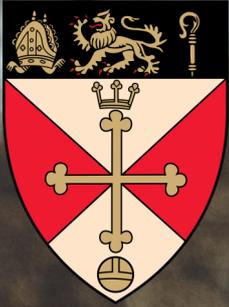


MALMESBURY MATTERS

April 2022



Malmesbury
students aiming
high this summer

Head's



Foreword



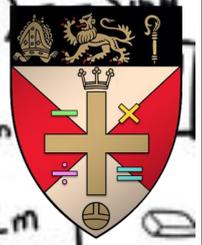
As we come to the end of another busy term, our second edition of Malmesbury Matters allows us to reflect on what a fantastic term it has been. We have had our challenges around the pandemic at times, but the way in which the whole school community has united has been heart-warming.

The coming term will see the Year 11 and 13 students head into the exam season, and I have been really impressed with the dedication that they have shown to their studies and the staff continue to work tirelessly to support them.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy and restful Easter break.

Brett Jouny

Marvellous Maths



Athelstan Trust Year 10 Maths Challenge

On Thursday 3rd March Year 10 students from Schools across the Trust got together at Sir William Romney for the MAT Year 10 Maths Challenge. Students worked in school groups to solve some tricky maths problems, ranging from questions about snails, imaginary numbers and flushing toilets!

The event was hosted by the Advanced Mathematics Support Programme and was enjoyable and challenging, introducing students to what Maths can offer after the school years and the avenues and doors it can open.

All students participating in the event worked incredibly well, showing that Maths can be a collaborative and creative subject. When asked all students said they would do it again!



Here is a taste of the questions they tackled, (answer below):

A snail starts to climb a wall on Monday morning. The wall is 9.5 metres high. Each day the snail climbs 3 metres, but then slips back 2 metres every night.

On which day of the week will it reach the top of the wall?

Malmesbury school did exceptionally well coming not only first, but also second in the event and students had a fantastic day. Well done to everyone involved. Some impressive Maths skills!

We look forward to the remaining Maths Challenges for Years 8 and 12 and very much hope that these students have such a great day as the Year 10s.

Answer: Sunday

UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge

In February Year 9 and 10 students came to the Hall to sit an hour long, multiple choice Maths challenge with some pretty intriguing and puzzling questions. All completed without the aid of calculators or computers, allowing students to show off their cerebral skills to their best.

Here is a taste of the kind of problems they were faced with, (answers below):

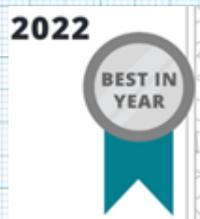
3. In the Caribbean, loggerhead turtles lay three million eggs in twenty thousand nests. On average, how many eggs are in each nest?

- A 15 B 150 C 1500 D 15 000 E 150 000

11. The Universal Magazine of Knowledge and Pleasure (Vol. 1, 1747) asked the following question. "What number is that, whose quarter shall be 9 more than the whole?" What is the correct answer?

- A 12 B 9 C 8 D -8 E -12

Amazing results, with nine students achieving a silver certificate and seven a bronze certificate! Special mention goes to Bede for being Best in Year and to Jasper for being the Best In School.

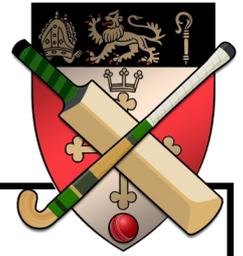


Answers:

3. B The average number of eggs per nest is $\frac{3\,000\,000}{20\,000} = \frac{300}{2} = 150$.

11. E Let the correct answer be x . Then $\frac{x}{4} = 9 + x$. So $\frac{3x}{4} = -9$. Therefore $x = -\frac{4 \times 9}{3} = -12$.

Ultimate Frisbee Club heads to the National Indoor Championships



On the 19th and 20th of March, we attended the UK U17 National Indoor Ultimate Frisbee Championships in Wolverhampton. A few months before the tournament a team was selected from attendees of the club. However, due to the dark evenings, no practice had taken place over the last few months.

To improve the teams' skills, especially when throwing inside, we ran a set of lunchtime training sessions along with the U14 squad. Each week, we began with a drill to improve our curved throws which were especially useful to avoid defenders and made the frisbee easier to catch. This was followed by a small 5-a-side game, to adjust everyone to playing in smaller areas with more defenders.

On the first day of the tournament, we all arrived at school by 7am for a two-hour bus journey to Wolverhampton. We then started to get some last-minute practice in before our first game. Unfortunately, on the first day we struggled against many of the teams, although as these were our first competitive games outside of school, we were improving quickly. By the end of the day, we had moved from losing the first game 8-0 to a final game ending with a closer, but still losing, score of 3-5.

The next day however the hope was we would do significantly better as we entered a group phase consisting of teams around our level. We arrived at around the same time with games starting immediately and got off to a good start winning our first game 6-3. This continued as we went on to win 3 of our next 4 games before our final game against the team who we played in the final round the day before. Sadly, the game went their way again ending 5-6 with two injured players. Despite this, it was an enjoyable and constructive experience for all who attended, our team finishing 13th in the UK.

Archie Cole, Chris Crago and Oscar Eden Y10

U14-The Frisbee tournament a few weeks ago was a lot of fun. In the under 14s category, across the whole weekend we played 10 matches; however, we only won 1. We had 7 people on our team, they were, Amélie Méheust, Troy Martin, Matthew Hunton, Tabitha Martin, Natasha Payne, Finn Langham, and Rosie Dickinson.

On the first day, we played well but we hadn't played on a team together before and it was our first tournament, so it got off to a rocky start. As the day progressed, it became a lot easier as we knew each other's play better, so we ended the day with a 9-1 win. On the second day, we started with a lot more enthusiasm as we felt a lot better knowing what it was like and we knew each other more; unfortunately for us, the teams we played were very good and we didn't win any games that day. At the end of each match, we had to do a spirit circle which is where each team compliments each other on their playing skills. It made it a really nice environment -even when we lost!

Amélie Méheust and Rosie Dickinson Y8

"It was amazing. My favourite part was getting to run around and play other schools"- Tabitha Martin

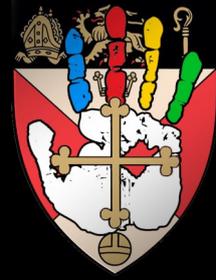
"I liked doing the spirit circles after the matches because it was nice to see how our play could improve for the next match"- Troy Martin

"It was great to see how our Frisbee skills got better over the weekend"-Amélie Méheust

"It was so much fun to play Frisbee all weekend and seeing how much we improved"-Rosie Dickinson

"It was great to see us finally playing as a team"-Natasha Payne

Malmesbury School Careers Week 2022



Royal navy STEM afternoon with Year 9

A variety of realistic scenarios were set where the teams were presented with challenges to design, build and utilise a range of models relating to a humanitarian aid incident. These activities work on communication and teamwork and can be adapted for all age groups and academic abilities. The equipment used is simple in structure but designed to encourage the use of students' imagination and as such is not purely for

On Monday I participated in the royal navy STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) afternoon. To start, everyone doing it went to the hall and the instructors explained who they were and what their jobs were. Then we all stood along a rope and played a game where the instructors would say river or bank and you would have to jump from one side of the rope to the other. Then we got into groups and we were given the task of building a wheelbarrow with the materials we were given which were some plastic planks, joints, wheels and some rope. The groups then raced their wheelbarrows to see which one was best. After that, we were given the task of building an enclosed shape which had to be at least 3 inches off the ground and had to fit everyone in our group inside of it. Finally we put away the things we had used to build the wheelbarrows and finished the session. During the session I enjoyed working with a group and building and it helped develop my teamwork, problem solving, and listening skills.

Bede Cryer

STEM type work.

These group sessions developed student's ability to work together as a group, adapt, improvise and communicate to ensure their design was as effective as possible.



Bath College C.V workshop with Year 8

'Your CV is a sales document and you need to ensure your key selling points stand out and every time you apply for a job you need to make sure that your CV is tailored to what that employer is looking for. On average an employer takes around 30 seconds to read a CV, so you need to create a CV that will have a quick impact. You can do this by targeting your CV to an employer or sector: they will read it looking for the best match.'

We are grateful to Bath College for running a C.V workshop with our students. 8MD will now write their own iLearn lesson so they can teach other students what they have learnt.



Calcot spa talk with Hair and beauty students

As part of careers week, our Year 10 and 11 Hair and Beauty students were visited by Sarah who is the Spa Receptionist and Trainer from Calcot Spa.

She shared her own experiences in the industry and spoke specifically about the structure of the apprenticeship programme which Calcot provide, and the training process students could expect. The students were also very grateful to try one of the spa's most popular treatments, Elemis Frangipani Salt Glow Body Scrub which left their hands silky smooth and smelling delightful. Sarah also kindly brought in lots of free samples from Calcot to take away and try at home: Mrs Minkov was particularly happy about this!

Thank you to Sarah and Calcot Spa for taking time to talk to our Hair and Beauty students and inspiring them about a career in the beauty salon industry.

We are very grateful to the following organisations for attending our lunchtime careers fair.-

BATH COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF BATH, CALCOT SPA, CIRENCESTER COLLEGE, DYSON, GOOSEBERRY BUSH DAY NURSEY GWH SWINDON, HARTPURY COLLEGE, MARTIN AND MANIFOLD VETS, OXFORD BROOKES UNIVERSITY ROYAL AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, RWE, WILTSHIRE POLICE, COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY, CATALANT



Magnificent Music



CHAMBER CONCERT - RETURN TO THE ABBEY....

The Music department began a busy fortnight towards the end of March with its first Abbey Chamber Concert in three years, and almost two years to the day that the last one was cancelled as the first lockdown began.

The Chamber Concert used to take place in the School in years gone by and the Abbey would host our Classical A level Performance 'Recitals', but in the last decade or so we have combined the two events for a single, less gig like experience than the three night Christmas Concert.

The Concert took place on March 22nd and was watched by a pleasingly large audience of around 180 - a few of whom had witnessed the rehearsal earlier in the day and asked about tickets! The bulk of performers were in the 30 strong Chamber Orchestra who played four pieces - all four carried over from the cancelled concert in 2020, one of which accompanied year 11 violinist Sam Tyler play the theme from film 'Ladies in Lavender'.

A similar sized Chamber Choir who performed two a capella arrangements by Debbie Corscadden: 'Streets of London' by Ralph McTell and 'And so it goes' by Billy Joel.



All of our A level musicians were featured as soloists - there were contrasting piano solos by year 12s Meg Luddington, Alexandra Bradshaw and Thomas Sladden, a rendition of West side story's 'Maria' by Cree Henson and year 13 Matt Phillips recorded his performing coursework submission with an oriental flavoured 'Cradle song' piano solo.

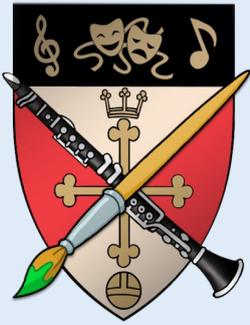
Year 13 student, and future Music graduate, Keren Simpkins rounded off the solos with a genuine full-on Recital featuring the full range of her instrumental pedigree - two dances for Alto Saxophone, a Mexican flavoured piano solo and a Haydn violin Concerto movement (again arranged by Debbie Corscadden) accompanied by Chamber Orchestra. To perform 20 minutes of music by yourself is quite an achievement and Keren deserves considerable commendation for her efforts.

A final mention must go to the Year 12 Excellence Programme who added to their Christmas Concert pedigree by performing very well received vocal / instrumental versions of 'La vie en rose' and 'Scarborough Fair' which also featured the farewell performance of departing Music teacher Chris Knibbs who helped co-ordinate the group at the start of the year.

All in all it was a pleasure to musically direct and to return to such a magnificent venue was particularly special. We must thank the Abbey helpers and the sound recording team.

It gives the community a chance to see the kids at their best, from both a talent and conduct perspective.

Chris Bradshaw - Head of Music



MUSIC ABRSM EXAMS - THE BUSY SCHEDULE CONTINUES.....

No sooner had the Chamber Concert finished than the Music department was busy in hosting a visiting examiner from the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music. A selection of students from various years groups were taking their graded instrumental exams in piano, flute, clarinet, voice and saxophone.

We are thankful to our Woodwind Teacher Rowena Cameron for co-ordinating the exam entries and the visit and piano teacher Heather Timbrell for accompanying most of the candidates.

The day went very smoothly - the hall proving an excellent venue for the exams - and the results came through surprisingly quickly, within three days.

Huge congratulations to the following successful candidates:

Jessica Muttock (year 8) - grade 1 piano, Katherine Ryall (year 7) - grade 2 flute

Freya Vere (year 7) - grade 2 flute, Peggy Mussett (year 9) - grade 2 clarinet

Hazel Burke-Murphy (year 9) - grade 3 piano, Zoe Buddle (year 9) - grade 4 singing

Daniel Sivil (year 13) - grade 6 Alto saxophone, Anna Wookey (year 11) - grade 7 Alto saxophone

MUSIC DEPARTMENT OPERA TRIP - THE END OF A BUSY FORTNIGHT!

After the enormous efforts of the Chamber Concert and the successes in the ABRSM exams, the Music Department rounded off it's rather full last fortnight with a trip to Covent garden, London to see a Schools' Matinee performance of Verdi's 19th century classic opera 'La Traviata'. It was a morality tale centering around a Courtesan called Violetta and a doomed love affair, essentially a soap opera with lavish scenery, costumes, Orchestra and spectacular vocal performances.

It may have been April Fool's Day but the 7:00 am departure was no joke and, with Mrs Corscadden (the customary organizational powerhouse behind the trip going back many months) absent due to COVID we had to deny Spanish teacher Maria Hernandez her siesta as she accompanied us on the early start! We took 31 students, all taking either GCSE or A level Music.

We arrived by 9:30 am and were in the opera house at 10:00 taking in the atmosphere before taking our superb seats in the Orchestra stalls, five rows from the stage. Rather than Mr Bradshaw saying how fab it was, I enclose some quotes from the students on the bus home:

"The opera was absolutely outstanding! The performers were true masters of their craft, especially Violetta but also the almost forgotten orchestra in the pit. The set design was beautiful as well and was a perfect atmospheric addition to the music itself". - Keren Simpkins (year 13)

"Great performance, loved seeing Violetta's character arc throughout the performance and how she changes throughout the opera". - Sofia McCormack (year 11)

"The performers were outstanding, along with the orchestra members and set design. An unforgettable experience". - Alexandra Bradshaw (year 12)

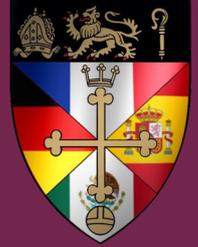
"La Traviata was a tale of tragedy, love and despair and it did not disappoint, with outstanding vocals acting and even some dancing it was captivating". - Anna Wookey (year 11)

"It was an incredibly valuable experience and a truly moving narrative". - Aiden Flett (year 11)

"The Atmosphere was brilliant and the music was world-class". - Aaron Gill (year 10)

Chris Bradshaw - Head of Music

Y9 Language Ambassadors



Last month, twelve Language Ambassadors visited Malmesbury Primary school in order to share their enthusiasm for learning different languages with younger students.

In the build-up, we had a meeting every two weeks on a Tuesday lunchtime. At every meeting we talked about different things like what language we were teaching, what we wanted to teach (colours, numbers etc), and who we wanted work with. We were in groups of two or three to do this.

In those groups we separately planned out our own lessons, what games we would play at the primary school, and what work we would do with them. I, and the person I was working with, taught numbers in German, and other groups did French and Spanish on different subjects. We also planned what we would need for the lessons (like white boards, pens etc).



We practiced our lessons in the last meeting before the trip which was personally quite exciting because we were able to teach our own teachers and see how all of our work would be put to use.



A number of us had attended the Primary school as students, so it was lovely to see some old faces! We were really excited about this day and Mrs Hernandez and Mr Summerbee came along with us. When we arrived, we set up our session which included games and exercises and got ready to meet our students.

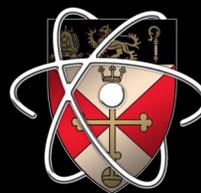
There were 5 tables and the students moved round the room going from table to table doing each of the activities we had prepared for them. The activities covered Spanish, French and German. These included a game called The Butterfly Game which involved rolling a dice. Each number would represent a word which needed to be translated into Spanish. Every right answer won a part of the Butterfly and teams were competing to complete the Butterfly in the quickest time. Another table were teaching French and the students created a family tree using the French words for family members.

There was lots of laughter and we really enjoyed helping the students see that learning another language can be fun. The students approached the session with enthusiasm and energy and we left feeling really positive about the day.



Harry & Peggy Yr9

Malmesbury's 'Decanauts' Robotics Team win first LEGO LEAGUE trophy!



Malmesbury's robotics team 'Decanauts' competed in the regional final of the First Lego League Cargo Connect competition in Bristol. The talented team diligently prepared for the four categories of the tournament each judged by industry experts, robot design, core values, robot game and innovation project. We are so proud of all the students; congratulations to Charlie Parker, James Bird, Archie Cole, Chris Crago, Oscar Eden, Aaron Gill, Ian McGrath, Sergio Rozalen, Ed Baker for all their efforts and achievements.

The team is also supported by the experienced year 12 advocates, Henry Yandell and Toby Cole. Henry, who even 3D printed the Decanauts logo, reflects on the day:

'The teamwork and cooperation of the team as a unit to work towards their common goal was like clockwork, every person an equally important cog in the machine. On the day, despite the constant fast pace of the events, the team worked tirelessly at gaining the most points available to them. Seeing their hard work gratified by a trophy (and a balloon party most importantly) was excellent!'

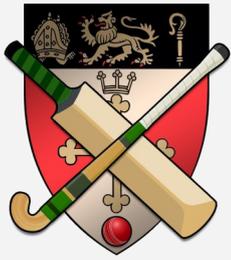
The day was extremely exciting, starting with students presenting their innovation project. This task required students to identify a problem posed by the transportation industry and propose a solution. The students researched cargo ships and the environmental impact of fuel emissions and cargo losses into the ocean and consequently designed a hybrid ship to address these issues. Their design used hydrogen fuel cells and electric power generated by solar and wave energy to power the ship. They also incorporated a clever storage section enclosed with a solar paneled hinged lid. They not only researched the scientific processes involved, they also drew artistic sketches, modelled their ship using CAD software and built a model using Lego technic. Each member of the team presented beautifully, it was clear and engaging and generated lots of questions which they answered proficiently.

The team then completed three rounds on the mission mat, using their Lego Mindstorms robot to complete as many missions as possible in two and half minutes, the timer was on, the music was playing, and the team kept their cool even when the robot did not move exactly as planned. In between rounds they built additional modules and programmed extra tasks to increase their points.

Straight from the mission mat and back to presenting in the robot design challenge. The team discussed their design strategy with the judges, explaining the rationale behind their build and the basis of their programming. They absolutely excelled in this area, demonstrating their depth of knowledge and ingenuity in building and problem solving.

The day ended with a balloon party to celebrate the achievements of all the teams involved and of course with the prizes and the Decanauts won the trophy for Robot Design! Their win was so impressive but more so was the student's teamwork, abundant enthusiasm, tenacity, absolute focus throughout the entire event, commitment to their preparations and kindness towards each other.





Congratulations to Milly and Erin Hall

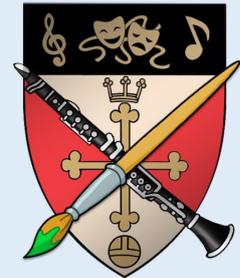
who play for St Nicholas FC. The team have won the double this year. They beat Cheltenham Town at the end of March 5-1 to win the Gloucester County Cup and won the Bristol Girls League with a game to go. Excellent effort. Well done.



Well done to Teya Brezan

 who back in February won overall best Urban/Street Dancer.

She danced 3 separate dances in the competition and didn't stop smiling whilst performing. Congratulations Teya on your win.



Well done India Hamilton Burnet

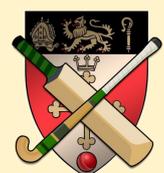
 who has very excitingly been selected for the British Dressage National Academy 2022! This is an annual programme which selects 12 promising Under 25 riders each year from the UK and gives them fully funded access to the best training and top industry professionals. This is great news– Good luck India.

Year 12 Westonbirt UN Conference

We thoroughly enjoyed researching the social, economic, and foreign policies of our country – Germany – and employing our own debating and negotiating skills in a United Nations style conference. Within this, we were able to come up with solutions to current global issues, adapting to the individual characteristics of each country involved.

Overall, it was an amazing evening and such a great opportunity to develop our public speaking and debating skills. I'm so glad that I got involved!

Freya Yr 12



Congratulations to Grace Purnell

 Yr 11 who has now received her first and second international football caps for Wales

Grace played in the U16's UEFA Development tournament that included Wales, Finland, Switzerland and Denmark.

Grace played against Switzerland and Denmark.

An outstanding achievement Grace. Well done and best of luck in the future.

