve next!





# Brighton Town Cup & League Double

Our Year 11s had a very special final season at Hove Park, winning the Brighton Town Cup & League Double as well as making it to the Semi Final of the Sussex County Cup. It was a sensational season, a huge achievement.

The Year 11 side took on Varndean in the Brighton Town Cup Final on Wednesday 17th April at the Sussex FA County Ground, Lancing. A tightly contested first half finished at 0-0, with Hove Park very much on the front foot, but unable to break the deadlock..

Into the second half and attacking, winger Leon stepped up launching a rocket into the top corner from 20 yards, to huge celebrations. With only 30 seconds left to Cup glory, Varndean broke through to equalize, 1-1.

Hove Park managed to regroup, ready for extra time.



Ayub then managed to regain the lead finishing off a well-worked team goal 2-1, however Varndean quickly bounced back as they were awarded a penalty 2-2.

The extra time looked destined to end with the dreaded penalty shoot-out, only for a free kick to be awarded with 1 minute left. Up stepped Ayub, who took his time and unleashed a pile-driving shot, into the top corner, to wild celebrations.

## Year 11 Win League Title

The Year 11s played their last League match of the season in the local derby against Blatchinton Mill on Monday 11th March at the Valley 3G. A win would see Hove Park crowned Brighton League Winners for the first time in the year group's history.

The team changed formation from their Semi-Final Cup victory, with a more attacking set up and started brightly. A well organised first half performance saw Hove Park in ruthless form, rushing into a well-earned 3-0 half time lead, with conductor Leon orchestrating many of the goals and chances in the number 10 role.

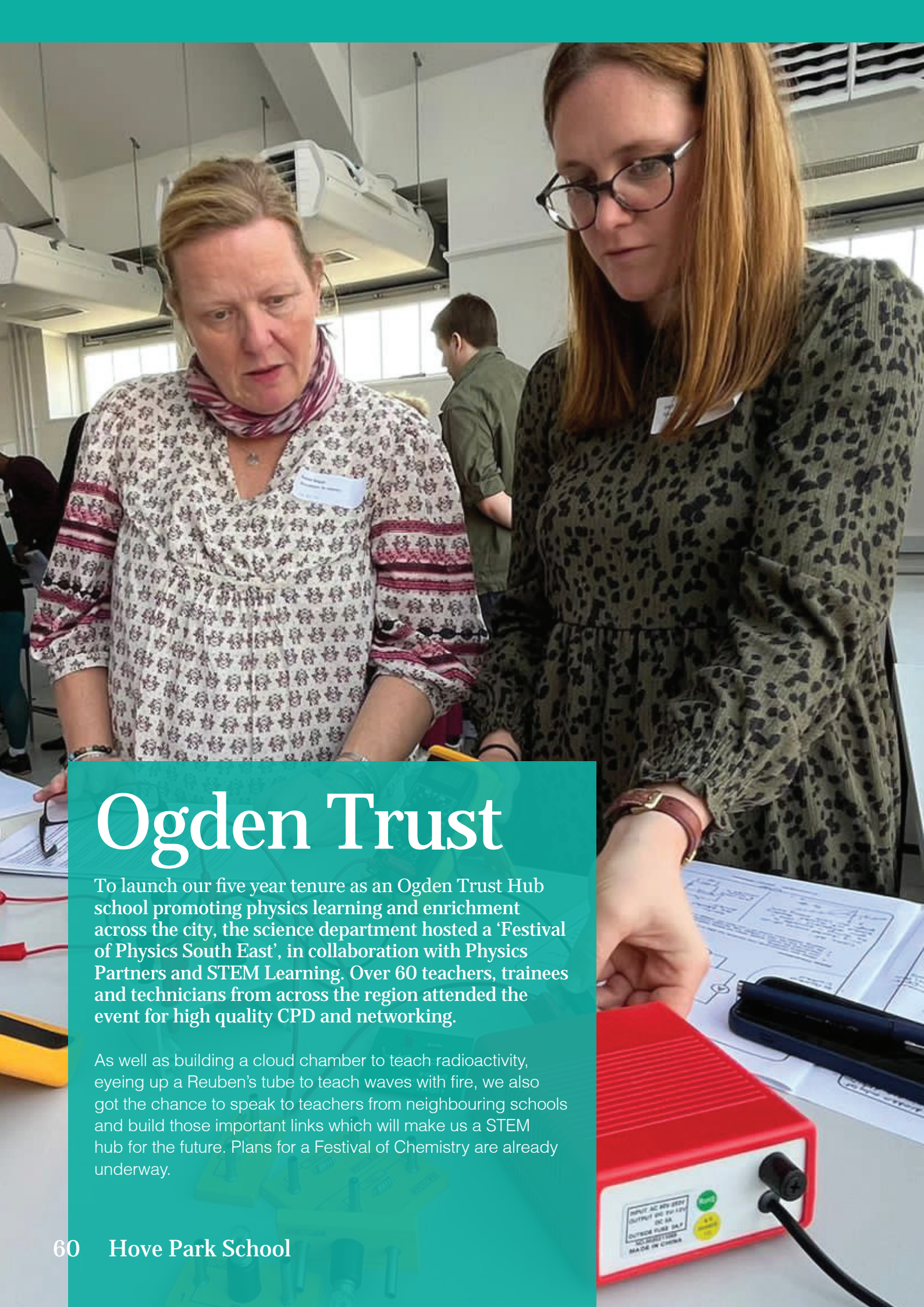
The second half soon became waves of Blatchinton Mill attacks, however with the Hove Park keeper Frankie again in fine form, and a solid defensive display the team held strong allowing the side to score another two well worked goals. With star striker Haitham scoring an impressive 4 goals, and Will scoring the vital first. Blatchinton Mill managed to score two consolation goals late on as the side began to tire.

Full time Hove Park 5-2 Blatchinton Mill  
Player of the Match- Frankie- for an unbelievable display of top level shot stopping.

Hove Park have managed to achieve maximum points in winning the Brighton League.  
A huge congratulations to our Brighton League Winners.







# Ogden Trust

To launch our five year tenure as an Ogden Trust Hub school promoting physics learning and enrichment across the city, the science department hosted a 'Festival of Physics South East', in collaboration with Physics Partners and STEM Learning. Over 60 teachers, trainees and technicians from across the region attended the event for high quality CPD and networking.

As well as building a cloud chamber to teach radioactivity, eyeing up a Reuben's tube to teach waves with fire, we also got the chance to speak to teachers from neighbouring schools and build those important links which will make us a STEM hub for the future. Plans for a Festival of Chemistry are already underway.



# Arundel Wetlands Centre

Arundel Wetlands Centre offers our students an opportunity to experience one of the most biodiverse ecosystems in the world, right on our doorstep.

This term Year 7 students took part in pond dipping, a sustainability workshop and observed birds in their natural habitats. Great science in action!

# Natural History Museum Trip

A group of Year 8 students from Hove Park recently embarked on an educational trip to the Natural History Museum. They participated in an engaging engineering workshop where they had the opportunity to construct their own Mars rovers. But that's not all - they also coded these rovers for remote movement!

In addition to this hands-on experience, they immersed themselves in the museum's rich offerings. From the awe-inspiring dinosaurs and diverse mammals to the fascinating Earth Zone, there was no shortage of sights and sounds to captivate their curiosity.

# Brighton College Trip

Top of the Bench - a team of keen chemists from Years 9-11 travelled to Brighton College for a competition run by the Royal Society of Chemistry. It was a tough heat, against 9 other state and independent schools, with unseen practicals and a written test. We didn't make it through to the next round but the students conducted themselves brilliantly and thoroughly enjoyed themselves.







# Girls in STEM

Our first Girls in STEM event was a huge success with 12 schools and over 350 students participating in inspiring careers and educational workshops across the week.

The highlight of the week was a talk and Q&A with eminent space scientist Dame Maggie Aderin-Pocock MBE. After her talk, she stayed for over an hour to speak to passionate young physicists of the future.



# Harry Potter Studios

We had a fantastic magical day at Harry Potter Studios with our Creative iMedia Year 10 & Year 11 students, exploring the world of special effects, graphics, design, concept art and all things film and book related.

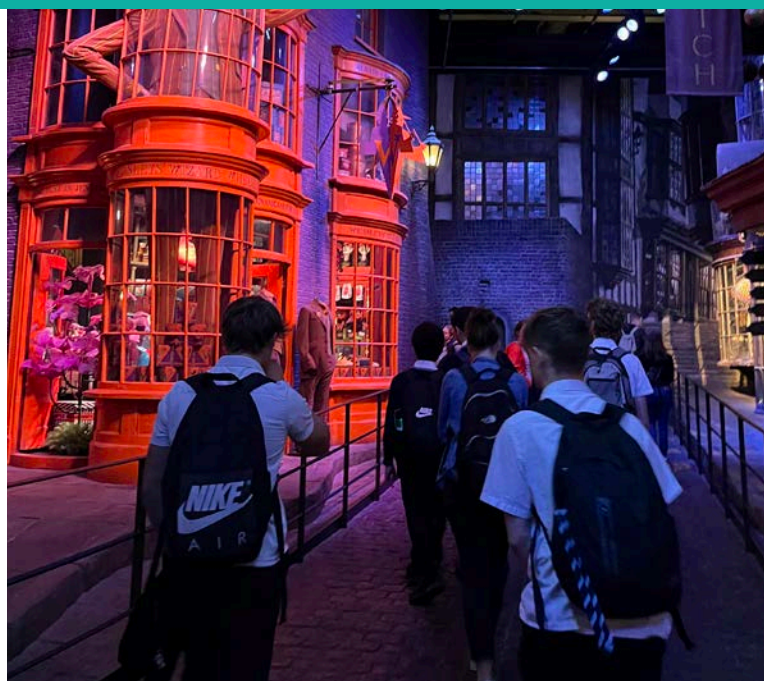
Whether a Harry Potter fan or not, students were all impressed by the sets, and the experience. This gave the students the best way of learning about digital media, careers in the industry, and the media world as preparation for coursework and exam content.

# Race to the Line

All of Year 7 have taken part in an exciting engineering project called Race to the Line. In science lessons (and with the help of the DT department) they were able to design and build rocket cars, which culminated in a nail-biting race.

The fastest 4 teams then went through to the Regional Finals with teams travelling from all over the South East and as far away as Essex and Kent. Whilst we didn't have the fastest car – that honour went to a team from BACA, one of our Ogden partner schools – we are very proud to say that the RS prize for Engineering Innovation went to a Hove Park team.

Budding Year 8 KS3 STEM club scientists travelled to the Excel Centre for a packed day of fascinating talks, encounters with robots and a 'trip to Mars'. It was a great day of innovative science and engineering opportunities.







## Rampion Wind Farm

Some of our Year 10s visited Rampion's Visitor Centre, learning all about careers in green technology. The visit included VR tours of the site and a competition to build the most efficient model turbine!



## Stargazing

This year is our first leading an Ogden Trust Schools Partnership, promoting the teaching and learning of physics, with secondary schools: Longhill High, Patcham, BACA and PACA. Our inaugural event was stargazing at Longhill, with families from all schools invited to look at the stars with astronomers, make planispheres with a free hot chocolate and hot dogs, and hear two fascinating talks from local astronomers. It was well received by all who attended and will be the first of many joint events.



## Excel Centre Visit

Budding Year 8 KS3 STEM club scientists travelled to the Excel Centre for a packed day of fascinating talks, encounters with robots and a 'trip to Mars'. It was a great day of innovative science and engineering opportunities.



## STEM Clubs

This year our STEM clubs (KS3 & KS4) have gone from strength to strength with a great turnout every week. This half term we have focused on engineering and maths challenges, but next term, as we plan to send another strong team to the Top of the Bench competition at Brighton College, we will have a chemistry focus to our clubs.



# Cambridge Scholarship

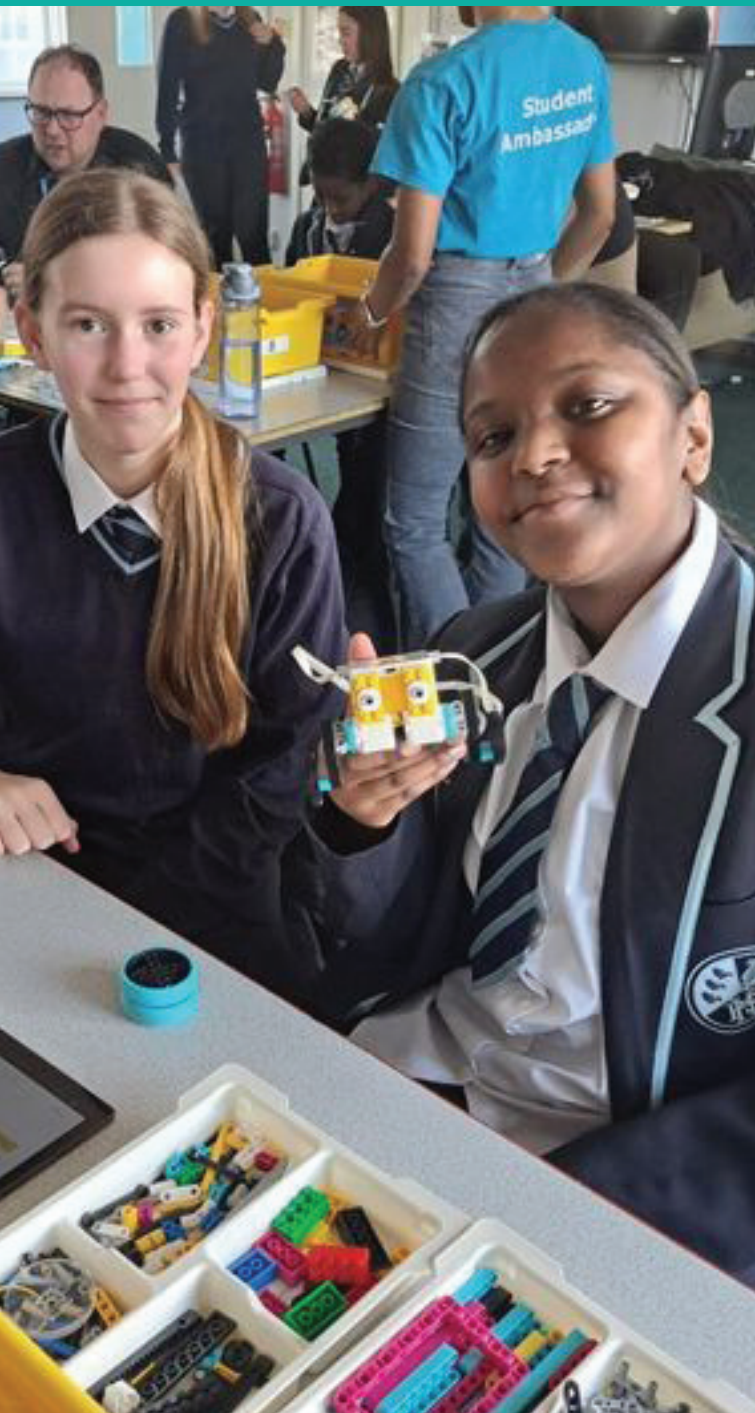
We recently saw the launch of the national Junior Genius Programme, a three year STEM Career Development scholarship for Year 9 students who show a talent for maths and science and are expected to excel at GCSE, to reach their full career and academic potential.

Hove Park selected a number of students and 5 strong candidates reached the interview stage – Angelica, Evan, Xander, Leo and Keegan. We are delighted to say Keegan (fourth from left in the below photo) was successful and is one of only 18 students in the country to receive this prestigious scholarship.

On Saturday, he attended the opening event at the University of Cambridge, St. John's College. The scholars had a fantastic robotics masterclass as well as an introduction to STEM at Cambridge from current undergraduates. We look forward to sharing his progress over the three years.







# British Science Week

The theme of this year's British Science Week was 'time', Year 7 students celebrated by taking part in a Lego coding session over the week.

Students had to design and programme robots in order to find the most effective way to move them without using wheels. This ended in a timed race to compare the effectiveness of students' designs. The winning team from each tutor group received a STEM badge and a certificate.

As this coincided with International Women's Day, students also had a Shattering Stereotypes tutor session exploring the range of people and jobs available in science.

## Year 9 Teen Tech

A Day of Discovery at TeenTech! Our Year 9 students had the fantastic opportunity to visit TeenTech at the American Express Stadium! This event was all about inspiring young minds to explore the exciting world of science, technology, engineering, and maths (STEM).

Our students were thrilled to engage in hands-on activities, meet industry professionals, and learn about the latest tech trends. They got a glimpse into the future of STEM and how it shapes our world.

We're so proud of their curiosity and enthusiasm. Can't wait to see where this inspiration takes them in their studies and beyond!





# Visit to Ricardo

30 of our Year 10s recently went to Ricardo – an international engineering consultancy based in Shoreham.

We had a guided tour of their site, heard from apprentices and recent graduates working there, and found out all about the first-ever mass-produced British engine and the work they do with high-performance cars now. We also heard all about their part in breaking the world's land-speed record for tractors!

# Electric Square Games

Some of our Year 10 students had fun learning all about jobs in the games industry recently - and getting to play some of them - thanks to the amazing Electric Square Games - we even got to take home some free T-shirts.

# Sustainability Leaders

Our fantastic Sustainability Leaders have been very successful at recruiting ambassadors to support their work with Our City, Our World. 90 students from Year 8, 9 and 10 have signed up and completed a survey about their ideas to make the school more green. We will now start planning our presentation for the Climate Summit.







# 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.







A vibrant photograph of a children's parade. In the foreground, a young girl with curly hair is smiling broadly, holding a wooden stick. Behind her, a boy is playing a yellow drum with a red mallet. Other children in the background are wearing white t-shirts with black line drawings and some are wearing headphones. Large, decorated umbrellas are visible in the background.

# Children's Parade

Brighton's streets were alive with colour and creativity as students from Hove Park School joined the annual Children's Parade, kicking off the much-anticipated Brighton Festival.

The parade, a beloved tradition in the city, showcases the artistic talents of young people from schools across the region. Congratulations to all who attended, your creativity shone like the sun on the day!



# Tate Modern Visit

55 Hove Park students made a lasting impression at the Tate Modern this term. "This is yours!" exclaimed Tate curator Lindsey Young, as she guided us through the philosophy of the organisation and the art of picture hanging.

The students immersed themselves in a diverse collection of contemporary artwork, showcasing their keen interest and appreciation. They represented both the school and the Art Department admirably. A parent expressed their gratitude, saying, "Thank you for giving him the best day of his life." The visit was truly impactful and left a mark on each student, igniting their passion for art and culture.

# GCSE Art Exhibition

Hove Park School proudly hosted its annual GCSE art exhibition, where our talented artists showcased their incredible work. The event was a vibrant celebration of creativity, featuring a stunning collection of artworks that highlighted the diverse talents of our students. Visitors were treated to vibrant paintings and captivating sculptures, each piece reflecting the students' unique artistic visions and skills.

The exhibition was a testament to the hard work and dedication of our students, who have spent countless hours developing their craft. It also highlighted the supportive environment fostered by our dedicated art teachers. Congratulations to all the students for their remarkable achievements and for sharing their talents with us. The exhibition not only celebrated their artistic accomplishments but also inspired their peers and the wider community.







Hove Park School  
**Almanac 2023-24**