



Prospect School VIEW

Issue 37

12 July 2019

ASPIRE • BELIEVE • ACHIEVE

This year has gone so fast!

I am really proud of how much has been achieved by everyone in the Prospect community and I am already looking forward to all that we have planned for next year.



Mr D Littlemore
Headteacher

Quote of the week

It's not whether you win or lose, it's how you play the game.

(Henry) Grantland Rice -
Early 20th-century
American sportswriter.



It might be nearly the end of term, but there has been no let up of pace and we are still extremely busy. This week has seen the launch of our new house system, with students having their first assembly in their house groups, led by their new Head of House. Although this is an important structural change for us, it is also the opportunity for some healthy competition and fun, and we certainly did that on Tuesday with an absolutely fantastic Festival of Sport. Huge thanks to the PE department for organising such an excellent event – you read much in the media about young people not getting enough exercise, but the levels of participation were superb, with students joining sixteen different activities throughout a very sunny day, making the most of our superb field and sports facilities. The fiercest competition was reserved, however, for the annual staff relay race, won by a very speedy West House. Overall though, the honours go to South House and I was delighted to be able to present the inaugural House Cup to Mr Gerrard.

Thursday evening saw our final parents' evening of the year, this time for Year 7. My own daughter is in Year 7 and, just like the many parents I spoke to last night, I can't believe quite how quickly the year has gone. I am delighted by how well they have settled in and the excellent progress that they have made so far.

We are all very aware of the pressures young people face, particularly in relation to their mental health, self image and body consciousness. This is why our Well-Being Day is such an important annual event - my thanks go to Miss McCabe, who organised today's excellent event. With a programme of external speakers and sessions led by school staff, a diverse spread of topics were covered, designed to ensure that our young people are kept safe, both physically and mentally, particularly over the summer holidays. Although some of the sessions were quite hard-hitting, they were all extremely valuable, and I know all the students I spoke to during the day found it a very worthwhile experience. Our commitment

to student well-being has been recognised in a number of ways this year; we are very proud to be Stonewall School Champions, in recognition of our positive and inclusive approach to LGBTQIA+ and next year we have been selected by the Department for Education to pilot the delivery of the new Relationships and Sex Education Curriculum.



Finally, as at the end of any school year, there are a number of staff to whom we are saying goodbye. My good wishes to Mr Beard, Mr Crowe, Mrs Bartholomew, Mrs Strong, Mrs Doran, Mr Turner and Mr Keane-Grufferty; you will all be missed enormously and we all very much appreciate everything you have done for Prospect School.

I wish you all a very enjoyable summer and I look forward to another amazing year in September.

Mr D Littlemore
Headteacher



Prospect School - Sports Leaders

On Tuesday 25th June, a group of 12 Year 9 GCSE pupils led 3 hours of fun and exciting activities for over 40 Year 5/6 students from Churchend Primary Academy.

The confidence and ability to lead and coach that these Year 9 pupils were able to show was outstanding. The Primary School pupils learnt a lot and were able to hone some incredible skills during the day through the numerous sports that were on offer. The sports that our pupils led included football, rounders, basketball, benchball and endball, as well as some team-building activities.

The teachers of Churchend Primary Academy highly praised our pupils for the level of planning that had gone into the sessions and the interactive and professional way they came across. Miss Blake was extremely proud of how enthusiastic and encouraging the pupils were throughout the day.

We look forward to expanding the number of pupils involved as Sport Leaders in the school next year and cannot wait to host more activities for local schools.

In addition to this, two of our Sports Leaders were involved with the organisation and running of the Berkshire Summer School Games at Bisham Abbey on the 27th/28th June 2019. Two pupils are given this residential opportunity each year and both involved said it was valuable in increasing their leadership qualities. Within Prospect School we now have 4 formally trained Young Leaders and 40 who have been trained in school. These pupils have played an essential part in arranging activities both in and out of school and their hard work continues to impress the PE department.

Miss L Blake
Teacher - P.E. Dept



Reading Town Athletics Championships

On Friday, 21 June over 50 students represented the school at the Reading Town Athletics Championships. It was a fantastic day with lots of individual successes; Jayden B won the U13 boys shot put, Zak W won the U16 boys javelin competing against boys a year older, Crystal W won the U14 girls discus, Jayden B won the boys U13 shot and O'Shay J won the U14 boys 200m to name just a few of the many medal winners we had on the day. All the students who attended were fantastic and helped the day to be a

success for Prospect. The students' conduct and behaviour around Palmer Park was exemplary and there was incredible Team Prospect support for one another throughout the day. Check out the Athletics display board next year for more pictures and results.

Miss L Blake
Teacher - P.E. Dept



Prospect School Festival of Sport

Tuesday, 9 July 2019, saw the Prospect School Festival of Sport. The sun was shining throughout the day, which allowed some exciting competitions to take place. Sports events ranging from rugby to fun relays, trampolining to tug-of-war were closely contested and provided a fantastic opportunity to launch the new house system. North, East, South and West houses were well represented throughout the day, with some particularly tight matches in the high jump, football and rounders events. This year was the closest competition that we have seen at the Festival of Sport, which was testament to the effort and pride displayed by all students representing their new houses.

Mr A Dorliac
Head of P.E.

“Engineering Day - Peter Brett - July 2019”



Thank you for the hard work.

It was the end of a revamped mentoring project which meant we changed the emphasis and made it more skills-based and employer-focused. Although at times it was challenging, there was a 100% increase in participation and all the students have gleaned tangible employer skills, which are relevant to the market and any college application.

An exciting end to tomorrow's future engineers - they all worked hard and were a credit to the school and themselves.

Siobhan Gallivan
Head of Careers - Room D4
sgallivan@prospect.reading.sch.uk



Focus this week on Gatsby 4: Linking learning to careers...

Year 10: We have had our first report that all the Year 10 students have started their work experience placements and these are going well. They have been described as a great cohort of students. Thank you to parents for emailing all the reams of paperwork back so efficiently. The great news is that all the students will also gain a first-aid certificate at the end of it.

I have seen most of the Year 10s for an initial guidance session, which has been organised through tutors, who have had the dates passed to them. One recurring theme is that students need to know their grades and know how to improve – ask for SMART feedback if you need to find out how you can push your grades up. In our sessions we cover attainment, aspirations (outside of school too) and ambitions. We then give plans to support that. However, a huge part is following up and developing research skills which only the student can do – so please encourage your child to do this. I am yet to meet a child with no ambition or aspiration but the vast majority struggle with knowing how to get there! They can ask themselves - Do I enjoy studying? Am I considering 6th Form for A levels? - they can look now at the subjects before they make their choices, look at the prospectus and ask themselves where these subjects will take them and what grades they need if they want to take these at A level. If it is vocational route then would they be more suited to hands on learning? Remember that BTECs do have UCAS value, if your objective is a degree or a degree-level qualification. I have encouraged all of them to start the process early. Break your decision making down - you are NOT making a choice based on the job you are going to do for the rest of your life, you are making a choice for next stage of your life. Apprenticeships are becoming more popular and there are an increasing number of degree-level apprenticeships, where you gain a degree whilst getting paid.



<https://www.ucas.com/alternatives/apprenticeships/apprenticeships-england/what-apprenticeships-are-available/degree-apprenticeships>

Degree apprenticeships - Learn more here - [ucas.com](https://www.ucas.com)

www.ucas.com

Degree apprenticeships allow you to gain a full bachelor's degree or master's. Learn how you can combine working with studying part-time at a university.

Siobhan Gallivan
Head of Careers - Room D4
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An interview with a Head of MFL.

This week we interview our Head of Modern Foreign Languages, Ms Mumford.

1. What did you want to be when you were at school?

I had absolutely no idea when I was at school. Initially, I wanted to study the sciences but changed my mind numerous times.

2. What subjects did you enjoy and why?

I enjoyed most subjects but I loved languages (French, German and Spanish) and literature.

3. What subjects were a challenge?

I wasn't sporty at all, so PE was my least favourite. I came last in everything.

4. What was your first proper full-time job after college/ university/school?

After graduating from Queen Mary University in London, I worked in the library there for a year which was a great job.

5. How did you decide which was the right career for you?

I spoke to a friend of a friend who was a French teacher and thought "I'd like to try that" because I had a French & Spanish degree. I applied to Goldsmith's University in London to do a PGCE in Modern Languages.

6. If you could give your younger self some careers advice what would it be?

Don't worry if you don't know what you want to do in the future.

The important thing is to work hard to give yourself as many options as possible.

7. If you could do any job or career what would it be?

I love my job and can't think of anything I'd rather do, although I'd love to be able to write novels so maybe a best-selling author.

8. What do you enjoy about your job?

Working with young people, the variety and the fact that there is always something new to learn. It's never, ever boring!

9. If you could change one thing about your job/career what would that be?

Everyone would like to earn more money, wouldn't they?

10. What are the main skills you need to do your job?

You need to have endless patience, empathy, resilience and be very self-disciplined. And obviously you need to have excellent knowledge of the subject you teach.

11. Are there any specific qualifications/skills needed? If so what?

There are various routes into teaching. To do a PGCE you need to have a degree and you must have maths and English GCSEs.

Health Care Day - Monday, 17 June 2019

We took Year 9 students to the University of Reading to experience work based activities.



Siobhan Gallivan
Head of Careers - Room D4
sgallivan@prospect.reading.sch.uk



“Career In IT Day 2019”

Some of our Year 10 students participated in a very interesting Career In IT Day.

Prayer room

We would like to remind students that we have a multi-faith prayer room in school (near reception).

It is open at both breaktimes, and is available to students of any faith (or no faith) who would like a few moments of quiet contemplation, meditation or prayer.

Multi-Faith Prayer Room



“Most special job in the world”

The job of a school counsellor is the most special job in the world. For the past year and a half, I have had the most incredible, enjoyable, rewarding and positive life experience I could ever have wished for, amongst one of the most inspiring and wonderful student populations I could ever have wished to meet and I am so grateful to be leaving with that experience behind me. I am honoured to have shared the journey of so many students and colleagues in my time at Prospect.

I believe every student should have access to high-quality, accessible and long-term support and the only way to achieve that is through the provision of in-house counselling where the school counsellor becomes part of the students’ life. I hope the service goes from strength to strength.

I wish everyone I leave behind the best of luck for the future and I take with me so many wonderful memories and positive experiences. I look forward to hearing the success stories of our wonderful next generation and thank them for the kindness they have shown me in my time here.

I would ask for one simple thing. Please be kind and compassionate to yourself and to others. You never know what burden another is carrying.



Brendan Keane-Grufferty
School Counsellor

**Theme of
the week**
15 - 19 July

What have you
achieved this
year?



Art & Photography 'A' Level Exhibition 2019

As promised, please see below more Art and Photography 'A' Level work from our amazing 'A' Level students.

Mrs R Butler - Art Dept



Art & Photography



Photography A level



Art & Photography



What's occurring?

SCHOOL CALENDAR



Date	Event	Details
2018 – 2019	Term Six	Monday 3 June - Wednesday 17 July
Mon 15.07.19	Year 8 - Celebration of Achievement	Lower School Hall - 1:45pm
Tues 16.07.19	Year 7 - Celebration of Achievement	Lower School Hall - 1:45pm

SCHOOL TRIPS



Date	Event	Year Groups
Monday 15 July	Brilliant Club Royal Holloway Graduation	7 & 8
Monday & Tuesday, 15 & 16 July	Rushall Farm	9 & 10 (& Bridge tbc)