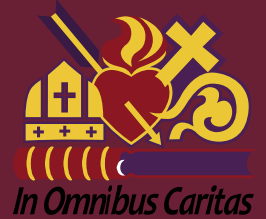


AUSTIN 22/23



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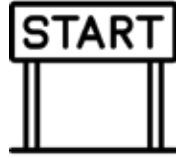
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MICHAELMAS TERM

Glorious Goodwood!

The Young Engineers Club competed against over 100 teams from around the world at the F24 International Final at Goodwood Motor Circuit in October. Scrutineering went smoothly and the car was put through its paces during practice. In race one, Hugo got them off a flying start, choosing a great line and passing several cars. However, disaster struck as one of the wheels locked and was soon called into pits by crew members Dillon and Daniel. Thankfully, pit crew Euan and Joe were on hand to ensure a quick fix and a change of driver gave them a fighting chance for the afternoon's race. Nathaniel, Hugo and Austin turned out to be a great combination in race two as the team climbed up the rankings to finish 33rd in the F24 class.



Lockerbie Manor

Junior 4 were very lucky with the weather for their residential to Lockerbie Manor. Over the course of the week, the pupils got to take part in doing an obstacle course in the dark, canoeing, kayaking, orienteering, raft building, Stand Up Paddleboarding, archery, biking and initiative exercises where they worked in a team to solve problems. It was a very enjoyable week.



SENIOR SCHOOL HOUSE MUSIC FESTIVAL

In October, we enjoyed a fantastic range of solo and ensemble musical performances as part of the annual House Music Festival. Lincoln House were the overall winners of the 2022 competition and Stafford House were victorious in the House Singing Competition, performing 'Viva La Vida' by Coldplay as their individual song. It was wonderful to see so much talent on display.



AUSTRIA SKI TRIP

54 intrepid pupils travelled to Salzberger Sportwelt in Austria at the end of the Michaelmas term for a skiing trip. The skiers made huge progress thanks to the team of instructors. The most experienced group, led by rep Harry covered close to 200 miles over the course of the trip. They also visited the Christmas Markets of Salzburg and had a fantastic festive time!



1st Form Residential

Our new 1st Form travelled to Brathay at the start of the academic year for their three-day residential. They spent time getting to know each other and their tutors, while challenging themselves and supporting their peers. They reflected on what it means to be part of the Austin Friars community and how our core values of Unitas, Veritas and Caritas can play a big part in their daily lives.



SOUTH LAKES SAFARI

Transition and Preparatory had a fabulous time during their visit to South Lakes Safari Zoo. There were lots of different animals to see including tigers, jaguars, flamingos, red pandas, lemurs, rhinos, and monkeys. Their topic at the time was about Polar Regions, and the children had the chance to feed some penguins which was great fun.



Talkin Tarn

Junior 1 had a fantastic time on their trip to Talkin Tarn. The weather was beautiful and the children had great fun completing an orienteering course, practising the maps skills they had been learning about in school. The trip also linked to their Science work on 'changing world' as they identified some of the many trees and birds in the environment.

Kindergarten Harvest Festival Bread

When Kindergarten were learning about Harvest Festival, they visited Emma in the school canteen, to help them make some bread. The pupils weighed out all the ingredients, mixed it together and kneaded the dough into little loaves before seeing them go into the oven to bake. The results were delicious!



Infant Nativity

Our infant pupils put on two fabulous performances of their Nativity in Chapel just before Christmas. All their practices and learning lines helped them to wonderfully retell the Christmas story to parents, grandparents and friends. There was even a special song in French to end!

Firefighter Visit

The pupils from Pre-School to Preparatory were lucky to have a visit from the firefighters of Blue Watch just before Bonfire Night. They talked about what is involved in the role of a firefighter, showed their uniform, talked about the importance of a smoke detector in the home and also explained about firework safety. The children all then had a chance to look at the fire engine, have a go with the fire hose and sit in the vehicle.



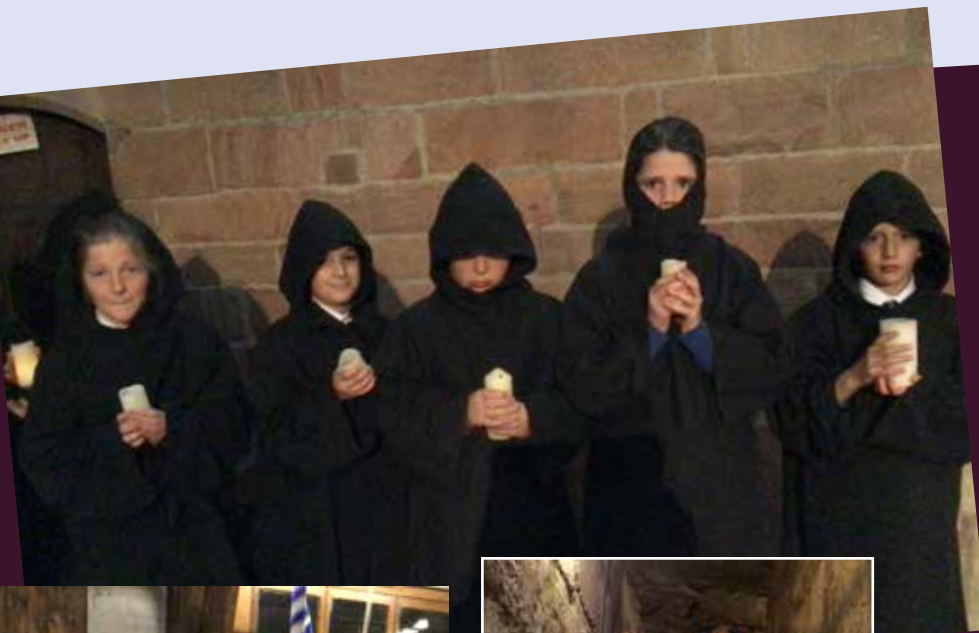
Silverband Falconry

Silverband Falconry brought some of their beautiful birds to see our Junior School pupils. The classes spent some time up close with the animals in an educational handling session in the Austin Suite, before a fantastic flying demonstration in the afternoon.



Hexham Abbey

Junior 3 visited Hexham Abbey as part of their topic on the Tudors to learn more about the Abbey and its fate during Henry VIII's dissolution of the monasteries. They used feather quills and ink to write an imaginary letter to Henry VIII and visited the crypt under the Abbey. They were also fortunate enough to spend some time with the bell ringers of the Abbey and after a quick demonstration, were given the opportunity to ring one on their own!





ICELAND

Forty of our 4th and 5th Form enjoyed an action-packed trip to Iceland in October half-term, including a visit to one of the world's largest geothermal power stations, the longest lava tunnel in Iceland, the LAVA Centre, horse riding and a glacier walk equipped with crampons and ice axes. During their stay, they saw some stunning waterfalls and geysers, a beautiful black beach and amazing basalt cliffs and caves. One of the highlights for many was an atmospheric evening swim at The Blue Lagoon. As the mist rose up from the water, they sipped soft drinks while wearing restorative face packs from the 'Mask Bar', surrounded by the dramatic basaltic scenery!



KELVINGROVE ART TRIP

The GCSE and A' Level artists spent a day at Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum in Glasgow. As well as viewing a range of pieces, sculptures, and artefacts they also took part in a 50th Anniversary Exhibition workshop exploring prints, printmaking techniques, monoprint, stencilling and collage.



SISTER ACT

This year's Senior School production was the absolutely fantastic Sister Act! Congratulations to everyone involved, especially all the cast and backstage crew. They produced 3 amazing performances enjoyed by hundreds of pupils, parents and friends!



Lent Term

Chinese Dragon Dance

As part of the Chinese New Year Celebrations, we welcomed Amy Jackson from Primary Workshops for Schools to run some Chinese Dragon Dancing workshops for pupils from Junior 3 to 4th Form. Pupils learned a traditional short dance that involved authentic Chinese props, and at the end of the day, performed in front of each other in a friendly competition.



Beamish

Junior 4 had a great day at Beamish. They looked around the farm, enjoyed their Victorian lesson in the school, went on rides at the fairground and were very excited to be buying sweets in the old-fashioned sweet shop.



House Cross Country

There was strong House Spirit on show during the Junior and Senior School House Cross Country races this term - both from the athletes and spectators! The pupils were enthusiastic to be competing for their House but in true Friars spirit, cheered for everyone without fail.



KG Chicks and Lambs

Kindergarten got up close with some special baby animals this term, after the chicks hatched in the class incubator and we were visited by some 3-week-old lambs. The pupils took great care of the chicks until they went to their forever home and they all got to have a go at feeding the lambs after learning how to look after them!

Infant Ceramics

Our Infant classes all had Easter-themed pottery workshops with our Art Technician, Kim of KAH Ceramics. The pupils used rollers, stencils and cutters to create decorations which they then painted in lovely Spring colours.





FRENCH EXCHANGE



Our French Exchangers travelled to La Seyne Sur Mer in the South of France to spend a week with their host families in the return leg of our French Exchange Programme. Pupils got to spend time in Toulon and Marseille on day trips and were lucky to be in La Seyne Sur Mer on market day to enjoy the fresh local produce and beautiful street art it is famous for. As well as spending individual time with their host families, the group went for a hike to the famous submarine rock, when not even the rain could spoil spending some time on the beach!



Anglo-Saxon Workshop

Junior 1 enjoyed an Anglo-Saxon workshop at Tullie House. The children made a timeline to show where the Anglo-Saxons fit into the history of England and then had fun investigating aspects of life in Anglo-Saxon times. There was lots of interesting discussion and investigation of artefacts, and the children all had a go at writing kennings.



Youth Speaks

We were honoured to welcome the Mayor and Mayoress into our whole-school assembly in the Lent Term to recognise and celebrate 3 of our VI Formers winning the Senior section of the local Rotary Youth Speaks competition – a team-based public speaking competition where students research and construct their presentations on a topic of their choice. Freya, Georgia and Arabella were announced the winners at their event and were successful in developing their public speaking and debating skills.



Ancient Greece

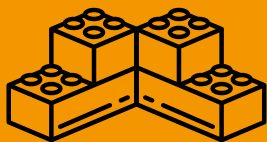
During this term, Preparatory were learning about Greece. They researched the Ancient Greeks and their Gods and Goddesses, made vases using clay and tasted Greek food. They even designed and created their own Olympic medals, after trying on a real Olympic gold medal.



Boarbank Hall

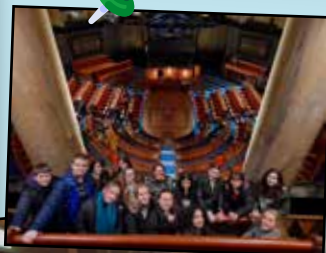
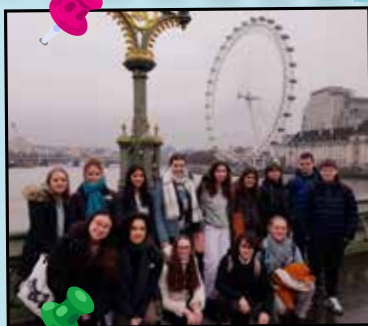
3rd Form pupils travelled to Boarbank Hall to visit the Augustinian Sisters who live and work in the Augustinian community and the Nursing Home. Pupils had time for reflection and took part in various activities and talks related to St Augustine, building on our School's core values. They also met the Sisters and had the opportunity to ask them questions about their life and work as an Augustinian nun.





Lego League

As National reigning champions, our hopes of retaining the title at the Lego League Robot competition began to slip away when our robot performed tricks it had never shown us before! However, the team regrouped and after some important programming adjustments, went into the final round brimming with 'nervous' confidence and smashed their highest score ever reaching 150 points. Although their wonderful presentation on the 'Superpowered' initiative wasn't quite enough to secure this year's crown, we were very proud with how well they performed.



GCSE DRAMA VISIT TO LONDON

Our GCSE Drama students had a jam-packed trip to London, where they experienced a wide range of live theatre performances and backstage tours at the National Theatre, Theatre Royal Drury Lane, Shakespeare's Globe and London County Hall, as well as exploring the Musicals Re:Imagined exhibition at the V&A Museum.



SPANISH TRIP TO MADRID

Some of the GCSE and A' Level linguists spent a weekend in Madrid meeting new friends at our fellow Augustinian school, Colegio San Agustin, and practising their speaking fluency. They spent some time in the school, visited the Real Madrid Stadium and the Palacio de Cibeles. They explored the Plaza Mayor and the Mercado de San Miguel and took a trip to the Prado Museum, Rastro flea market, Reina Sofia museum and Retiro Park.



Cathedral Christingle

The Junior School choir performed in a special Christingle service at Carlisle Cathedral on Tuesday. They sang with a joint choir of over 100 with children from Belle Vue and Kingmoor. Highlights included a candlelit performance of 'One Candle', dancing with glow sticks and singing 'Away in a Manger' with their Christingles lit all down the aisle of the Cathedral.



MOUNTAIN ADVENTURE CLUB

In March, the Mountain Adventure Club headed down the Ullswater valley to scale St Sunday Crag. With a Spring chill in the air, the climbers ascended with vigour and enthusiasm to a well-earned magnificent view from the summit and enjoyed some ice-cream and snacks in Glenridding before the weary journey home.



Surgeon's Hall

Our 5th Form History pupils spent a day in Edinburgh learning about medicine and surgery in the 19th Century. The pupils learned about progress in antiseptics, anaesthetics and surgical techniques, including the opportunity to view a huge variety of pathology specimens. The highlight of the day was the 'Blood and Guts' walking tour of the Old Town with the hugely entertaining and informative tour guide, Gerry.

SUMMER TERM



Forest Schools



Some of our Junior School classes enjoyed 'Forest School Friday' sessions at Stocks Wood in the Summer Term, learning about the seasons and different habitats in the outdoor classroom. Pupils got to have a go at making Hapa Zome art, using plants, hammers and a piece of cloth; creating birds' nests, doing bark rubbings, going on mini beast hunts and making clay minibeasts from the natural clay.

Paragon Vets Visit

Tying in with Pre-School topic of 'Pets' and the Kindergarten topic of 'Farming', we were really lucky to receive a visit from Paragon Vets in the Summer Term. The pupils had a go at dressing in the scrubs and scanning a cat and a dog for their microchip. They bandaged up the dog Nigel, had a go with a stethoscope, inspected animal bones and identified animal X-rays. Everyone showed a lot of potential and could be fantastic future vets!



Pirate Trip

Transition had been learning about pirates in the Summer Term, so what better way to end the year than a trip on a boat from Ambleside to Brockholes on Windermere nature reserve. During the journey, the pupils wore the pirate hats and masks they had painted. After enjoying their packed lunch playing on the play equipment, they hopped back on the boat to enjoy an ice-cream in the sunshine before heading to Hawkshead Chocolate Factory to complete a chocolate workshop!



Sports Days

We had 3 very sunny Sports Days this year for Pre-School, Junior School and Senior School. All pupils got the chance to represent their Houses and were cheered on by everyone watching as the sun shone and the water bottles were re-filled. Aidan won the Junior School competition and it was Stafford's year for victory in the Senior School.



Coronation Party

We had so much fun at a special Coronation Celebration event in the Junior School this term. There were songs in Chapel, themed races on the Astro, picnics for the pupils and Pimms and scones for the parents!! All the pupils looked the part too by dressing in red, white and blue!





Life Centre

Junior 3 had a fantastic time at the Life Centre and enjoyed a day of non-stop activities starting with an Extreme Weather Antarctica workshop before visiting the planetarium and the Science Theatre Show where they learned lots of information about germs. The day ended with exploring the Wow, Creativity and Brain Zones where there were so many interactive activities for them to take part in.



Dukeshouse Wood

Junior 2 went on a 3-day residential trip to Dukeshouse Wood where they had a fantastic time enjoying lots of outdoor activities including archery, high ropes, fire lighting and lots of team-building activities. It was a super experience for the whole class, who were extremely tired by the end of the week!



Gold DoE Practice Walk

For their Gold DofE practice walk, students started near Shap, and walked to Glenridding. The pupils had to be independent, carrying all their food & equipment. They wild camped in remote locations in the beautiful spring weather.



Whithaugh Park

Transition and Preparatory had a wonderful time on their trip to Whithaugh Park, taking part in Bushcraft and Geocaching activities and, undoubtedly the highlight, a 300m zipwire over the lake! It was the first residential they had experienced, and it was a huge success.



Cullercoats

Our L6th Biology students spent two days on the rocky shores of Cullercoats in the North-East identifying various species of molluscs, crustaceans and seaweeds, and looking for patterns in their distribution in preparation for the practical component investigation of the course. Despite the range of weather conditions, the students enjoyed the 2 days and discovered you're never too old to enjoy a bit of rock pooling!!



Teddy Bear's Picnic

Our EYFS pupils enjoyed a 'Teddy Bears Picnic' with some very special friends at the end of term. The rain couldn't stop the fun and we moved the picnic inside before going on a hunt around the school for some of our favourite characters and singing some songs!



Lower School Ball

Pupils from 1st to 3rd Form 'dressed to impress' for our annual Lower School Ball. In the beautiful summer sunshine, they gathered to share a delicious meal together, play some dinner games, and then dance the night away with a disco in the New Hall!



VI Form Leavers Ball

The VI Form Leavers Ball was held at The Halston this year on Friday 23rd June. It was a fantastic evening and a very special way to say goodbye to our wonderful outgoing Upper Sixth year, and to officially welcome the new School Captains for the upcoming academic year.

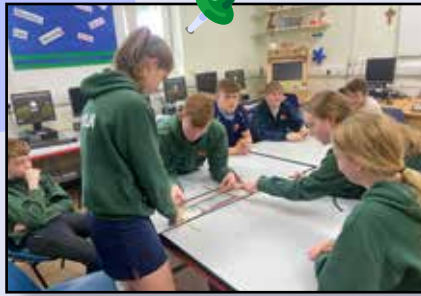


SAN GIMIGNANO

Pupils travelled to the picturesque medieval town of San Gimignano, Tuscany for the inaugural 4th Form retreat where they stayed in the Convento Sant 'Agostino. During their trip, pupils were taken through the life story of St Augustine with the help of the stunning Frescos, attended a mass in an authentic Augustinian chapel and created the 'Middle School Pupil Charter'; a set of guidelines on how they ought to treat and respect each other based on the School's core values of Unitas, Veritas, Caritas. Other activities included an afternoon of relaxation at the local swimming pool, an action-packed day at the waterpark in Cecina, scaling the dizzy heights of the 177 ft Torre Grossa to witness breathtaking views of the town and surrounding Tuscan countryside and a 'Selfie Treasure Hunt' in the old town, along with plenty of opportunities to shop and try the local delicacies (mainly pizza and gelato)!

FUN AM

We had a great FUN AM on the last day of the year with mixed-age teams from each Senior School House competing against each other in five challenges - a quiz, a languages game, a bridge-building contest, a Low Ropes session and the much-loved Water Challenge! Clare won the event, with the Stafford Team F winning the best team award.



Matilda

There were definitely no 'Naughty' or 'Revolting' children when our Juniors performed 'Matilda the Musical' this term. They were absolutely brilliant!! Congratulations to them all and a huge thank you to Mrs Bedford and all the other staff for all their extra hard work in pulling it together.



J4 Sponsored Walk and Sleepover

The sun shone for Junior 4 during their sponsored walk to Angle Tarn where they were raising money for Blood Bikes Cumbria. After the walk the pupils returned to school for an evening of rounders, pizzas, treats and games followed by a sleepover in the Junior School classrooms!! After breakfast the following morning, the pupils completed some teamwork challenges on the low ropes before heading back to class.



2ND FORM RETREAT

The 2nd Form had a wonderful day off timetable for their retreat, participating in various activities allowing them to learn more about St Augustine and his importance to our school community. The pupils explored how to live their daily lives inspired by his 'Rules' and how these form the School's core values. Their teamwork, manners and participation were impeccable – and the glorious sunshine was an added bonus during the outdoor events.



PREFECT TRAINING

Our aspiring senior prefects in VI Form spent two days in the beautiful Eskdale valley taking part in various challenges designed to test their leadership and communication skills. Not only did they throw themselves (literally) into ghyll scrambling and paddle-boarding, students also had the chance to compete against each other in a raft-building contest where all showed great resilience and determination.

SUMMER TERM



PRIZEGIVING

At the Junior School Prizegiving on the last day of the academic year, we were delighted to welcome Annie Mawson MBE MRSM as our guest speaker and presenter. Annie is the Founder and Chief Executive of Sunbeams Music Trust, a charity helping disabled children and adults improve their health and well-being through the creative freedom of music. Annie showed a short video highlighting the important work the charity does and led the whole chapel in some singing before presenting the form prizes for each year group and the individual Junior 4 prizes. The School Captains made a fabulous speech looking back at their time in the Junior School and honouring their classmates and the Juniors finished the ceremony performing two songs. To end the ceremony, Junior 4 received a final blessing from Rev Ian.



Speech Day

This year's Speech Day featured a motivating speech by special guest Paul Simpson, Manager of Carlisle United Football Club. Mr Simpson encouraged pupils to follow their dreams, embrace their time at school, and become inspiring leaders in their own right. His anecdotes about his journey to success emphasized the value of following passions and being able to adapt to change. Held in the School Chapel for the second year, the event recognized pupils for academic excellence across a wide range of subjects, as well as achievements in sport, music and drama, and special awards for diligence, endeavour, House spirit and for embracing the School's Augustinian values. There were some heartfelt reflections from the School Captains too, who shared their cherished memories and collective experiences at the school.



AIDAN HOUSE

Firstly I would like to thank our Aidan House captains – Alexa-Rose, James and Shay - for their efforts and dedication in leading Aidan House this year. They were all so supportive and committed to their role.



We started off the year with a literal bang, at our fantastic fireworks display where Aidan's 'Captain Covid' was the winner of the guy competition and was sat atop the bonfire when it was lit.



Shortly after, J3 & J4 played their House Rugby tournament. It was hugely competitive and the standard of Rugby from all teams was to be greatly admired. Aidan finished in 2nd place after an extremely tight final against Cuthbert. The J3 & J4 girls also had their House Hockey tournament where a draw in the final match led to Aidan and Bede sharing joint 1st place. In the J1 & J2 House Hockey in January, Aidan dominated the matches and didn't concede a single goal, winning 4-0 against Bede and 7-0 against Cuthbert to finish in 1st place.



We also finished in 1st place in the J1 & J2 House (Tag) Rugby showing fantastic teamwork.

Our next big event was the House Cross County and there were some fantastic runs from all the Aidan pupils. We had 1st place runs from Oscar, Isaac and James, with many of our runners placing within the top 10 in their race, meaning Aidan were the overall winners of the competition with 158 points.

In the Lent term we had the U11 and U9 House Football competitions where Aidan were the proud winners of both tournaments. In the U11 matches, we didn't concede a single goal. In the U9 games, Aidan took the title with skilful, determined performances in both matches and worked well as a team.

We continued our winning streak taking 1st place in the U9 House Netball tournament, with Aidan winning both of their games and playing well throughout. Two draws in our U11 games meant we finished in 2nd place. The girls played well, and it was an admiral result.

The final House events of the year were the House Rounders and the House Cricket. Aidan continued to work hard in these and proved themselves once again as strong, dedicated team players, and we took the win in both. Fantastic results Aidan, well done!

Sports Day is one of the hottest events of the Junior School calendar, and

JUNIOR SCHOOL HOUSE REPORTS



indeed this year it had the temperatures to match! Pupils put great efforts into their races with some impressive results. Some of the Aidan pupils with a win in their event on Sports Day included Olivia, Isabella G, Oscar, Ruby, George, Spencer, Liberty, James, Charlotte, Phoebe, Sasha, Keira, Helen, Isabella W and Caleb as well as many more gaining 2nds and 3rds.

We also won the Megastastic Relay. One of my favourite moments of Sports Day, however, was watching J4 pupils Isabella, Sasha, Keira and Alexa-Rose running out to support fellow Aidan pupil, May, who was finding her race a challenge. Their support boosted her and gave her the oomph she needed to conquer the finish line, and with a smile on her face. Such a great example of house spirit. All the firsts, seconds and thirds added up and helped Aidan to become the winners of the Sports Day trophy once again! Fantastic work Aidan, it's been another great year.

Miss Simpson



BEDE HOUSE



As usual, life in Bede House has been action-packed this year and special memories have certainly been made throughout. We've had our ups and downs throughout each term, but we've enjoyed every moment as part of a brilliant team.

Our House Captains, Holly and Max, have led by example and have been sure to make all new starters feel welcome and included from the very beginning.

Earlier on in the year we took part in House Cross Country, demonstrating our perseverance and determination on a particularly cold and muddy afternoon. Every finisher on the day did us proud but I would like to give a special mention to Dylan and Molly in KG, Patrick in Preparatory, Lenny and Olivia T in J1 and J2 and David and Max in J4 for their outstanding performances.

Other successes throughout the year include a well-deserved win for the J3 & J4 girls on the Netball court, as well as a respectable second place for J1 & J2. The J1 and J2s also finished second in the House Hockey and Tag Rugby with some fantastic skills shown on the pitch. Unfortunately following a very strong start in House Football, beating Cuthbert 4-0, the rain came along and dampened our spirits a tad in our second match, leaving us in second position. Then, despite their best efforts, J3 and J4 also took second place on the podium. Across all sporting activities this year Bede House have demonstrated excellent skills and teamwork and I am confident that we will come back stronger next year!



team building in the sunshine and coronation races, there is never a dull moment!

Overall, it has been a brilliant year in Bede house and one which, as usual, has made me feel proud to be a part of such a special team. Bring on September!

Miss Donoghue

Away from the sports field we have also enjoyed our weekly house meetings. From the serious business of school council meetings, relaxing meditation session for World Mental Health week,



CUTHBERT HOUSE



Another wonderful year full of determination and achievement has flown by! A big well done to all of you who have worked hard all year and shown great House Spirit in all events. Cuthbert pupils were delighted to have their efforts recognised during Prizegiving this year and were ecstatic to be awarded the House Point Cup!

Our hard work was also praised in the Mathletics competitions that have run throughout the year. On World Maths Day, Lewis took the top spot for Cuthbert in the individual rankings. Later that same month, we ran a House Mathletics Challenge that lasted a whole week! The competition was fierce, but Cuthbert were crowned champions with an average score of 3938 points per child. Minnie also claimed the first place for Cuthbert, individually, with a score of 18,546 points!

In Michaelmas term, we tackled the House Cross Country event and gave some impressive individual

performances! Cuthbert gave an excellent performance in the EYFS race with 3 pupils finishing in the top 5. Iris fought hard in the J1 & J2 race and finished 2nd, while Frankie and Jude picked up the pace to earn a spot in the top 5 of the J3 & J4 race. It was great to see so much support and encouragement given to each other throughout the event.

Also in the Michaelmas term, Cuthbert were crowned the winners of the House Rugby event in J3 & J4. The matches were played to a high standard with lots of tries being scored for each House. The final match between Aidan and Cuthbert was tough but they managed to take the lead just before the final whistle; well done boys!

During the Lent term, pupils in J3 & J4 completed their LAMDA examinations and every Cuthbert pupil achieved either a Merit or Distinction for their efforts. A brilliant achievement! All of the Junior children put on an excellent show in our amazing school production of 'Matilda', and it was fantastic to see Annabelle and Lucy taking on some of the main roles and giving a super performance.

The fantastic weather we have had this term meant that Sports Day went ahead without a hitch. Cuthbert were placed 2nd in the field events and were ready to get to the start line to start racing! The standard throughout the School was very high this year and the day brought out everyone's competitive side. Cuthbert's highlights were the relay events with lots of first places being awarded! The Megatastic relay was a real nail biter, and we were very pleased to finish 2nd! Special thanks go to Bobby in Junior 4, as he went above and beyond what was asked of him on the day and, due to absences, performed in every race for his category!

A final thank you to our House Captains this year. We are all looking forward to finding out who will be awarded the positions in the next academic year!

Miss Boyd





SENIOR SCHOOL HOUSE REPORTS



Once again this has been a fantastic year for Clare House!

The first major event of the academic year is the House Music Festival in which Clare always achieve highly, and this year was no exception. Five of our pupils achieved a win in their category, so special congratulations go to Alexander in 2nd Form, Louisa and Nathaniel in 4th Form, Amy in 5th Form and Arabella in U6th. Once again it was fantastic to see the huge number of Clare pupils who took part this year in the individual events, putting themselves forward and performing for their House.

The Senior School production at the end of the Michaelmas term was 'Sister Act'. It was an amazing performance by all who took part, but it was especially great to witness the number of Clare House members who were involved, both on the stage, but also behind the scenes. Sadly, for both Georgia and Arabella, 'Sister Act' was their last chance to take major roles in the school play before they go off to pastures new this summer. We wish them, and all the U6th leavers, the very best for the future.



Of course, one of the major areas in which the Houses compete is sport. Over the course of the year, we have participated in Basketball, Cross Country, Sports Day, Hockey, Netball, Rounders, Cricket, Rugby and Tennis. At some point during the year, all the Clare pupils have had the chance to represent the House. They should all be very proud of the focus, determination, and teamwork they have displayed and the House Captains, Francesca and Joshua, have been great role models for the rest of the House, supporting the teams whether the games were played during the week or on Saturday mornings.

In the Cross Country, we shared first place overall with Stafford and there were some exceptional performances by individual pupils, with Ben winning the Seniors Boys' race and George taking the win for the Intermediate Boys. For the individual races, Clare took the win in the Junior Boys, Intermediate Girls, Intermediate Boys and the Senior Boys.



Although Clare House always achieves well in sporting events, academically we also perform exceptionally well. Clare pupils have worked extremely hard on their studies over the course of the academic year, with several of our students picking up academic awards at Speech Day. The high level of effort Clare members consistently put into their work, was rewarded with many of our pupils achieving Deputy Headmaster's commendations, a clear statement of our persistence and determination to do well in all aspects of school life.

There was a fantastic display of the fabled Clare House spirit on Sports Day where there were always pupils at the ready to step into the breach for any event where we were short of representatives. We cheered each other on, whether we were coming first in an event or last. There were some great individual performances, naming but a few, Thalia in 3rd Form easily winning the Hurdles and 400m, Ben in L6th, George in 4th Form and Evie in 3rd Form winning the Mini Marathon in their respective categories. We also had Emilia in 1st Form win the 100m and Issy in 2nd Form, winning the hurdles.

After another extremely busy and successful year I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the wonderful pupils and the amazing Clare House tutor team for all their dedication and hard work, without which, the House just would not be the same.

Mrs Evans





LINCOLN HOUSE



Looking back over this past year, I am so immensely impressed with Lincoln House. Each musical and sports competition was embodied with real House Spirit. What exactly is Lincoln House Spirit? Feelings are hard to describe, but I suppose it is feeling like you are part of something bigger than yourself, whilst also having time to shine individually.

What better way to embody full Lincoln House Spirit and start a new school year, than with the soundtrack of Taylor Swift (highly requested by our U6th as our House Shout song)

“Shake it off, Shake it off”

We had a fantastic time practising this song, and the final performance was brilliant. A special thank you to the U6th girls who came up with harmonies for the song. Alas, we missed out on House Shout victory this year, but Lincoln did win the overall House Music Festival trophy. This was a fantastic achievement, and once again, Lincoln House got to display our brilliant musicians. Amongst those who got their chance to shine individually and won 1st place were Matthew C (7L), Beth B (10L), Joseph J (8L), Evie L (9L). It was touching to hear the Lincoln sisters,



Anastasia and Olivia, sing together for the last time during their cover of Chiquitita. Freya and Abbie sang Mama Mia and ABBA was clearly a hit, as both came joint first.

In the sporting events, the Juniors, Inters and Seniors had lots of success, and we won the Hunt Shield (coming joint 1st with Stafford). The Senior girls were a triple threat and won all three fixtures: Hockey, Netball and Rounders (a moment of appreciation for our Senior House Captain Abbie, who’s encouragement no doubt inspired the team). Both the Junior and Intermediate girls’ teams won in Hockey and the Junior girls won the Rounders competition. Well done!

The boys also followed the Hockey success trail, as the Junior boys also won their Hockey tournament. The Junior boys dominated their House competitions and won the Basketball, Rugby and Cricket competitions! A huge congratulations. Lincoln also had huge success in Tennis and the Juniors, Inters and Seniors won their matches. A huge well done to Hattie, Jake, Nina, Toby, Megan, Nye, Laura, James, Olivia, Oscar, Beth, Seb, Jess, Jack, Romily, Christian, Josh, Abbie I and Abbie R.



In the Lent term, we had some great achievements in House Cross Country. In the Junior heat, Isabella S and Nye finished in 1st place in the Juniors. They also continued this success on Sports day and won the Mini Marathon! On Sports Day, the winners of the track events were Nina, Amber, Olivia, Kate, Nye, Oscar, Jake and Joe. The winners of the field events were Hattie, Luisa, Anastasia W, Isabella S, Joe and Nye. Well done everyone!

Best wishes to Mrs Green who is leaving us. Lincoln will miss you! A huge thank you to our Form Tutors: Mr Brady, Mr Frizzel, Mr Ord, Mrs Davidson and Ms Cavalier D’Escavelles. The Green Dream Team!

Well done for a ROARsome year!

Mrs Beattie






STAFFORD HOUSE

Life is for living in Stafford House and fired by House spirit we had a great start to the school year with our winning performance of Viva La Vida and Danny Boy in the House Singing Competition. Josh's conducting was highly praised and there were some brilliant harmonies and dynamics.

Sport in the Michaelmas Term also brought success with the Intermediate and Junior Girls' Hockey teams gaining joint first and second place respectively and the Intermediate Boys winning their Basketball Competition.

Many talented members of our House excelled on and backstage in 'Sister Act', particularly our 13S boys Joe, Robbie, Wilf and Josh who deserve a special mention for their roles on stage and James P for the important work of stage manager.

There were plenty of House events in the Lent Term. Our Junior Boys' Basketball team was made up of five 2nd Formers who played with skill and determination and were awarded second place. The Intermediate Boys' Hockey team, with Gideon making his debut in goal, also had to settle for

second place but they were victorious in their Rugby competition. We shone bright on the Netball court with both our Junior and Intermediate Girls' teams winning their competitions. The Senior Girls' Netball and Hockey teams came second in both of their tournaments. The Seniors played some great tennis in their mixed doubles' competition, missing out on first place by just one game! The term ended with the House Cross Country Competition. Stafford was proud to win the highest attendance trophy – 89%. We came joint first with Clare in the overall competition. We congratulate Emma on winning the Senior Girls' race, David for coming second in the Intermediate Boys' race and Antonia for crossing the line third in the Junior Girls' competition.

Congratulations go to the many Stafford pupils who were awarded diligence and academic prizes at Speech Day in the Summer Term. We were also delighted, following our great Sporting achievements this year, to be named as joint Hunt Shield winners alongside Lincoln.

Sports Day was a wonderful afternoon of track and field events. We enjoyed lots of success, winning twenty-three of the events, and so were delighted to be named overall Sports Day champions.

Junior and Intermediate Cricket and Rounders matches completed the sporting year. We came 2nd in both Intermediate competitions. The Junior Cricketers enjoyed their matches and came second, and the Junior Girls' Rounders team gave it their best shot, but were outshone by both Lincoln and Clare on this occasion. The Junior Girls also came second in the Pairs Cricket Tournament.

FUN AM was enjoyed by all on the last day of term with Stafford teams meeting the challenges with lots of House Spirit and determination. Congratulations to Stafford 'F' team for being named the best team of the morning. Tess was awarded star pupil for her leadership in the Water Challenge and Josephine for her bridge design.

Congratulations also to Myesha and Wilf for being awarded their Special House Achievement Awards. Well done to Wilf for all he achieved as Deputy School Captain. Many thanks go to Emma and Robbie for being exemplary Stafford House Captains. Finally, I'd like to thank all the Stafford Tutors – Miss Turner, Mrs Musson, Mrs King, Mr Love, Mr Vasey and Mr Hodgkins - for all their hard work throughout the year. Here's to 2023-24! Go Stafford!

Mrs Boyling





JUNIOR SPORT REPORT



Hockey

The U11 Hockey team managed a fantastic 9-0 win over Windermere this season - there was fantastic play from all and our defence was solid. When facing Hunter Hall, it took a while for the team to find their feet and they went 0-2 down in the first 10 minutes. After switching up the formation, the girls fought back hard in the second half and their determination paid off - finishing the match with a 6-4 win!



Rugby

The U10 team played 6 matches against some strong opposition at Mowden Hall's Rugby Festival which is aimed at improving the techniques and skills of the players. The team showed great progress throughout the day and the boys acquitted themselves well in all matches.



In the U11 Rugby Festival at Mowden Hall, the team produced an excellent display in their first match to beat Dame Allan's 6-1. A defeat from NSB and

a draw against Durham Choristers came next before they pulled out a strong final performance defeating Kings Priory School, 6-2. The boys put in another great performance at Giggleswick's annual Rugby 7s event. They produced some excellent Rugby throughout the day, winning all 4 of their matches against Belmont Grosvenor School, Hunter Hall, Settle Middle School and the hosts, Giggleswick. It was a slightly different story at NSB's 7s tournament as, depleted by unavailability and illness, we only travelled with 7 players but every one of them played outstandingly well against some very strong opposition. A 4-4 draw against Dame Allan's, a 4-2 defeat from Barnard Castle, draws against RGS Newcastle and Durham Choristers all came before the boys rounded off the event with an excellent 5-2 victory over NSB. This was a great performance by all of the boys and Frankie, in particular, was outstanding, scoring 16 of our 19 tries. It was no surprise when he was unanimously awarded player of the tournament by all 6 team coaches.



Netball

Our U11 Netball team faced some tough opponents in the Netball Festival at Mowden Hall this year, but they really held their own and played some fantastic Netball. They also managed to defeat both Giggleswick's A & B teams convincingly when they travelled there for some fixtures.



Football

The first run out for most of the U9 boys this year was at the Football Festival at Hunter Hall. They started with a 1-0 victory over the hosts before losing, 3-1, to a strong Windermere side. The final game was a close encounter against Mowden Hall which we narrowly lost 2-1. When they travelled to Windermere to play against two different Windermere teams however, they managed to win both of their games, growing in confidence as the day went on.

In the Carlisle Schools' Football Tournament, the U11 team won 4 of their 5 group games beating Kirkbride, 7-0, St Cuthbert's, 1-0, Cummersdale, 2-0 and, Kirkoswald 2-1, only losing to the eventual winners, Richmond Hill, 3-0. This meant we finished 2nd in our group and so progressed to the semi-final to play Plumpton. We took the lead early on in this match, but Plumpton equalised in the final minutes to take the game to penalties which, unfortunately, we lost 3-2.



Cross Country

We took our U7, U9 and U11 teams to take part in the Hunter Hall Cross Country Relays this year where there were over 250 runners competing. Our U7 team, a lot of whom were representing the School for the first time, performed exceptionally well with our B team finishing 8th out of 11 teams and our A team finishing in 3rd place. The U9 girls' team were also in the medals, finishing 3rd, whilst the U9 boys finished in an impressive 5th place. Our U11 girls were unlucky to just miss out on a medal, finishing 4th. In the U11 boys' race our B team finished 9th whilst our A team gained a podium finish in 3rd place. We also had 10 pupils complete at the Catterall Hall Cross-Country event held at Giggleswick School. In the U11 girls' competition, Isabella W was the first of our girls home in an impressive 21st place out of 124 runners from 25 schools. The girls team finished in an excellent 7th place. In the U11 boys' race, James J ran a brilliant race to finish in 5th place as our first runner back. The boys team placed 5th overall out of the 25 schools competing.



Swimming

We took part in the Small Schools' event at the CSSA Swimming Gala this year with a team of James, Keira, Frankie and Caleb. James got a 2nd place medal for his 25m freestyle, and the team got a bronze medal for the 25m freestyle relay.



Gymnastics

At Key Steps level, our U6 and U9 teams managed to finish 3rd in the Small Schools' competition at the Carlisle and District competitions held at the Sands Centre. At U11 level, pupils competed in both the Novice Competition, where they won team Bronze, and at the Novice County Competition where they finished 6th overall with Charlotte T gaining an individual silver medal. They also competed at the County Novice Duos this year which the girls really enjoyed.



Cricket

Our U10 team took on Windermere's U11 side in a game of pairs cricket. Windermere batted first and after their 20 overs finished on 256. Our bowling lacked accuracy at times, but this was compensated for by some excellent fielding, including 3 catches. Our reply started well, and we looked on course for victory, but the loss of some late wickets meant we fell just short by 10 runs on 246. In their second fixture of the season, they played a mixed U11/U12 Lime House team in a pairs match. Batting first, we scored 264 thanks to some big hitting towards the end of our innings. In reply, Lime House were always in contention and coming down to the last over, all results were possible. Fortunately, Friars held their nerve to win by 12 runs.





SENIOR SCHOOL GIRLS' SPORT REPORT



2nd XI

The 2nd XI enjoyed an extensive fixture programme this season, with a number of games against QEGS which were a highlight, although many of the results do not reflect the standard, enthusiasm and commitment the team has shown on the pitch each Saturday. The 2nd XI has been an integral part of the Senior squad and pushed the 1st team players to challenge for positions. They have tested selection at times which is a credit to their determination, resulting in some very close games this season. They have represented our school with passion, determination and true Friars spirit.

2nd XI Awards

Player of the Season: Amy McMillan
Players' Player: Arabella Barker Bland
Most Improved: Amelia Bloomer

All of our Junior teams progressed to the County Finals this year. Other season highlights include the U14s winning and the U15s drawing against Stonyhurst, the U13s wins against Durham and Rossall as well as two North County round wins at Mini and XIs, and the U12s concluding their first season by finishing 2nd in their County Tournament in Penrith.

County Honours: Molly Skeer, Anastasia Palmer, Myseha Pearson, Kate Irving, Lauren Gant, Fern Roberts, India McCartney, Thalia Kasiera, Olivia Palmer, Anastasia Williams, Lauren Steele, Rose Hope Johnstone, Charlotte Hall, Issy Keenan, Hattie Spedding, Rosie Gant, Jemima Cherry.

Hockey

Hockey has continued to develop season after season and, this year, we had 96.3% of girls represent the School from U12 to 1st XI. 100% of girls in the Lower School represented the School on the pitch, which is remarkable, and 57.8 % of our girls played at North-West level or higher. We've had the most individual players attend England Hockey Performance Centres and almost 65% of the girls playing for local clubs. This has meant the standard of Hockey at Friars has really flourished in 2023 where we were North Champions at U18 and National Tier 4 finalists for the second year running. We even won our own 7s tournament for the first time which was a fantastic way to end International Women's Day this year!

The U13s and U19s got to the final 16 of the Plate in the Smile Independent Schools Cup, where both age groups were knocked out by strong Kings Macclesfield sides.



Our first fixture of the year against Barnard Castle was a pivotal game in terms of being a major learning curve for the team. As our fixture programme continued, however, we had some very impressive wins over Dame Allan's and Rossall.

Playing T1 teams in our extensive fixture programme allowed the 1st XI to have their best season in history. After winning the County T4 competition comfortably, racking up 20+ goals, we went on to represent Cumbria in the North Championships, which we won in style securing a place in our 2nd National Final in Nottingham. We finished in 4th in our group and came 7th overall. Despite not being the result we were hoping for, we played some fantastic team hockey and we are so proud of the girls for reaching their 2nd National final.

1st XI Awards

Colours awarded to:

Emma Wilson
 Anastasia Palmer
 Abigail Irving
 Myseha Pearson

Players' player: Anastasia Palmer

Most Improved Player: Romily Murray

Player of the Season: Molly Skeer

Genuis Loci: Abigail Irving

Graham McKendry Award: Kate Irving

Coaches' Player: Myseha Pearson



1st XI

We started this successful season by taking our largest squad yet to the prestigious invitational pre-season tournament at Rugby. It was an opportunity to try new combinations of players having lost a number of U6th players and, despite only winning one game, we were in illustrious company, and played some fantastic pre-season Hockey.





Rugby

Due to popular demand, this year we introduced Rugby to the U13 Girls Games programme and a team of 8 girls played in a Rugby Festival at Penrith where they faced QEGS, UCC 'B' and UCC 'A' which they drew, won and lost respectively. All games were full contact and all the girls put in some big hits! Christiana did not miss a tackle and Zara ran through 3 consecutive tries against UCC 'B' showing great strength. Emilia, Maisie and Antonia were the other try scorers showing excellent speed and footwork. Isla, Edie, and Sophie all showed great hands and held their line well to stop gaps forming. All the team loved the experience and did extremely well to pick up the skills so quickly.



Rounders

The U12 team played QEGS; a comfortable victory with Luisa taking some amazing catches in full flight. Isla, Isabella and Antonia racked up 11 rounders between them. The U13 team won a friendly round robin tournament beating Caldew, Trinity, Central and Morton. They also beat QEGS after a very close and competitive match. The U14 team finished 2nd in their tournament where all matches were competitive and exciting to watch. Three senior teams played QEGS; the U16s and U18A team, with the U18B team narrowly losing.



Netball

We had a first for Friars with all 3 Senior age groups progressing to the County Round of the National Competition. Led by captain, Beth, the 1st team have had the most successful season in Friars history! It started with the team qualifying for the County tournament by finishing 2nd in the North Tournament – the highest we have ever finished. At the County Finals we finished 4th and this was great preparation for the season ahead. Both the 1st and 2nd team went onto beat Rossall, for the first time ever. In the City Tournaments, the Junior teams played well with the U12s and U14s finishing 2nd; the U13, U15 and U16s were all District Champions! The U14s and U16s progressed through to the County Finals where the U14s finished 4th in their section and the U16s played brilliantly to finish 3rd, narrowly missing out on a place in the NW Regional Finals but playing in a Netball County semi-final for the first time. They faced Sedbergh and although they lost, they never gave up and there was some great Netball played.



Gymnastics

Our Senior School gymnasts competed at Novice and County level this year with the U19s finishing 4th and the U14s finishing 5th at County and 4th at Novice. The final competition of the year was the English Schools Key Step Forward Acro pairs in Stoke. The U13 team finished 5th overall with Luisa and Maisie's duo having scored the 2nd best of the whole competition, and Charlotte scored the 5th Vault score of the day.



Cricket

Girl's cricket has continued to develop this year with several girls representing the boys' teams. Our most successful girls' team were the U13s who finished as Carlisle District Champions after winning their tournament in May beating Trinity, Nelson Thomlinson, Caldew and Newman to take the title.



MIXED SPORT SECTION



Cross Country

At the City Cross Country Championships, Isabella, Isla and Poppy ran strongly in the Year 7 Girls' race to finish 2nd, 6th and 8th respectively. In the Inter Boys, George had a great race to finish 2nd and Freddie came 4th in the Junior Boys. These athletes along with 7 others were selected to represent Carlisle in the Counties. The difficult course at Sedbergh was made even harder due to the snow and icy conditions. George had a strong run to finish 8th and went onto represent Cumbria in both the inter-Counties and English Schools – a great achievement!



Athletics

At the Intermediate and Junior City Athletics Championships we had 9 pupils that finished in the top 3 in their events; all got selected to represent the city in the Cumbria Championships. Thalia was 4th in the 75m Hurdles, Jacky was 5th in the High Jump and George ran a great race to finish 3rd and was, therefore, selected to run at the inter-Counties in Gateshead. We had five 1st Form pupils who finished in the top 2 in their City Championships. Poppy, Isla, Isabella, Emilia and Henry went onto represent Carlisle at the County Championships. Emilia won the 'B' final of the 275m and Isla had a strong finish in the 800m to finish 5th.



Tennis

It has been a successful season on the tennis courts, particularly for the U13 Boys 'A' team who won all their matches! Well done to Jake, Toby, Nye and Piers - they will now play in the Regional Rounds in September. The U15 Girls team won 3 of their matches and their final match against Trinity went to a shootout which they just lost. The U15 Boys won 4 of their matches, with 2 going to a shootout and narrowly losing their final match. Finally, the U13 Girls played a home and away fixture against Sedbergh Prep. Both matches went to a shootout and resulted in one win and one loss, but having won the league they now progress to the regional round!





SENIOR SCHOOL BOYS' SPORT REPORT

Rugby

1st XV

John F Kennedy once gave a famous speech about the desire to send a man to the moon before the end of the decade. He said, "we choose to go to the moon in this decade and do the other things, not because they are easy, but because they are hard". Playing 1st XV Rugby is hard, playing 1st XV Rugby for a small school against some of the most established Rugby-playing schools in the North is very hard. But as JFK put it, that is why we do it!

In a tough season it is the U6th boys who need to lead by example and this year was no exception. Up front, Josh Blain had an outstanding season, making the hard yards in attack, both in the tight and in the wider channels and was equally resolute in defence. His gain line success ensured that the backs had plenty of good ball to work with, which Wilf Webster, stepping up to run things at 10, used very effectively releasing his strike runners and having a sharp eye for the gap himself. Josh Hope was a constant running threat all season and his game awareness ensured that when defenders committed to him he was able to put others into space with great effect. There is no substitute for speed on the Rugby pitch and in Robbie Tiffen and Josh Morris, there is pace to burn. Robbie used his strength to good advantage working back against the weak shoulder and Josh aimed to get on the outside to really stretch

the opposition defence. As the season wore on, Charlie McCulloch grew in confidence and had increasing influence on games, invariably beating the first defender.

The team learnt some valuable lessons in the first part of the season, and could not quite achieve the win that their hard work deserved, but there was clearly a big performance in the offing. This big performance occurred at the annual Silcoates Tournament against the home side in front of a large partisan crowd. The hosts were very fired up for the game and from the kick off, Friars met fire with fire and put in a fearsome physical display to quickly silence the supporters and secure a fabulous win. The team also demonstrated admirable control in the face of some very robust play from Silcoates. This is where the leadership of Jacob Harris and Jonathan Davies stood out, a little by word, but mainly by deed. Time after time, Jonathan carried off 9 and simply refused to be tackled, and when the team needed a lift, Jacob could be relied upon to energise the group with a big collision. It was fitting that a loyal band of parents had made the long journey to Wakefield to see one of the finest performances from a Friars team in recent times.

The environment that the U6th created allowed the younger players to express themselves without fear and it is clear that the 1st XV is in very safe hands in the coming years. The core of L6th boys will ensure that the fine tradition of Rugby continues to flourish next season.



U16

Our U16 7s team enjoyed success at the County 7s tournament. The School hosted the preliminary stages beating William Howard and Richard Rose thanks mainly to moving the ball to the wings and letting our speedsters, Henry, Zach and Ranulph do the damage. Sam showed his class and speed in the final match against Trinity to score two fine tries. In the finals a few weeks later, we got off to a good start by defeating Kirkbie Kendal and St Benedicts. Kyle was the catalyst to most of our attacks and his footwork dumbfounded the opponents on many occasions. Logan, Lewis and Ruari played with great tempo and created lots of opportunities and were equally effective in defence too. We met West Lakes in the final and had to play the game without Oliver, who had suffered an injury making a crucial tackle in the previous game. Unfortunately, we were unable to cope with the speed of some of our opponents and lost the match 24-5.



U14

This was a mixed season of cancelled games and pre-season injuries. It started with a couple of losses to Durham and Dame Allan's but by October we were back up to full strength and met Caldew and RGS Newcastle to secure our first wins of the season. In November, we met Dame Allan's again for an excellent game, which ended in a 24-24 draw. Unfortunately, our subsequent games were cancelled, but I am confident that the boys will be hungry for more in the upcoming year!



U13

With statistics of played 4, won 3 and lost 1, the boys should be delighted. Bertie and Oscar were regularly scoring tries, usually after Piers and Nye terrorised defences with their pace. They were backed up by Ewan, Joe W and Joe C who continually put their bodies on the line. When things were getting down to the wire, Oliver and Jake were on hand to attack the wings or cover as full backs. If any tackles were missed, Kastor was there to make many last-ditch tackles for Friars. Halfway through the season Joe J joined the squad enabling the team to go from strength to strength. It was a tough learning experience for the boys this year, but if they can continue to improve and support each other as they have done, then they will have an incredibly strong team for future years.



U12

Despite their results, it is great to see this group of boys gain confidence throughout the year. At the start of the season the team of ten including Ben, Matthew, Olly, George, Alistair, Hugo, Toby, Adam and Henry were always going to struggle against much bigger squads. This did not prevent them from putting 100% into every training session and match. As the year progressed, it was great to see new additions arriving onto the scene. Jacob and Frankie made an impact from the beginning, giving the team a much-needed expansion. By the end, the boys were putting their bodies on the line and played like they had known each other for years. An excellent year.

Hockey

Despite the fairly recent introduction of Hockey fixtures for the boys, the decision was made to enter the county tournaments for the first time with a great deal of success being achieved across the age groups.



U16

The U16s were the first to gain success, reaching the knockout stages of the County round. In the end they were defeated by the Lakes School, but in reality, they were beaten by the weather as the final game was played in torrential rain on a flooded Astro, where neither team was able to play anything resembling free-flowing Hockey. Henry,

as Captain, was everywhere and his energy rubbed off on his teammates with Oliver and Matthew showing that their Cricket and Football skills transferred well to the Hockey pitch. Charlie was a commanding presence in goal. The final game of the season was against RGS, where we fielded a mixed team. The game finished 1-1 and went to shuffles where RGS were able to score the crucial sudden death goal to secure the win.



U14

Winning the County Championship in the first year the School has entered, is no mean feat. After winning all their games in the North group tournament, Friars hosted the County Finals. With an amazing display of fast-paced hockey, the team beat favourites Sedbergh with a wonder goal from Nye. A couple of miraculous saves from Zach and a goal line stop from Luca meant the team kept this hard-won lead. Tireless defence from Rory and Jacky allowing the midfield of captain Oliver, Freddie, and Piers free rein to harass their opponents higher up the pitch, ensuring a good supply of ball to Will upfront, who kept the Sedbergh defence busy preventing a counterattack. This win meant they progressed to the North final in Manchester where they gave a fabulous account of themselves and got better each game. Tom, Oscar and Jonty continued to defend with energy and courage and Drew's work up the wings made space inside for the attack. It was a long tough day but there is no doubt that the team will be stronger for it next year.



U13

The boys had a successful season competing with some bigger schools, recording a creditable 3-2 win against Barnard Castle and an entertaining 8-5 defeat against RGS. The highlight of the season, however, was the fantastic performance at the County tournament in Windermere, where they finished runners-up by defeating Keswick and The Lakes School, drawing with Nelson Thomlinson and losing to Sedbergh on the way to play them again in the final. This was a much different game and Nye put us ahead with a finely taken goal. Sedbergh scored an equaliser towards the end of the match and the game went to penalty flicks where Sedbergh succeeded. Goals were scored by Nye, Piers and Oscar. Joe was magnificent in goal; Bertie, Euan, Joe and Kastor made some brilliant tackles and interceptions, and Oscar, Jake, James and Oliver were creative in attack.



Cricket

Our 1st XI produced an excellent performance in their annual match against the MCC at Edenside. Batting 1st, the MCC scored 177 for 6 declared. In reply, a well-paced innings, led by Oliver (71) and Dylan (42), saw the game come down to us needing a 6 off the last ball to pull off a memorable victory but it wasn't quite to be and, as a result, the game ended in a very creditable draw. The U14 team had a successful season losing only one match all season whilst reaching the County Cup quarter finals. Highlights of the season was a victory over Barnard Castle and winning the Carlisle Schools 8-a-side tournament held at Carlisle Cricket Club with the team winning all 5 of their matches. The U13s had

a very good season too, reaching the County Cup semi-final defeating Nelson Thomlinson, Trinity and Cockermouth on the way, only to lose by 1 run to Kirkby Lonsdale. The season finished on a high with victory at the Carlisle Schools 8-a-side competition beating Trinity by 4 runs in the final. The U12s won all their matches on the way to reaching the County Final which will be against either Kirkby Lonsdale or Keswick at the start of the 2023/24 academic year.

The following players were selected to represent Cumbria this year: Matthew Coulthard, Alistair Hetherington, Claire Sweeney, Sam Routledge, Oliver Spedding and Dylan Simpson.



U12

A lack of experience and practice had a big effect on the outcome of the matches the U12s played this season. Despite the results, the boys progressed well throughout the year and put in some improved performances against RGS and Barnard Castle. Alistair, Oliver and Matthew became more confident in attack. Toby, Hugo and Henry linked well in the mid-field and Ben worked tirelessly as goalkeeper or defender.



CHAPLAINCY

“The quality of the pupil’s personal development is excellent... and... pupils exhibit a deep spiritual awareness’ (ISI Inspection Report 2022)

The children of Austin Friars experience a rich diet of opportunities to help them grow both personally and spiritually. The above quote from the recent ISI inspection report confirmed what is evident from being amongst the children as they move around school, engage in their learning, and talk to one another and staff; it is clear that the School’s Augustinian values are deeply rooted in all that happens within every aspect of school life. This has been richly evidenced over the last year.

The Augustinian tradition and values go beyond specific faith and religious traditions and allow all our pupils to share the benefits of the School’s ethos. In Omnibus Caritas (In All things, Love) is a statement which enriches every member of our school community, both adult and child alike.

This year has seen an active chaplaincy continuing to build on the strength of relationships in school. The chaplaincy enables spiritual and personal growth through worship, open discussion, contact and availability. Our Chaplain works to make himself an ever-present figure around the School, building bridges and knocking down barriers. He sees that small conversations and ongoing contact are as powerful as formal worship opportunities in growing spirituality and developing faith, so much of the chaplain’s time is spent in this way, in playgrounds, corridors and staffrooms, engaging with staff and students.

But the year has also seen a busy diary of structured events including regular whole school worship in chapel, special events for each House and annual events which have become part of our school tradition. As an example of this, our Act of Remembrance as a whole school, outside around the flagpole has become one of the simplest, but most moving communal acts each year, where students and children aged 3 to 18 come together with staff in a very moving and powerful collective act of remembrance. Other whole school activities this year were held in the Chapel and included Carol Services, Easter events, leaving services and Prizings.

As well as ongoing worship and spiritual development, many year groups have enjoyed specific ‘retreat’ opportunities where year groups have spent time together reflecting on our Augustinian values while developing and strengthening existing friendships. These retreats have taken place in a mixture of settings; in-house, locally and, for the first time, in San Gimignano, Italy at the Convento Sant ‘Augustino where the 4th Form spent a busy and exciting last week of term.

As a whole school we live out the work of the chaplaincy in everything we do on a day-to-day basis. Staff, pupils and family members all contribute to the community which makes Friars the special place it is.

Rev Ian





U6th 2023 Leavers