

INTOUCH

ST. AIDAN'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

NO.10 - JULY 2021



Welcome to our last InTouch of this academic year. Later in this edition you will read about 'courageous advocacy' and how this links to our school vision: 'Life in all its fullness'. And this has certainly been a year for courage, determination and hope in overcoming lots of challenges and lots of changes to our St. Aidan's operation. It has also been a year where lots of things have remained as strong as ever: the kindness that is shown by those in our community, the enjoyment that we find in learning together, the good that we can do for others, and the benefit of exploring all the good things that God's world has to offer. Thank you to everyone, and may we all enjoy many blessings over the coming summer holidays. Take care, and we look forward to being together again in September.

New Sixth Form Senate

The new Senate are a body of 13 St Aidan's students who took office in June. They will represent St Aidan's and the Associated Sixth Form throughout their year in office.

Elected by staff and students, Senate meet weekly, deliver assemblies, support school functions, help at parents evenings, school events and organise events for the Associated Sixth Form.

Senate 2021-2022

Will Ackroyd, Ed Allen, Hannah Carey, Millie Glover, Hattie Johnson, Maya Kern, Mary McIntee, Finlay Noble, Alyssa Parris, Tom Priestley, Tom Shaw, Sam Spencer and Tom Wallace.

Senate Leaders - Hannah Carey, Maya Kern and Tom Priestley.



ShowStarters - Back in the Wings

We are delighted to announce the return of live performance to St.Aidan's in November 2021. This will be a celebration of musical theatre and dance in Constance Green Hall over several nights. We are inviting students currently in Years 9, 10, 11 and 12 to take part through an audition process on Teams. The show will feature all your favourite shows including Mamma Mia, The Greatest Showman, Hamilton, Dear Evan Hansen, Everyone's Talking About Jamie and Les Miserables.



All students in Years 9, 10, 11 and 12 have been added to a Team where auditions can be uploaded. Details of how to send in an audition recording have been set as an assignment. We are very much looking forward to seeing lots of students sending in videos. Please remember that this is a considerable commitment for students and that there will be lunchtime and after school rehearsals as well as weekend rehearsals on Sunday 14th and Sunday 21st November 2021.

The curtain will go up for performances in the week beginning Monday 22nd November. Details about days, times and ticketing will be sent out in September. Good luck to everyone who auditions!

Fashion and Textiles Display

We currently have a fantastic display in main reception of Year 10 and Year 12 Fashion and Textiles projects. It is wonderful to see the hard work and creativity of our students.



Alumni - We Need You!

St Aidan was passionate about sharing the good news of the Gospel with everyone he met. He was also passionate about teaching the next generation to do the same and established centres of education which trained young people for a missionary life.

As part of a new project introducing next year's Year 7 to our school and the story of St Aidan, we'd like to invite former pupils to send us words of advice and encouragement for a new cohort of St Aidan's students. Messages will be displayed in the Chapel in September and can be sent in as writing or as an audio/video recording. Please join in by telling us in brief what you'd like to pass on to the next generation. What do you think you've learned from your time at St Aidan's? How can other young people get the most out of their time here? How has your faith been a support to you on the path you've taken since leaving school? Please email alumni@staidans.co.uk your thoughts about any or all of the above, ideally by Weds 1st September 2021.



Music For Youth

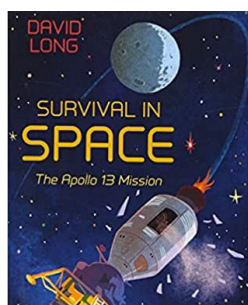
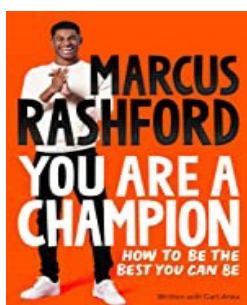
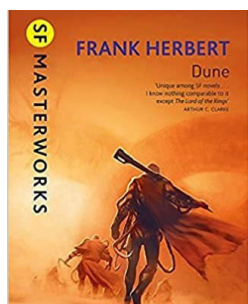
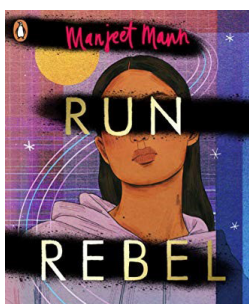
Year 13 Swing Band, Year 13 Chamber Choir and Year 10 GCSE Music students should have been appearing on the Symphony Hall stage, Birmingham, during July at the National Festival of Music for Youth until it was cancelled very recently.

However, Music for Youth are creating a Digital Performance Stage in its place, with music ensembles from all over the country. The three St Aidan's groups feature in a compilation video on the Music For Youth YouTube channel. Their performances are fantastic and well worth watching, please click here to watch and listen!



Reading Corner

The Library department have a list of recommended reading for this month, for books to enjoy over the summer break. Click on the book covers to see the full list.



3G Pitch Update

We are very excited at the prospect of work starting on the St. Aidan's 3G sports pitch at the start of August. The pitch is a full size, FIFA regulation pitch that will transform the opportunities in sport for our students at St. Aidan's and also for our local community. The pitch will be completed after the October half term holiday and we anticipate that lessons and extra-curricular activities will be able to take place soon after enabling us to train and play matches in just about all types of weather. There will be more traffic going in and out of Bede House car park throughout the month of August including heavy lorries and anyone who is visiting the school site should be aware of this hazard and avoid the Bede House car park where possible. We will be taking bookings for community use in the Autumn term.



Year 10 Food and Nutrition

Our Year 10 Food Technology students have been busy making layered desserts. They applied their knowledge of coagulation and denaturation of protein, plus the aeration of fats and dectrinisation of starch. Another Year 10 Food and Nutrition group have been working on aeration, decorative techniques and presentation whilst demonstrating knife skills and precision. Fantastic work!



Interform Summer Sports

Once again, another year of Interform competitions have come to an end and the students have been brilliant in their engagement and efforts in various sporting events. Many students have taken part and friendly rivalries have continued. Games were tense and results were close. Cross country revealed great runners and personal qualities of determination and resilience. Athletics allowed spectators to watch and noisily cheer on team mates. Huge congratulations go to all the students who took part, every competitor earned valuable points for their form. All form groups performed superbly, but the final results were:

Year 7

1st place - 7E and 7W

2nd place - 7C, 7D and 7S

3rd place - 7P

4th place - 7G and 7Y

Year 8

1st place - 8C and 8P

2nd place - 8E and 8G, 8S and 8W

4th place - 8D and 8Y

Year 9

1st place - 9H and 9P

2nd place - 9C and 9W

3rd place - 9G and 9S

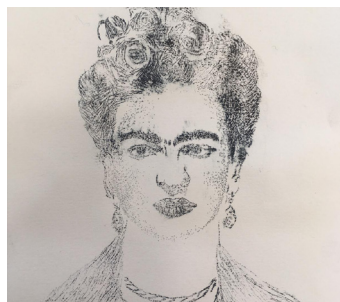
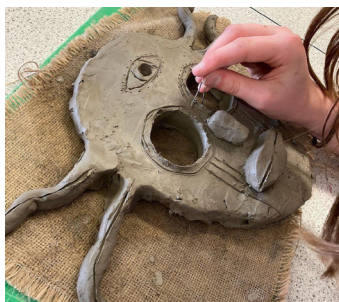
4th place - 9D and 9Y

5th place - 9E



Sculptures and Prints

During the last part of term in the Art department, Year 8 students have been working on clay sculptures inspired by African masks, whilst Year 9 have been creating some dry point etching prints. Amazing work!



Year 11 Hockey Champion

Year 11 student Emma Waud has recently won the England Hockey National Championships with her local team, Thirsk Hockey Club.

The team travelled to Nottingham Hockey Centre to compete in the finals against Knowle Park, Kent. They won the match 3-2. Congratulations to Emma on her sporting achievement!



Football Fixtures

In June, all year groups, both girls and boys, headed over to St John Fisher School to play football fixtures. It has been great to see so many of our students get back into competing for school.

The fixtures have been really competitive but as always played in great spirit. Well done to all those students involved.



Courageous Advocacy

In John Ch 10 v10, Jesus says: "I have come in order that you might have life - life in all its fullness." As followers of Jesus, these words – which are central to our school vision - present a promise and a challenge. How can we both receive this gift and enable others in our community to experience "life in all its fullness" too?



To address this theme, our collective worship has this term focused on courageous advocates – men and women of diverse backgrounds whose words and actions have changed the lives of others. Through the stories of historical figures like William Wilberforce and Emmeline Pankhurst, as well as more recent advocates for change like Desmond Tutu and Greta Thunberg, we've learned how societies, and indeed the whole world, can be challenged and shaped by people of faith, conscience and resilience.

To inspire us still further, we were delighted to record and present interviews with several local heroes whose dedicated work with charities locally and overseas is impacting hugely on the lives of others. Below are just some of the organisations they represent which our community might be interested in. We'd be really pleased to hear more from students and their families about the many ways in which you are making a difference too.

Resurrected Bites

Resurrected Bites seeks to provide affordable and nutritious food to those in need in the Harrogate area. Established initially to use up food surplus and combat loneliness, the charity has shifted from providing pay-as-you-feel cafes to home delivery of weekly food parcels. Since the pandemic hit, the team estimate that they have served over 15,000 needy people. To find out more about Resurrected Bites and how to donate food items, please go to their website: <https://resurrectedbites.co.uk/>



Harrogate Clothes Bank

The Clothing Bank began in 2016 and is open to anyone in need of clothing. The charity are currently unable to take more donations but are looking for new premises to store their stock. If you might be able to help please contact the team via their website: <https://harrogateclothesbank.co.uk/>

Resurrection Bikes

The team at Resurrection Bikes takes donated bicycles of all types and sizes, carries out any necessary repairs and sells them on at affordable prices. Nothing is wasted and money raised goes to several charities including Aid to Eastern Europe, Artizan International and In2Out. To volunteer your time (Covid restrictions permitting), donate a bicycle or even to purchase one of your own, you can find out more on their website: <https://www.resurrectionbikes.org.uk/>

Dementia Forward

Dementia Forward supports people affected by dementia all across North Yorkshire and is this year's winner of The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service. The team's services include a helpline, wellbeing cafés, and a community hub in Burton Leonard. To access their services or find out how you can get involved in fundraising activities, check out their website here: <https://www.dementiaforward.org.uk/>

International Justice Mission

This charity is the world's largest international anti-slavery organisation, working with local authorities in countries all around the world to protect people in poverty from violence and exploitation. Harrogate has its own IJM fundraising campaign which you can find out more about here: <https://www.ijmuk.org/HG-100>

Artizan International

Artizan International seeks to make the world a more inclusive and accessible place for everyone. People living with disabilities in Peru and Ecuador are trained by the team to create beautiful crafts – cards, jewellery and accessories – which are then purchased at a fair price by Artizan to be sold in local shops or shipped to their HQ in Harrogate from where we can purchase them too. All profits go back into buying materials and equipment overseas so the cycle can continue. In the UK the team also offer therapeutic craft sessions for adults with disabilities, long-term hospital inpatients locally and children with special needs. To find out more pop into their shop on Oxford Street or access their website here



Spotlight 2021

Over 100 students in Year 7, 8 and 9 have been rehearsing hard for the past few weeks, to put on this year's Spotlight performance. Changing guidance, restrictions and isolations have all brought their challenges but the students have been so adaptive and enthusiastic about performing together again. Spotlight 2021: Summer Spectacular can be accessed by using this link to YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ulh9AaQwLec>



Athletics Achievements

In a Summer with no school athletics fixtures to enjoy, lots of athletes have been competing as part of the Harrogate Harriers team in league matches across the North of England, against the region's biggest clubs, and often winning!

In the Under 13 teams - Eliza Henry, Jess Kirk, Jess Smith, Emma Leonard, Lucy Everson, Alice Fisher, Oliver Holt, Jack Barnett, James Dickinson and Alfie Charlton.

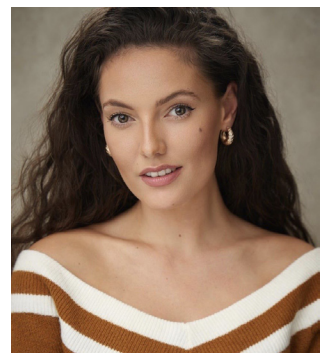


In the Under 15 teams - Harriet Mitchell, Ella McIntosh, Sam Skaife-Clark, Josh Morales-Macias, Gabriella Chippindale, Elena Dickson, Niamh Robinson, Sophie Baker, Ayla Shinn, Honor Worrall, Otis Baker, Josh Keay, Ava Barnett, Grace Fisher, Amelia Dickie and Will Harvey.

In the Under 17 teams – Scarlett Smith, Carys Dickson, Ella Colbourn, Rohan Turner, Tom Midwood, Molly Richardson, Victoria Dabrowska, Rebecca Caygill, Willow Baker, Mollie Reynolds-Jones, Kaelin McCooke and Elisa Hodson.

Alumni Theatre Success

Former students Katie Pearson and Charlotte Coles both completed professional training in Musical Theatre at ArtsEd after Sixth Form. Katie has performed in the West End and on tour in productions such as Hairspray, 42nd Street, Big The Musical and Dusty – The Dusty Springfield Musical. Her run in Manchester in Back to the Future the Musical was cut short, but she is about to head back to the show, this time in the West End, she is currently in rehearsals and will open in August 2021 at the Adelphi Theatre.



Charlotte has been involved with film and television work as well as theatre credits for Dogfight off West End and Romeo and Juliet for Secret Cinema in London. Before the pandemic hit she was about to start a tour of Australia and New Zealand in the World of Musicals, the tour was postponed, but she is now back over there and has recently start performing again.



Congratulations to both Katie and Charlotte on their successes.

British Athletics Success for Ella

The European Athletics Under 20 Championships took place in Tallinn, Estonia this month.

St Aidan's student Eleanor Colbourn is ranked seventh in Europe in the women's 800m. This summer she was selected to compete for the British team for the first time.

In her heat, Ella came 4th and has qualified for the semi finals. This is a truly amazing achievement.



[Click here to see her heat race](#) and [here for the competition results](#).

Huge congratulations to Ella!

Upcoming dates for your diary

23 July: Training Day

10 Aug: Sixth Form Results Day

12 Aug: GCSE Results Day

2-3 Sept: Sixth Form Enrolment Day

6 Sept: Autumn Term begins - Training Day

7 Sept: Year 7 and Year 12 students return to school

8 Sept: Years 8-11 and Year 13 students return to school



We hope you have enjoyed this edition of **INTOUCH**.

Thank you for your feedback so far; please do send any further comments or suggestions to Cath Harrison (c.harrison@staidans.co.uk)