

FINAL BULLETIN | 2013-2025

@ The Cedars





FRIDAY 4TH JULY 2025

END OF TRINITY TERM

LETTER FROM THE HEADMASTER

Back in 1993, a group of deeply committed parents founded Oakwood Primary School under the umbrella of PACT. From those humble beginnings, Oakwood grew into one of the country's leading prep schools. Inspired by the need to offer secondary education grounded in the same ethos, PACT went on to establish secondary schools, The Cedars and The Laurels, in 2013.

If those early parents and teachers had been told then about the journey and success that lay ahead, they might have found it hard to believe! Yet here we are witnesses to years of dedicated service, formation through action, and academic excellence. These efforts have echoed the words of saints who urged us to '*dream, and your dreams will fall short.*' When we dare greatly for the good of others (*in gaudio serviamus*) we leave a lasting mark, even if we do not always see the tangible fruit.

As we look forward to the launch of Fidelis College, this is a moment to move forward with enthusiasm and hope. As shared in our bulletins earlier this year: *the future is bright*. That future is now within reach, and we have a remarkable project ahead: with an ambitious academic offering led by a highly committed faculty, a unique ethos, and a robust financial structure for the current climate.

As we close the chapter on The Cedars, we must take a moment to recognise those who have shaped its story. I want to thank Dr Virgili, our Deputy Head, who has been with us from the beginning and without whom The Cedars would not have been possible. We owe him, and many others who have come before us, a deep debt of gratitude.

As you know, I will be taking on a new role with a Catholic organisation starting this September. I will however continue to support Fidelis College in an associate leadership capacity under the Headship of Mrs Kemp. I look forward to seeing you all in the new year.

Like the early parents of PACT, now is the time to *dream* boldly about what lays ahead of us with Fidelis College.

Many thanks for your continued support!



Pablo Hinojo
Headmaster

THE PEDRO BALLESTER AWARD - 2025

Pedro Ballester was born in Manchester on 22 May 1996 to Spanish parents and grew up in Yorkshire, excelling academically and being noted for his cheerful, sociable character. Deeply devout, he committed himself to a life of spiritual service in Opus Dei. He earned a place studying Chemical Engineering at Imperial College London in 2014, but was diagnosed with advanced pelvic cancer that December, which cut short his studies. For three years he underwent treatment (first in Manchester, then briefly in Germany) and maintained remarkable faith and kindness. Pedro passed away on 13 January 2018, surrounded by loved ones, and was later awarded a posthumous master's

degree by the University of Manchester. The Cedars has a strong connection with Pedro for he volunteered in 2016 at the school, and his life has inspired many young people. He is currently being considered for sainthood.

The Pedro Ballester award is the most prestigious Cedar's award. It celebrates the efforts in service and charitable contributions of our pupils. The 2025 edition goes to Dominic Prescott for his great contribution to Aid to the Church in Need, and his service to the school community.

YEAR 11 LEAVERS FAREWELL



On 18th June the day after the last exam the Year 11 were invited to attend a special “farewell” event to mark the end of their secondary education journey. The turnout was excellent and all turned up except a few that were already on holidays abroad.

Usually they “dress to impress” but due to the hot conditions many opted for the shorts and T-Shirts approach. I was upset that there were so many trainers I could not confiscate one last time! The school caterers did us proud. The boys were served BBQ chicken, Mac&Cheese croquettes, Margherita pizza, a chocolate profiterole tower, various cakes, and fruit. There was also ample cold lemonade and Coca-Cola to wash it all down with. The headmaster

addressed the pupils and spoke about how proud he was of them and to remember they will always be The Cedars Boys for life! I then spoke and told them to remember the strong life lessons they have had over the years – in and out of the classroom (you never stop learning throughout all your life!). Also, to always focus on the virtues in life in life and strive to improve yourselves at any challenge presented to you. We then went outside for the classic full year photo in front of the building. And, yes, I was right, they have suddenly all started to look like adults! Many thanks to all the year 11 parents and guardians for their support during good times (and bad times!). The best dressed pupil was Sidney Kouame in a black satin lapelled suit (and was late!). **Mr Rix**



6TH FORM LEAVERS FAREWELL



There is always a mix of emotions attendant to farewells of any kind, but especially pupil leaving events.

In my experience, most U6 pupils go into 'nostalgia mode' months before they have actually left! Bearing in mind that secondary school has taken up over a third of an eighteen year-olds earthly existence, the heightened nostalgia shouldn't surprise us. But neither is it surprising that the fond memories compete with their emerging hopes and expectations for the future.

Teachers go through a parallel experience. It can be so moving to think back just a few years to the days when the young men and women before us were just fragile, enigmatic miniatures of their future selves: a myriad of talents and qualities as yet unknown and unseen. It is because we are daily witnesses of a child's capacity for improvement and growth, that we are so optimistic and excited for their future prospects.

This year's U6 Leavers were, though, unlike any before them. They are the last leaving pupils of The Cedars and The Laurels Schools. It was appropriate, therefore, that the traditional leavers gift from each school – a tie for Cedars boys and an engraved pen for Laurels girls – was maintained. And, although Mrs Sanders and Mrs Jewell would have loved to have come to bid their own farewell to the girls, circumstances prevent them for attending. They kindly sent a video greeting which we shared with the girls.

For me, this year's leaving event was something of a milestone too, as I step down as Head of Sixth Form. As I told the boys and girls at the time, it has been a singular privilege for me as Head of Sixth Form, to see the work of others – teachers, pupils and, especially, parents – come to fruition in the life of a young man or woman in their final years at school. I would go further: the growth and development of each and every one of those who leave this summer are 'proof' that the PACT framework - which the pupil and their parents are at the heart of the project – produces great outcomes for all of us who strive to put it into practice.

We wish all the boys and girls a happy and restful summer, great exam results in August, and a happy and fulfilled life of service to others in the future!



MR C DORAN

RUGBY DINNER



Last Thursday, we were privileged to hold our final concert as the Cedars School before our transition to Fidelis College. The concert proved to be a celebration of the school's legacy and all the hard work of the boys and staff. Sadly, Miss Roberts and I will be leaving at the end of this academic year. We are both so grateful for the support and hard work from you, the parents, and your sons. We wish you a very relaxing summer holiday and hope to see you in the future.

MISS RODRIGUEZ-BROADBENT | DIRECTOR OF MUSIC



MOST HOUSE POINTS - COMMENDATIONS

1 st From (Total of 3394 points)	2 nd Form (Total 5848 points)	3 rd Form (Total 3295 points)	4 th Form (Total 5052 points)
1 st Tristan Peters 182 HP	1 st Koby Adom Yeboah- Acheampong 356 HP	1 st Nathan Geal 194 HP	1 st Isaac Urquhart 191 HP
2 nd Luis Albelda Ochoa 179 HP	2 nd James Cameron 324 HP	2 nd Kashif Butt 171 HP	2 nd Samuel Mba 167 HP
3 rd Micaiah Opoku 178 HP	3 rd Kieran Fitzpatrick 258 HP	3 rd Fillipo Colagrossi 155 HP	3 rd Evan Loucaides 162 HP

MOST HOUSE POINTS - BECKET CUP

House	End of Year Before Competitions	Places Before	End of Year After Competitions	
Falcon	4581	1	4951	2
Ravensbourne	4135	3	4875	3
Fleet	3805	5	4100	4
Tyburn	3856	4	4066	5
Effra	4124	2	4989	1

PUPILS WITH NO NON-SATIS OR REFERRALS

Antonio Flores

Henry Gutteridge

Eeqan Chaudry

Jake Harrison

Aaryan Kumar

Dominic Prescott

HUMAN PERFORMANCE INSTITUTE SCHOOL VISIT | UNIVERSITY OF SURREY

Position	Name	Jump Height
1	Harrison-Rix	55.0 cm
2	Gerry B	53.0 cm
3	Zak S	52.9 cm
4	Duffus	51.7 cm
5	Timi B	48.0 cm
6	Zak S	45.7 cm
7	Robert's	42.3 cm
8	Fyffe	41.1 cm
9	VD	39.8 cm
10	Onyejekwe	36.9 cm

SPORTS SCIENCE TRIP

On Wednesday, 4th form pupils enjoyed a fantastic Sports Science trip to Surrey Sports Park, where they took part in a range of engaging and insightful sessions. Highlights included a power and strength workshop, a psychology workshop, and a sports nutrition lecture, all delivered by leading practitioners in their fields. It was a brilliant opportunity to deepen their understanding of applied sports science in a professional environment.

Mr Stephens



THE TRUSSEL TRUST FOODBANK



Our 6th Form students have been volunteering weekly with the Trussell Trust and St Joseph's, as well as supporting younger pupils in literacy, maths, oratory, music, and sport. During Activities Week, every student from 1st to 4th Form volunteered each day, making a huge difference through their hard work and dedication. **Miss Roberts**



SPANISH TRIP TO SEVILLE 2025



SPANISH TRIP TO SEVILLE 2025



PASSAGE CLOTHING DRIVE

"Thank you to all the students, staff, parents, and carers at The Cedars School, The Laurels School and Oakwood who contributed to the recent clothing drive for The Passage. Many of the t-shirts, socks, trousers, and other items you donated have already been handed out, making a real difference to our clients in this hot weather, and we're really grateful for your hard work and support." - The Passage



MALTA MUSIC TOUR 2025



During activities week, the school choir were lucky enough to venture off to sunny Malta for our annual choir tour.

The first day was spent flying at 38,000 feet across Europe and getting used to a hot 34 degrees. We trekked over to the Malta National Aquarium to learn more about the underwater world. The boys were ecstatic to see not one, but two sharks! In the evening, the boys got to cool off in the hotel pool, also shaped as a fish.

On Tuesday we travelled to St Julian's Bay where we had the opportunity to go back in time at Odyssey Malta - an immersive historical experience, ending with a 5D experience of flying through the Maltese skies.

We continued with our sightseeing and quest to stay cool.

Wednesday took us to the capital of Malta, Valletta. Here we cruised on a coastal boat tour followed swiftly by a concert in St Paul's Cathedral. The audience were thoroughly impressed with the musicality and sound of the boys' singing.

A big thank you to Mr Magee, Mr Molto, Mr Paul and all parents and boys for their help in making this an enjoyable final trip for me. I look forward to seeing where Fidelis Choir travel to next year!

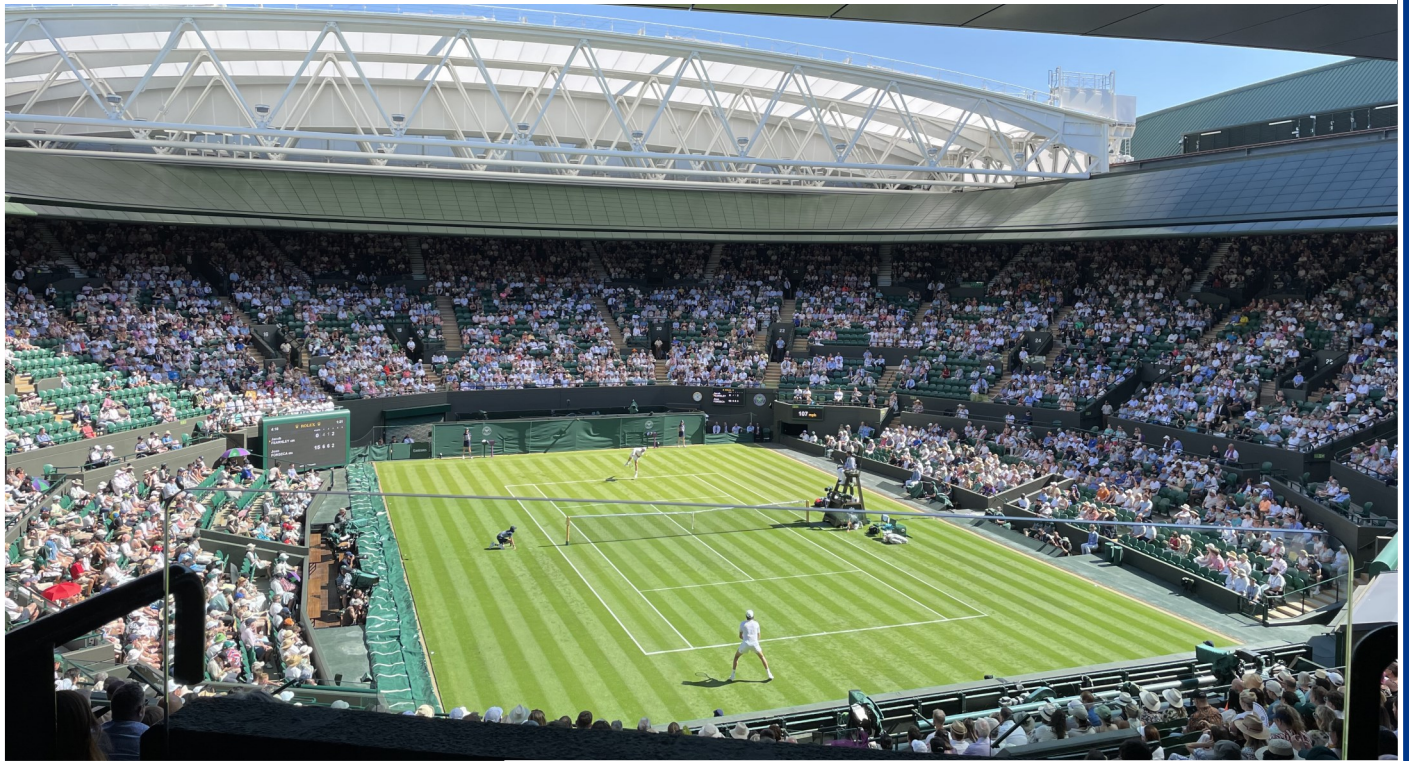
Miss Rodriguez-Broadbent
Director of Music





WIMBLEDON 2025

On Monday, a handful of third form and fourth form pupils' had the privilege of visiting Wimbledon on the opening day of the 2025 championship. The boys experienced three thrilling matches on Court no.1, including Emma Raducanu (British Women's number 1), Jacob Fearnley, and Aryna Sabalenka (Women's number 1).



BOXHILL CHALLENGE

On Tuesday, 2nd Form pupils took part in the Box Hill Challenge in the stunning Surrey Hills, navigating through eight checkpoints across the landscape. At each stop, teams tackled checkpoint-related questions to earn extra points. Competing in teams—Falcon and Effra (combined), Fleet, and Ravensbourne and Tyburn (combined)—the pupils showed great teamwork and determination throughout the day. Falcon and Effra emerged as standout performers in this exciting outdoor adventure.

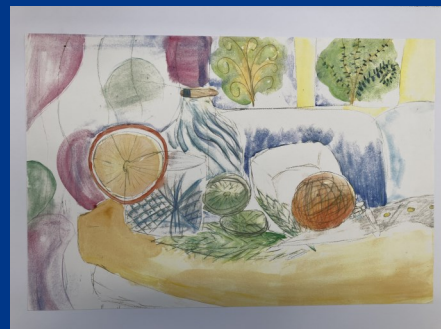


END OF YEAR ART GALLERY

Here is a selection of our Year 7 art exam 2025.

I particularly like the range of art media used, with some great water colour and coloured pencil work. I am sure that you will agree with me, that we have some very creative young men moving into Y8. Well done to everyone for their hard work this term.

Ms Beetlestone



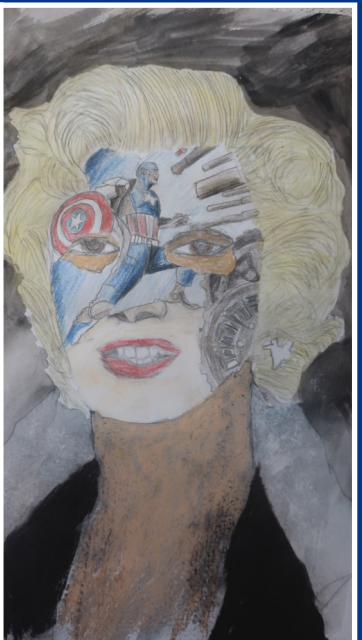
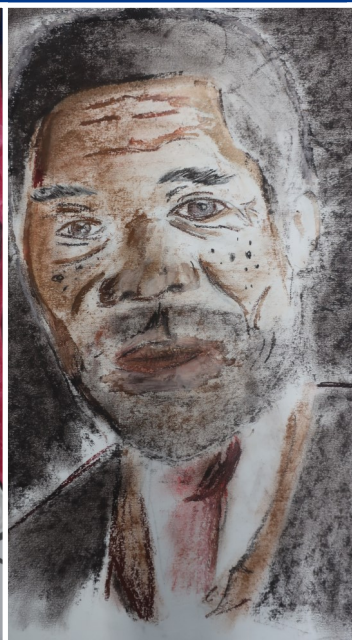
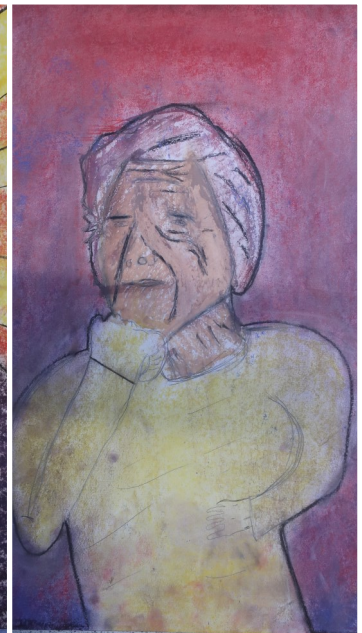
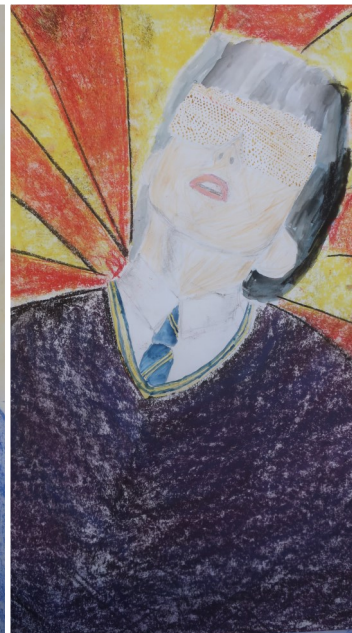
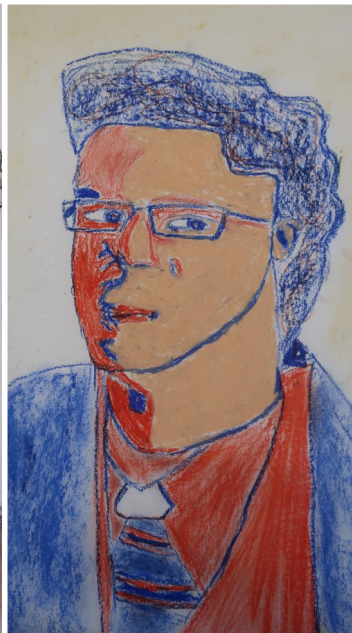
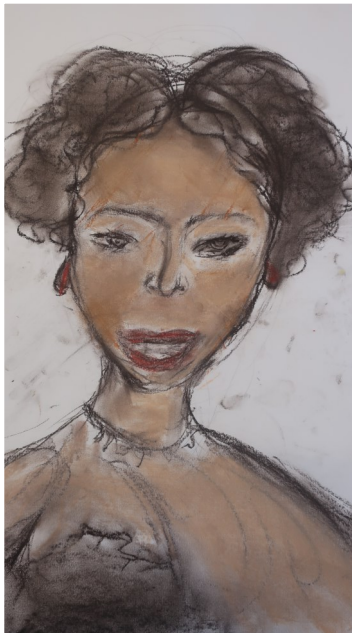
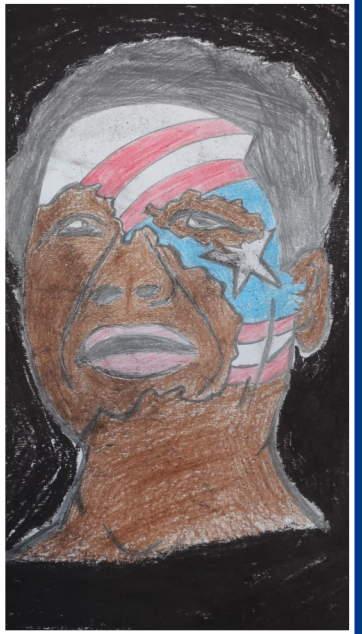
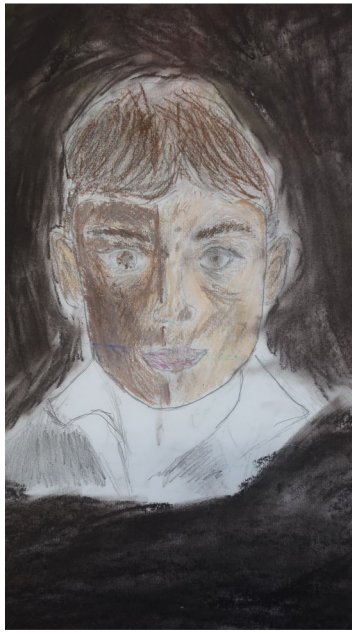
Year 8 have worked incredibly hard on their portraiture and identity project, showing real creativity and depth. Through studying a range of artists including Modigliani, Van Gogh, Vermeer, Da Vinci, Julian Opie, Sandra Chevrier, Matisse and Courbet, our pupils have explored different styles and techniques, learning how art can express personality, emotion, and meaning.

They reflected on identity not just as how we look, but who we are and what we value. This included looking at figures like **Lana Turner, Grace Kelly, Marlon Brando, Alain Delon, Nelson Mandela, Elizabeth II, Princess Diana, and Mahatma Gandhi**, encouraging rich discussions around dignity, resilience, and character.

Catholic virtues were clearly visible throughout their work, as pupils celebrated being made in God's image and showed respect, compassion, and gratitude in their reflections. We continue to encourage all pupils to visit galleries, where they can experience art first-hand and grow in appreciation of beauty, culture, and human creativity. **Mr Loembe**

Please see gallery on the next page.

END OF YEAR ART GALLERY | YEAR 8 PORTRAITURE

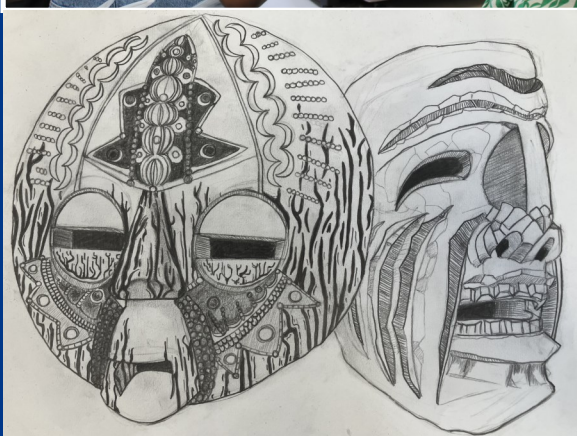


END OF YEAR ART GALLERY | PRINT WORKSHOP YEAR 8

On the first day of Activities Week, the Cedars and Laurels students in Year 8 joined together for a fantastic printmaking workshop. Working with printers Steffan and Kat from Artichoke Print Workshop, our young people collaborated to

produce an etched plate and prints, a drypoint card print, and some even achieved a lino print — all on one of the hottest days of the year!

Here is a flavour of the day in pictures.



Croydon Schools Athletics Success!

The Cedars athletes have well and truly announced themselves on the track and field scene at the Croydon Schools Athletics Championships. Well done to all boys involved, we are incredibly proud of the outstanding efforts the boys delivered in their track and field events! Notable performances from the following pupils who placed in the top 5 in their events:

Croydon Schools Athletics Championships:

- ⇒ Hamza Z (4th Form) - 1st Place 200m
- ⇒ Charles S (2nd Form) - 1st Place 300m
- ⇒ Jonathan D (4th Form) - 1st Place 100m (B)
- ⇒ Pierce H (3rd Form) 2nd Place Long Jump
- ⇒ Thomas B (4th Form) 3rd Place Shot Put
- ⇒ Khalil R (2nd Form) - 3rd Place 200m
- ⇒ Kyle W (3rd Form) - 4th Place 100m
- ⇒ Jason O (3rd Form) - 4th Place 200m
- ⇒ Dom F (2nd Form) - 5th Place 1500m
- ⇒ Evy Kitson (1st Form) - 2nd Place Long Jump
- ⇒ Michael Sitsy (1st Form) - 1st Place Long Jump (B)
- ⇒ Matthew Shaw (1st Form) - 2nd Place 800m (B)



Croydon Schools Athletics Success!



National Championship Qualifiers!

At the Independent Schools Association London and South of England Regional Championship we had another fantastic day seeing multiple Regional Champions and therefore they qualified for the National Championships in Birmingham on Monday 16th June! We also had a number of other notable performances as below!

- ⇒ **Hamza Z (4th Form) - 1st Place 100m (National Qualification!)**
- ⇒ **Hamza Z (4th Form) - 1st Place 200m (National Qualification!)**
- ⇒ **Brandon V (4th Form) 1st Place 400m (National Qualification!)**
- ⇒ Thomas B (4th Form) 2nd Place Shot Put
- ⇒ Khalil R-G (2nd Form) - 2nd Place 100m
- ⇒ Year 10 4x100 Relay (Brandon, Jonathan, Henry, Hamza) - 2nd Place



ISA National Championships

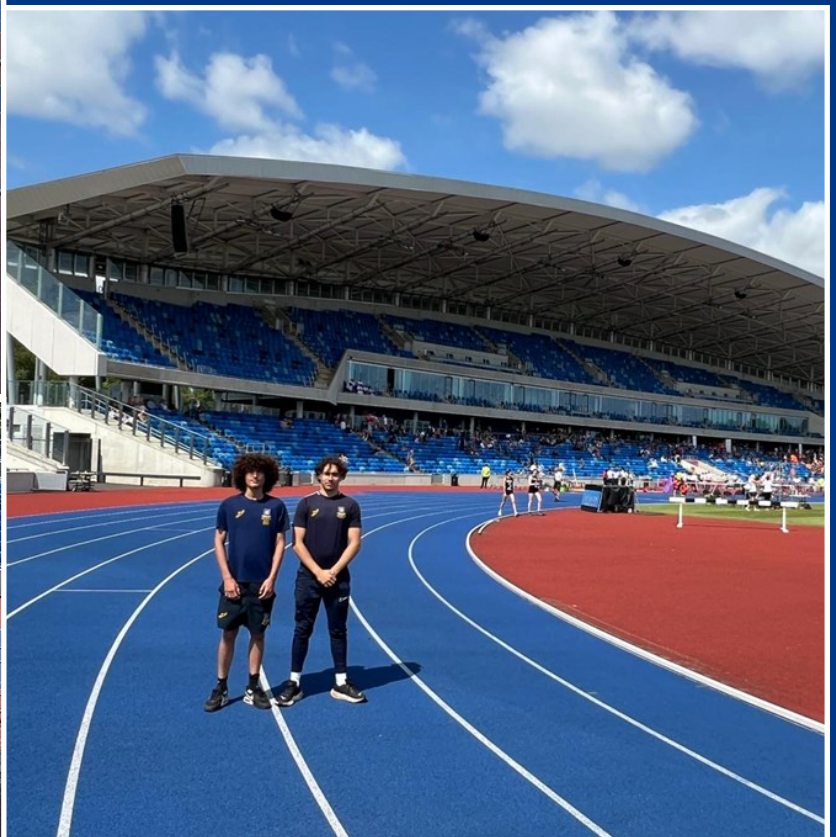
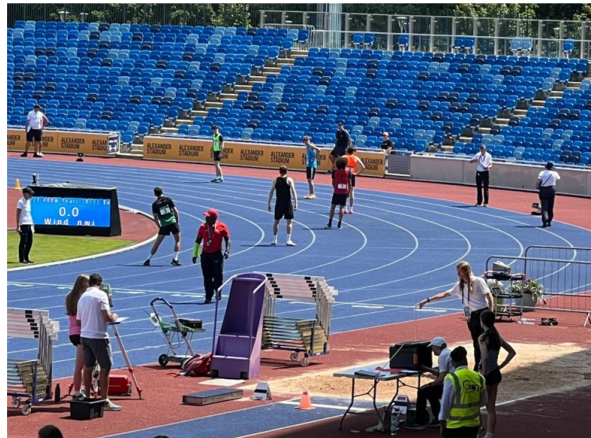
On Monday 16th June, we had two pupils represent The Cedars at the principle of Independent Schools Athletics. Hamza and Brandon from 4th Form took to the track at the Alexander Stadium, Birmingham to compete at the ISA National Championships. The boys represented the school to an exceptional level achieving fantastic results:



⇒ Hamza Z (4th Form) - 11.85 5th Place

⇒ Hamza Z (4th Form) - 23.72 3rd Place

⇒ Brandon Velley (4th Form) - 54.99 4th Place



CRICKET HISTORY MAKERS!

Over the course of the sun soaked cricket season we were lucky enough to witness both some individual and team moments of brilliance. Most notably were the moments below:

- ⇒ The **UI4A** successfully chasing down the highest run chase in Cedars history on 155 Runs.
- ⇒ **Pierce Head** hitting **102*** to help his UI4A team successful chase down the winning run chase.
- ⇒ Our **UI2A's** with notable victories against Whitgift and Claremont
- ⇒ **Matthew Shaw** with a **5 Wicket Haul** against Whitgift helping his team seal the victory.



END OF SEASON AWARDS

Players of The Season

UI2A - Matthew Shaw
UI2B - Gabriel Sanderson
UI3A - Charles Searle
UI3B - Zhakai Solomon
UI4A - Otis Goldthorpe
UI5A - Ameshan Paramasamy

Cedars Overall Player of The season

Pierce Head

Centuries

Pierce Head - 102* vs Ibstock Place

Half Centuries

Pierce Head - 53* vs Whitgift
Otis Goldthorpe - 50* vs Whitgift
Pierce Head - 50* vs Emanuel
Ameshan Paramasamy - 70* vs Ewell Castle

5 Wicket Hauls

Matthew Shaw vs Whitgift

SPORTS DAY 2025

Sports Day 2025 was a truly unforgettable occasion — the final Sports Day in the proud history of The Cedars, and undoubtedly the greatest one yet. From start to finish, the boys conducted themselves with outstanding behaviour, relentless effort, and a camaraderie that perfectly embodied the spirit of the school. It was both an honour and a privilege to witness such an electric atmosphere on our playing fields, as some of the most fiercely contested races and events unfolded before our eyes. The level of athleticism on display was phenomenal, culminating in a staggering 12 school records being broken. It was a day bursting with passion, pride, and excellence — a fitting finale to the sporting legacy of The Cedars.

SCHOOL RECORDS!

Track Events:

- Year 10 100m - 11.00s Morgan Shanu
- Year 10 200m - 24.1s Morgan Shanu
- Year 10 400m - 56.33s Maxwell Fyffe
- Year 9 800m - 2:36.23 Jackson Wild
- Year 8 1500m - 5:15.31 Dominik Filipek
- Combined Relay - 48.24s Tyburn

(Michael S, Charles S, Kyle W & Morgan S)

Field Events:

- Year 10 Long Jump - 5.24m Kyion Stewart
- Year 10 Triple Jump - 10.6m Rotimi Bello
- Year 10 Discus - 28.2m Noah Russel
- Year 8 Long Jump - 4.52m Kai Matthews
- Year 7 Long Jump - 4.04m Evy Kitson
- Year 7 Triple Jump - 8.10m Evy Kitson







FALCON CHAMPIONS!



SPORTSMEN OF THE YEAR 2025

The Sportsman of the Year award recognises individuals whose exceptional sporting performances have consistently stood out across the year. These boys have not only achieved excellence on the sports fields, but have done so with humility, determination, and an unwavering commitment to their teams and the school. They wear The Cedars badge with immense pride, always leading by example through their relentless work ethic and discipline. These two young men represent the very best of what it means to be a Cedars sportsman - this award celebrates not just talent, but the character and commitment that truly defines a potential future sporting superstar.

Congratulations to both of the following pupils:

Senior Sportsman of The Year: Maxwell Fyffe

Junior Sportsman of The Year: Matthew Shaw







2013 - 2025



THE CEDARS
SCHOOL