

# A VIEW OF THE CLOSE

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2020



ODD SOCKS DAY

## FROM THE HEADMASTER'S DESK



It has been a busy week at the College and I am pleased to present this jam-packed edition of A View of The Close to you. If you don't already, do follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) where you will find news from the College posted most days.

Kindness and thoughtfulness towards others has, in the main, been the theme of the week. We have actively celebrated Anti-Bullying Week, a national initiative organised by the Anti-Bullying Alliance which represents some 140 organisations. From wearing odd socks in celebration of individuality to Prep and Senior School assemblies, staff and pupils have been united in sending a powerful message about how Dover College feels about bullying!

The Race to Paris is well underway, and it has been wonderful to see pupils and staff completing laps of the close to contribute to the House or staff team efforts. As you can see below, Leamington and St Martin's have pulled ahead, but the staff team and other Houses are hot on their heels!

I urge you to consider how you might support one of the fantastic pupil-led initiatives to ensure that local homeless people have food and drink. The work in this area from our Remove pupils, as well as some of our Sixth Form, is an inspiration to us all.

*Sina Fister*

## ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

The week began with an excellent Senior School assembly from Miss Green, **Harvey Mashiter-Yates** (Head Boy) and **James Hide** (Safeguarding Prefect). It can be watched [here](#). Lovely assemblies on Anti-Bullying from [Leamington](#) and [St Martin's](#) are also available to view.

Pupils and staff across the College participated in Odd Socks Day on Monday, an initiative organised by the Anti-Bullying Alliance. Mismatching socks were worn with pride, to assert the right everyone should have to express themselves and to celebrate individuality and what makes us all unique.

A number of our Year 13 pupils have been trained as Anti-Bullying ambassadors, as part of The Diana Award programme. **James Hide**, our Safeguarding Prefect writes, 'Bullying can affect the strongest of minds. Anyone can be the victim of it. You are never alone, there are always others who can relate. Speak out and look out for others. If you know of anyone who is potentially being maltreated, help them out and make their problems known to an adult, teacher, or anti-bullying ambassador. This was all mentioned in our anti-bullying assembly on Monday, which provided pupils with help and advice on this extremely important topic. Together we can help to stop bullying.'

## FROM THE DIRECTOR OF SPORT



Staff Team  
111.76 KM



121.3 KM



124.6 KM



96.3 KM



99.2 KM

Dover College Senior School pupils and staff are taking part in an epic '[Race to Paris](#)'.

The brainchild of our Director of Sport, the initiative forms part of our reinvention of the annual programme of house competitions. Not to be outdone by the pupils, staff have formed a team and are competing in the race too!

The competition serves another important purpose. As we all know, time spent outdoors and social distancing must be promoted whilst the virus remains in circulation. Every single member of the school community can contribute to the race, by completing laps of The Close (walking or jogging) or providing evidence of outdoor exercise completed at home. Once Paris is reached, the competition will continue with a race to a new destination. How many kilometres can the teams cover before the end of the school year?

The pupils in the Senior School have been working hard this week to prepare for the upcoming house fixtures which are always played with passion, determination and good sportsmanship. This will provide the opportunity for each house to add points that will contribute towards the house competition. The fixtures dates are below:

### House Football Fixture List

Priory House	Intermediates	Seniors
25 <sup>th</sup> November	25 <sup>th</sup> November	10 <sup>th</sup> December
2 <sup>nd</sup> December	3 <sup>rd</sup> December	-
9 <sup>th</sup> December	8 <sup>th</sup> December	-

### House Hockey Fixture List

Priory House	Intermediates	Seniors
23 <sup>rd</sup> November	24 <sup>th</sup> November	3 <sup>rd</sup> December
30 <sup>th</sup> November	26 <sup>th</sup> November	-
7 <sup>th</sup> December	1 <sup>st</sup> December	-

## SENIOR MATHEMATICS CHALLENGE SUCCESS

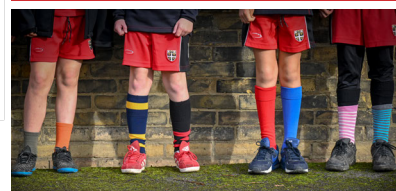
On 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2020, ten of our top performing mathematicians sat the UKMT Senior Mathematics Challenge. Here they had to answer 25 complex and detailed questions to score as many points as they could. A typical question was, "The letters p, q, r, s and t represent different positive single-digit numbers such that  $p - q = r$  and  $r - s = t$ . How many different values could t have?"

**Adrian Pastor Perez**, **Seb Klappa**, **Imogen Langley**, **Vadim Shestopalov**, **Bob Ren** and **Tim Jin** received a certificate of participation. **Nikolay Lunezhev** received a commendable Bronze Certificate. **Wenjie Bai** and **Chang Yu** received an excellent Silver Certificate. **Lucas Zheng** had an amazing score, was best in school and received an outstanding Gold Certificate. He has been automatically entered for the British Mathematics Olympiad competition, so good was his performance. Congratulations to all of the participants and good luck to Lucas later this month.

## HELP US ALL TO KEEP SAFE

We ask for your support as we continue to encourage social distancing, hand and respiratory hygiene and the use of face coverings. As per Government guidance, the measures differ slightly between the Prep School and Senior School.

PLEASE KEEP YOUR CHILD AT HOME AND ARRANGE A TEST IF THEY EXHIBIT ANY OF THE [THREE COVID-19 SYMPTOMS](#) SPECIFIED BY THE NHS.



**Prep 5** have used odd socks to spell out an important message about bullying!



## TikTok Parental Controls

With TikTok surging in popularity, including children deliberately increasing their followers to 1,000 so that they can go live, it's good to see TikTok making more controls available for parents. The features, which are available via Family Pairing, include the ability to prevent the child searching and preventing strangers from seeing the child's posts. More details are available [here](#).

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## OUR NEW 360° VIRTUAL TOUR

We are extremely pleased to announce the launch of a new 360° virtual tour of the College. Using panoramic drone footage and built using the technology utilised in Google Street View, it provides a truly immersive experience. To take the tour, visit our school website or click on the image above.

## CALLING ALL POETS!

The English Department would like pupils to consider entering the Imagine! Poetry Competition being run by Young Writers. The competition is open to 11-18 year olds. Entries can be submitted to [Mr Allen](#) by 11<sup>th</sup> December or [online](#) by 18<sup>th</sup> December.



## THE TRY ANGLE AWARDS

Do you know a young person who really tries to do their best? Have you noticed examples of excellence and exceptional achievements from a young person during the difficult period of COVID-19 lockdown this year? The Try Angle Awards team welcome nominations for individual young people or groups aged 11 – 18 who really TRY their best within one of these eight nomination categories: Arts, Music, Sports or Outdoor Activities, Community Action, Good Friends and Young Carers, Personal Development, Courage or Positive Intervention. Anyone can nominate a young person for an award. For more information and to nominate a young person or group, please go to [www.kent.gov.uk/tryangle](http://www.kent.gov.uk/tryangle)



## DEBATING

Fifth Form pupils in our International Study Centre engaged in a heated debate on cosmetic surgery this week. Some observations from pupils after the debate included:

- "My team and I came to the conclusion that it can be used positively if it is for a medical reason, for instance after a car crash." - Theresa
- "Surgery means removing someone's natural beauty" - Elena
- "We should learn to love the things we have in order to be able to accept others as they are" - Juliette

## IN SERVICE TO OTHERS

As a College we are committed to instilling in pupils the importance of serving others. Over the past few weeks there have been some fantastic pupil-led initiatives on this front.

The boys and girls of Remove are eager to support homeless people in Dover through the [Porchlight](#) and [Emmaus](#) charities, following their recent chapel on the subject. They are requesting quite specific donations, as the homeless have nowhere to cook and do not have electricity, and suggest donations as below be brought to Priory Lodge:

- **Shell** on 23<sup>rd</sup> November and **Remove** on 24<sup>th</sup> November (crisps, tins of savoury food with ring pull opening, small packets of nuts)
- **Third Form** on 25<sup>th</sup> November, **Fourth Form** on 26<sup>th</sup> November and **Fifth Form** on 27<sup>th</sup> November (sweets and chocolate, tinned fruit with ring pull opening, bottled or canned drinks, brunch bars)
- **Lower Sixth** on 30<sup>th</sup> November and **Upper Sixth** on 1<sup>st</sup> December (hand warmers, small bottles of hand sanitiser, packets of biscuits)

**James Hide** (Upper Sixth) and **Emily Calder** (Lower Sixth) were inspired by this initiative by Remove. Aware that many large organisations have a yearly budget where they can donate to charities and worthy causes, they were able to secure a kind donation from Sainsburys. They supplemented with this a donation from their own pockets, filling two large shopping trollies at Aldi with suitable items. Their initiative and generosity is inspirational.

**Alicia Myers** (Lower Sixth) has also been moved to take action:

"Last year on social media I saw the idea of the reverse advent calendar where instead of opening an advent calendar window and being rewarded with a picture (and maybe even a chocolate!) on each day you add an item of food into a box to donate to the local food bank. This was such a simple idea and one that could really make a difference.

As a member of Kent Scouts I made a promise to help people, especially my local community, so this time last year I asked my fellow Duckies to join me. As a House we collected seven bulging bags of groceries, which I took to the food bank in Dover at the end of term.

This year the demand on the food banks is already much higher than normal due to Coronavirus. I am therefore reaching out to the whole Dover College community to help us aid our local community. We are very generous as a College and when we all come together great things happen, so I would like to ask our community to join our reverse advent calendar scheme.

Mrs Marie-Payne has organised safe "bubble friendly" collection days and the boxes are awaiting donations in the chapel. If you could bring in any non-perishable food donation over this Christmas term that would be incredible and I would be sincerely grateful for your support. There are details of what the food banks are short of, but I am sure they will appreciate any donation you feel able to make. I will take all of your kind donations to the food bank at the end of term. Thank you for making a difference this Christmas."

## THE HOUSE COMPETITION EXPLAINED

We are very lucky to have Mr Breeze, a self confessed lover of spreadsheets, coordinating the calculation of House Point totals. He has provided an explanation of the methodology he uses.

"With the House Competitions coming thick and fast over the coming weeks, I would like to share with you details of the system I am using in order to calculate the House Totals.

In addition to the points available for House Competitions in Sport and the Performing Arts, students are able to win points for their house through academic work and demonstrating positive attitudes towards their studies and other aspects of life at Dover College. Points can be gained for Merits, Headmaster's Commendations and Academic Certificates. They are lost for demerits and detentions accumulated.

In the interests of fairness, the total number of House Points gained or lost in each of the above categories is averaged over the number of students in each House and multiplied by 10 to avoid small decimal numbers. Pupils in Priory House all play a part too, with their individual contributions added to the totals for their future assigned Senior House."

## HOUSE POINT STANDINGS as at 19.11.20



29



14



10



28