



Dunottar News

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What an action packed half term this was! Our Year 11s and Year 13s have now finished all of their Public Examinations and we wish them a well-deserved, relaxing break after months of studying and preparation.

The Year 12s have enjoyed several days off curriculum to focus on preparing for their university applications next term. Activities included a talk from the University of Surrey about how to choose the right university course and a practical session on drafting and writing a personal statement, as well as a trip to Sussex University to hear about student life.

Our Year 9s and 10s enjoyed a thoroughly successful Charity, Culture and Community week (CCC). They took part in a 10 mile charity walk to raise money for the Rainbow Trust Children's Charity. Year 9 pupils visited the Buddhapadipa Temple to consolidate their learning about Buddhism, while Year 10 spent a day at the Baitul Futuh Mosque.

Years 7 and 8 experienced an amazing ARTS week. The range of activities included beatboxing, learning how to create a Lego stop motion animation, using green screen technology to create their own images and making decorations for the outdoor classroom where pupils performed an abridged version of "A Midsummer Night's Dream".

The Dunottar Chamber Ensemble put on a beautiful summer soiree. The house Cricket competition was a huge success and we enjoyed an athletic Sports Day at the K2 in Crawley.

On 2 July we welcomed all the Year 6 pupils who are joining us in September for an action-packed morning, where they met their new tutor groups, took part in an orienteering competition and enjoyed a variety of other activities.

I wish you all a restful and enjoyable summer holiday.

Mark Tottman
Headmaster



Dunottar Wins "Outstanding Progress" Award

We are delighted to announce Dunottar has won a prestigious Education Business Award for Outstanding Progress in the UK Independent Schools category 2019.

The award is presented to the UK Independent school that has made outstanding progress in the management of its facilities, finances and human resources, and can demonstrate an increase in the educational performance of the school.

Now in their 12th year, the Education Business Awards recognise schools across the UK for improving the standard of education and the life chances of their students, highlighting the vital work of educational professionals up and down the country.

continued overleaf...



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The best in everyone™
Part of United Learning

To keep up to date with news from Dunottar in between monthly newsletters, visit www.dunottarschool.com, find us on Facebook, Instagram or follow us on twitter.

Open Mornings

Tuesday 17th September

Wednesday 16th October

(10.15 for 10.30 start)

Our Open Mornings are designed to give you a real insight into a typical school day. You will hear from Mark Tottman, Headmaster, tour the school to see lessons taking place and chat with staff and pupils.

To book call us on 01737 761 945.
We look forward to seeing you at Dunottar!



Creativity Flourishes in Arts Week

Years 7 and 8 have enjoyed three days off timetable this week developing their creative and team-working skills. Pupils were given the choice of workshop they would most like to immerse themselves in from a range of arts activities linked to Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' including:

- **Treading the Boards:** the performance of an abridged version of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' in the school's outdoor classroom.
- **Prop studio:** using the influence of artists Sister Corita Kent and Bob & Roberta Smith to create pieces of art to decorate the outdoor classroom theatre space, ready for the performance of the play.
- **Awesome Animation:** learning how to use software on pupils' iPads to create stop-motion animations of the play.
- **Language games and flower art:** using French, Spanish, Italian and English to make and play board games about the characters in the play; learning how to translate Shakespeare quotes into Japanese; labelling flowers for the stage set with translations.

Diary Reminders

Fri 5 Jul	School breaks up at 12pm
Mon 8—Fri 12 Jul	Gold DofE Expedition
Thu 15 Aug	A Level Results
Thu 22 Aug	GCSE Results
Thu 29 Aug	Lacrosse pre-season Yr 7/8/9 girls 9am-12pm
Thu 29 Aug	Rugby pre-season Yr 7/8/9 boys 9am-12pm
Thu 29 Aug	Lacrosse pre-season Yr 10+ girls 1pm-4pm
Thu 29 Aug	Rugby pre-season Yr 10+ boys 1pm-4pm
Sat 31 Aug	Lacrosse pre-season Yr 7/8/9 girls 9am-12pm
Sat 31 Aug	Rugby pre-season Yr 7/8/9 boys 9am-12pm
Sat 31 Aug	Lacrosse pre-season Yr 10+ girls 1pm-4pm
Sat 31 Aug	Rugby pre-season Yr 10+ boys 1pm-4pm
Mon 2 Sep	INSET
Tue 3 Sep	INSET
Tue 3 Sep	Yr 7 and Yr 12 Induction day
Wed 4 Sep	Autumn term begins

See full calendar at www.dunottarschool.com

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The story at Dunottar is as inspirational as it is rapid. The independent panel of judges commented on how Dunottar has risen from the brink of closure five years ago, with only 118 pupils, to become a thriving, co-educational school today with over 400 pupils, inspirational teaching and learning, excellent pastoral care and a progressive building programme, including a fabulous new sixth form centre.

This incredible turn-around in the school's development has come from United Learning, who have invested £2.2 million in a state-of-the-art Sixth Form Centre and a further £4.5 million in the construction of a 500-seater assembly hall for September 2020.

The support of everyone in the school and local community means so much to our school and we are truly grateful for your ongoing support.



Dunottar School

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- **Surreal Shoots:** taking outside photographs and using the green screen to create artwork in response to the play.
- **Pitch Perfect:** recording folk music and ensemble singing with harmonies, dressed as fairies.
- **If Music be the Food of Love:** making instruments and composing music to be performed during the play.
- **Being creative:** costume making and design.
- **The Reality behind the Dream:** researching and creating iMovies about the historical context to the play, including Elizabethan theatre, Elizabeth I's image, and attitudes to witchcraft and fairies.
- **Beatboxing:** Inspired by a workshop led by actor, writer, director, rapper, beatboxer, singer and theatre maker Conrad Murray, reworking parts of the play to incorporate beatboxing and performance poetry.

In a triumph of collaboration, Arts week culminated with an abridged version of *Midsummer Nights' Dream*, performed in the newly created outdoor theatre. Fairies and lovers bounded around a stage with props created by pupils, in costumes designed and created by pupils and accompanied by music composed and performed by pupils.

Deputy Head, Pippa Smithson said, "A key part of this has been the creative journey the pupils have been on. Dealing with things going wrong, working under time pressure and collaborating with peers are part of that. The inspiring final production is testimony to this journey".

Day 1—pupils work collaboratively to create props, instruments, costumes, decorations and animated films



Term Dates 2019/2020

Autumn Term 2019

- *INSET - Mon 2nd Sep (no school for pupils)*
- *INSET and Induction Day for Year 7 and Year 12 pupils - Tue 3rd Sep*
- *Term Begins - Wed 4th Sep*
- *Half Term - W/c 21st and 28th Oct*
- **Term Ends - Fri 13th Dec 4.00pm**

Spring Term 2020

- *INSET - Fri 3rd Jan (no school for pupils)*
- *Entrance Exam - Mon 6th Jan (no school for current pupils except Sixth Form)*
- *Term Begins - Tue 7th Jan*
- *Half Term - W/c 17th Feb*
- **Term Ends - Wed 1st Apr 4.00pm**

Summer Term 2020

- *INSET - Mon 20th Apr (no school for pupils)*
- *Term Begins - Tue 21st Apr*
- *Half Term - w/c 25th May*
- **Term Ends - Fri 3rd Jul 12.00 noon**

Term Dates 2020/2021

Autumn Term 2020

- *INSET - Tue 1st Sep (no school for pupils)*
- *INSET and Induction Day for Year 7 and Year 12 pupils - Wed 2nd Sep*
- *Term Begins - Thu 3rd Sep*
- **Half Term - W/c 19th and 26th Oct**
- **Term Ends - Wed 16th Dec 12.00 noon**

Spring Term 2021

- *INSET - Mon 4th Jan (no school for pupils)*
- *INSET—Tue 5th Jan (no school for pupils)*
- *Term Begins - Wed 6th Jan*
- *Half Term - W/c 15th Feb*
- **Term Ends - Tue 30th Mar 4.00pm**

Summer Term 2021

- *INSET - Fri 16th Apr (no school for pupils)*
- *Term Begins - Mon 19th Apr*
- *Half Term - w/c 31st May*
- **Term Ends - Fri 2nd Jul 12.00 noon**

Day 2—creativity and team work



Day 3—presenting their work and the final production





Community, Charity and Culture Week for Years 9 and 10

Pupils in Years 9 and 10 enjoyed three days off curriculum this week to broaden their outlook on the world, taking part in activities related to community, charity and culture.

Pupils were divided into working groups to undertake physical tasks such as clearing different areas of the school site, including the school cellar, as part of their community day. On the allocated culture day, Year 10 enjoyed a day trip to London to visit the Baitul Futuh Mosque, one of the largest mosques in Western Europe, whilst Year 9 visited the Buddhapadipa Temple. Both groups also visited the nearby Horniman Museum & Gardens.

On Tuesday 2nd July, the two year groups combined to undertake a challenging 10-mile charity walk in aid of the Rainbow Trust Children's

Charity. After walking along sections of the North Downs Way and the Greensand Way, pupils exceeded their target of £1,500 to raise, at the time of writing, £1,531.

The Community, Charity and Culture activities were spearheaded by Deputy Head Marc Broughton. He commented: "Our aim of the three days was to present the pupils with three different days that would enlighten, challenge and engage them in things they wouldn't normally have been involved with.

"All pupils have really enjoyed the variety of the three days and in the process have learnt a great deal about themselves, other cultures and what they can do if they set their minds to it."



Be Outstanding...

Well done to all our pupils who have shown curiosity, creativity and commitment across the curriculum this half term. We are delighted to be able to recognise some of the most inspiring examples here.

Pupil	Year	Award	Subject
William M	8	Academic Distinction	Music
Lila B	9	Academic Distinction	History
Olivia C	9	Academic Distinction	History
Abigail G	9	Academic Distinction	History
Lauren K	9	Academic Distinction	History
Emma M	9	Academic Distinction	History
Billy T	9	Academic Distinction	History
Jason C	10	Academic Distinction	Photography

Celebration and Inspiration at Prize Giving

We were delighted to welcome so many pupils and parents to our annual Prize Giving evening on Wednesday 26th June at Dorking Halls. The evening was a wonderful celebration of pupils' achievements throughout the year. The evening featured a performance from the whole school musical "The Producers", an inspiring talk from RAF pilot and trainee astronaut Kerry Bennett and culminated in an outstanding performance of "Shallow", from the film "A Star is Born" by our talented singers.

Flight Lieutenant Kerry rose to fame as a finalist in the 2017 BBC television series Astronauts: Do You Have What It Takes? The three finalists were of such high calibre that they all received recommendations from world-renowned former astronaut and commander of the International Space Station Chris Hadfield, to join the European Space Agency when it is next open to applicants.

Kerry, who was last year recognised in the Women in Defence Awards, inspired a packed hall of pupils, parents and staff with descriptions of the challenges

she faced in the television programme and on her journey to become a successful RAF pilot. These challenges include breaking her back in three places at the age of sixteen, but having the resilience to complete her A levels and negotiate a place at Southampton University where she gained a Master's degree in Geophysics. After graduation, Kerry faced the disappointment of being 'chopped' from fast jet training, but she picked herself up and joined the VIP no. 32 (The Royal) Squadron. The RAF pilot enjoys the high life and has flown celebrities such as James Bond star Daniel Craig and members of the Royal family around the globe.

Kerry emphasised the importance of making the most of opportunities that arise and tackling these opportunities with determination and resilience. She said 'the best rewards come from taking risks. That's when you achieve', adding 'In the end, we only regret the chances we didn't take'.



Trips & Visits

Animal Adaptation at Tilgate Nature Centre

On Wednesday 12th June, all of Year 7 set off for Tilgate Nature Centre in Crawley. Once there, they were totally immersed in the natural world and spent time walking around the animal enclosures, discovering amazing facts from educational talks, informative signs, flip boards and interactive displays.

Tilgate houses over 100 different species from otters to owls, mongoose to mice and parrots to pigs. Y7 attended an exciting session in the undercover barn where they had supervised contact with live animals and a range of artefacts. The theme for the day was animal adaptation and how animals have evolved amazing

survival adaptations to live in the wild. The day was most inspirational and even the torrential downpour of rain was unable to dampen the spirits of the true Dunottar Warriors; helped a little by a visit to the shop for ice creams before the return journey.



Year 12 Historians Visit Hampton Court Palace

Our day at Hampton Court started with a guided tour around the palace which included analysing sources, acting out parts of history and gaining more of an in-depth knowledge of how Henry VIII spent his time at this Palace. For all of us historians this was a great way to not only cement the knowledge that we had but also to learn new and interesting facts about the King and his rule.

After a quick lunch break we had an insightful talk by Historian Tracy Borman who spoke to us based on her book "Henry VIII and the men who made him." Her talk was vibrant and packed with knowledge which all of us found extremely useful. We used the last hour to wander around the Palace including finding the painting of The Field of Cloth of Gold - one we had studied heavily in class!

On behalf of all of us I would like to thank Mrs Stringer and Mrs Boden for taking us on this fun and exciting day in which all of us learnt new and interesting facts which we can certainly use in the in-depth course that we are studying.

Emily T, Year 12



Trips and Visits

Art Update

Mr Kopiel and his KS3 art club have been making good use of the outdoor class room, producing some 'on the spot' sketches of the surroundings.

Our Art Scholars from Years 9 and 10 also enjoyed some good weather when a local artist, Barbara Marshfield, came and delivered a sculpture workshop. Pupils designed and created abstract forms from lightweight building blocks. These will be displayed as part of an exhibition later in the year.

Our Year 10 GCSE pupils visited Kew Gardens in May to see the work of the glass artist Dale Chihuly and the 18th century illustrator Marianne North. They

were also inspired by the variety of plants, flowers and buildings in the gardens and used their drawing and photographic skills to produce some fantastic outcomes.

As well as using the outdoor classroom KS3 students have worked on a piece of public art for the 'HeART' arts trail. St Catherine's Hospice challenged local schools to decorate a wire heart in support of their charity.

The Dunottar heart will be on display in Savills Estate Agents in Reigate from July and throughout the summer to help raise awareness of the role of the hospice within the area.



Pupils Learn About Cybersecurity at Fidelity Investments

On Friday 21st June, twelve pupils from Dunottar visited the Tadworth offices of Fidelity Investments, an American multinational financial services corporation.

The Year 10 and 12 GCSE and A-level computer science pupils learnt about the wide range of threats that organisations face and the complexity of countering these threats. They enjoyed a tour around a working cybersecurity area and were fortunate to meet the analysts who detect threats and prevent vulnerabilities. In addition, pupils received valuable career advice about different paths into this field as well as useful interview tips.

Sally Berry, Head of Computer Science at Dunottar, said: "The visit to Fidelity really brought the

curriculum to life. The GCSE students in particular had learnt about cyberthreats and preventions in a classroom, and it was fascinating to hear real examples of these in the context of a financial organisation. Thank you to Fidelity for inspiring them with their future career choices!"



Scholars' Presentation Evening

On Wednesday 19th June the Academic Scholars held their Presentation Evening. This is an event where the Scholars showcase a piece of research they have independently carried out on a topic of their own choosing. Family, friends and staff gathered together to hear the result of their hard work.

We had a wide range of subjects covered from the adaptations made by animals to survive climate change (Abigail G), through the history of basketball (Maximilian H), via how a plane's jet engine works (Joshua R) to the impact of Facebook on young people (Issy J). Lottie S decided to research her Great Grandmother, an inspirational feminist and legal activist whose influence has had an impact on Lottie today. A different historical tack was taken by Laura C who took us through the reason why she felt that Cardinal Wolsey was not the man of God he purported to be.

The Scholars did an excellent job to reduce the volume of information they had uncovered and produce a five to ten minute coherent, understandable and engaging presentation.

There were also practical demonstrations on the evening with Billy T showing his elephant robot in action, Jessica C playing the violin to help her to demonstrate the history of violins and Henry W putting two encryption codes he had written in to practice. The photographs which Emily K had taken to demonstrate her talk on fractals and patterns in nature were outstanding and Advait B gave us a wealth of reasons for why the psychology of sport is an important part of being successful when sportsmen and women compete.

It was a great pleasure to listen to the Scholars and they all learnt something more about both the world and themselves in this process.

The thought of standing up in front of a large audience to share with them a piece of your own work can be quite daunting. The whole process, from deciding what to base the presentation on, through researching it and then creating the presentation showed real tenacity and independence on their part.

Oliver P says "Doing the Scholars' Presentation helped me understand the message in my entertainment, and analyse how it affects the game economically and socially."

Lauren B felt that "The Scholars' evening was very interesting. I was nervous before, especially as I found out I was last. I felt a lot of pressure to perform well. Luckily, everything went well and I feel more confident in myself than before."

Abigail G sums up the event beautifully when she states that, "The Scholars' Evening was an excellent way for each student to showcase their interests in a professional, mature manner. It allowed each of us to become closer as individuals, and learn more about things that we hadn't even considered beforehand!"



Mrs Smithson Awarded Fellowship

We are proud to congratulate Mrs Smithson, Deputy Head (Teaching & Learning), on being awarded Fellowship status of the Chartered College of Teaching.



The nomination and the award of Fellowship recognises Mrs Smithson's commitment and achievement within the teaching profession and is an accolade held by some of the most committed teaching professionals who have shown significant and sustained contribution to both the profession and their own professional development.



PTA News

The PTA have had a busy year organising socials, charity events & raising funds for Dunottar. We are thrilled to have contributed so much to the school, finishing off in style with full size water polo goals made by our fantastic Estates team and funded by the PTA.

Our Summer Party was a lot of fun and we'd like to thank everyone who came along and supported us.

We look forward to welcoming new parents to our school community in September when we will be launching an exciting new 'legacy project' (details to follow).

Admiral Performances at Poetry Live Competition

On Tuesday 18th June, four Year 8 pupils (pictured from left to right) Dhara, Henry, Luca and Anna, took part in the final of the Poetry Live Competition at the Waldegrave Room at St. Mary's University, Twickenham.



had to perform this in front of the judges. It was after both parts of the competition that 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes were presented for each language – French, Spanish and German.

They spent weeks rehearsing to be able to recite their chosen poems in French and Spanish from memory in front of an audience of about 100 people. They competed against 65 students from a range of private and state secondary schools. The standard of the language spoken, and the performances were outstanding.

In the second part of the competition, pupils had five minutes to look at an unseen poem and then

Although we did not win, I am extremely proud of Dhara, Henry, Anna and Luca; the way in which they have prepared, and how they performed and conducted themselves on the night. It was great to have the opportunity to be a part of this for the second year.

Mrs C Pennells

On that note, we are saying goodbye to some valued PTA members this year and have several slots needing to be filled for the next 12 months. Please step forward so we can get new ideas, new parents and a lot of momentum going forward. It's a lot of fun and you'll work with a fantastic team.



Contact us on: info@dunottarschoolpta.co.uk

Finally, over those long summer months – keep us in mind when you do your shopping! Our easyfundraising has 68 members and our goal is 200! Please sign up at: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/dunottarpta/>

We've launched the next round of our Lottery so please sign up (it only takes 30 seconds) - there are lots of winners: <http://www.dunottarschoolpta.co.uk/lottery>

Thank you for all your support this year and have a great break!

DUNOTTAR PTA



Sign up to the Dunottar School Lottery

Sign up online

www.dunottarschoolpta.co.uk/lottery

ONLY £60 per annum

1st prize = 50% of monthly prize fund

2nd prize = 30% of monthly prize fund

3rd prize = 20% of monthly prize fund

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District Athletics

Year 9, 10 & 11

	GOLD 1st Place	SILVER 2nd Place	BRONZE 3rd Place
Long Jump	Rudi	Harry (Yr 9) Josh (Yr 10)	Harvey
Javelin	Lily		Romilly
Triple Jump	Harvey	James	
Discus		Tom	
Hurdles		Cameron	
Inter Girls 4x100m Relay		Rebecca, Freya, Sophie and Lily	
Shot Put			Tom
High Jump			Josh

Year 7

	GOLD 1st Place	SILVER 2nd Place	BRONZE 3rd Place
Long Jump		Woody	Jess
Javelin		Keira	
Triple Jump			
Discus	Georgia		
Hurdles		Charlie	
Inter Boys 4x100m Relay	Charlie, Woody, Tom, Harry		
Shot Put	Leo		
High Jump		Charlie	

Surrey Schools' Championships

	GOLD 1st Place	SILVER 2nd Place	BRONZE 3rd Place
3000m (Senior Girls)	Beanie		
Javelin (Inter Girls)		Lily	
Javelin			Romilly
Long Jump (Senior Girls)		Olivia	
Long Jump			Rudi Harry
400m Hurdles (Inter Boys)		Cameron	
Triple Jump			James
Discus			Tom

Congratulations are also in order for Cameron and Lily who both earned their Surrey Schools' Vest this year, competing for the County schools' team at an Inter-Counties meet at Erith on June 15th.

On top of this we wish Olivia success, as she has once again been selected for the Surrey Schools' team ahead of the National Schools' Championships in Birmingham on 11th/12th July.





Cricket

School cricket has seen an impressive growth over the past two years from 61 games in 2016/17 to 114 fixtures across both boys and girls in 2018/19.

We have had an impressive 15 teams competing across the Summer (17 including indoor sides that enter the county competitions). This year saw our U13 and U12 boys enter the county cup competitions for the first summer, with the U13s getting to the last 16 and narrowly losing out to KCS Wimbledon. Our U15s came second in the Indoor county cup and they themselves have had an impressive summer winning 4 out of 6 Saturday fixtures. This year also saw our first Cricket tour head out to Desert Springs in Spain, where 41 boys and girls honed their skills prior to the season starting. It is definitely a trip that will run again in the near future.

We are really proud that over 92% of boys and girls at the school have played some part in the schools' cricket success this summer and hope that this figure continues to grow as we continue to develop our Cricket programme. We are fortunate enough to have played some big fixtures against excellent cricketing schools such as Royal Grammar School Guildford, Epsom College to name a few and we look forward to the return fixtures in 2020.

Our U14 and U15 girls have been the trail blazers for girls cricket, setting a phenomenal example with impeccable turn out at training, as well as the super cricket they have played throughout the summer. They won their county cup group stages beating Lingfield, Croydon High and Streatham and Clapham School and managed to secure a place in a finals day. The U12 girls have taken to Cricket and have continued the example set from above with exceptional attendance at morning and after school cricket and phenomenal enthusiasm for the game. They have, along with the U13 girls, enjoyed a mixture of hardball and softball fixtures versus external opposition.

We look forward to the Cricket term next year and hope that everyone has a brilliant summer, playing as much Cricket and sport as possible. Fingers crossed England bring home the World Cup and the Ashes!

House Cricket

Lower School House Cricket

Over 100 Lower School boys and girls turned up at Westhumble CC to showcase the skills they have developed across the summer months in what was a thrilling and fun filled Saturday morning.

David's came out on top of the girl's competition winning 3 from 3, closely followed by Andrews's house. In the boy's competition we had a surprising winner of Patrick's House who managed 2 outright wins and one tied game, which was won by having fewer wickets lost.

The collaboration and team work shown on the day from each and every team was phenomenal. Many thanks to all involved and well done all who took part in making the day a success.

Upper School House Cricket

The Upper School event took place at Leigh Cricket Club, and saw each House's team comprised of boys and girls from both Years 9 and 10.

The event encapsulated Dunottar, and it was brilliant to see different year groups and genders collaborating to show off their progress in cricket this term. The contest itself was extremely close, with no single house dominating.

Each house won at least one game, and lost one too. Eventually, St Andrew's took the 2019 title, based on their head to head result with St Patrick's, after both houses had won two and lost one.





Sports Day

Thursday 4th July saw our annual Sports Day at K2 Stadium in Crawley. The sun was shining brightly and house spirits were high, with some great house-themed outfits donned, including cheerleaders and a duck!

This year there were a few changes to our Sports Day event with a live leader board and action replays used for the first time, allowing staff, pupils and parents to keep up-to-date with the scores. This led to great excitement and competition, and it was brilliant to see everyone supporting each other and cheering on their houses.

Following our most successful athletics season to date, it was highly likely that a lot of school records would be broken, and our pupils did not disappoint with many records absolutely smashed! At one stage the Boys' Year 7 David's Relay team, broke all relay records for all ages, that had previously stood. However, the event is not solely about excellence, and what was particularly pleasing to see this year, were the number of pupils desperate and keen to contribute, even if that meant completing a 300m on crutches!

The Sports Day overall results were:

- 1st place - Patrick's
- 2nd place - David's
- 3rd place - Andrew's
- 4th place - George's

Well done to everyone involved; pupils, parents and staff, who made this day so enjoyable. We're already looking forward to an even bigger event next year!

