



The Abbey



Gateway

21 May 2021

Robot Mats - Ufton Court - Governor Wins Award

The pandemic in France - an insight from Upper VI IB students

Having just completed studying the topic of Human Ingenuity, Upper VI IB French students carried out research on various aspects of the pandemic in France, focusing on its effects on the world of culture (cinema and fashion), education and the tourism industry.

There was also an edifying presentation on the antivaxx movement. They presented their thought-provoking findings to an audience of Lower VI and their French teachers.

It was a pleasure to see such a superb example of the International Baccalaureate learner profile at work: students who are knowledgeable, principled, informed, open-minded, caring, balanced and reflective... and always ready to show that they are inquirers, thinkers, communicators and risk takers. Bravo à toutes!

Mrs Berrow



Heads Connected: Something to be wondered at in all of Nature...

Long before the inception of Mental Health Awareness Week, Aristotle reminded us that nature is so central to our psychological and emotional health. Indeed, it is almost impossible to realise good mental health without a greater connection to the natural world. For most of human history, we lived as part of nature.

[Read more](#)

Upper Prep Scientist



Hafsa won the Upper Prep prize for designing the Lab Coat competition run by Bayer Laboratories.

She has grown the crystals and what an impressive sight they are. She is passionate about Science and in fact, everything in the world around her.

Juniors Recycling Debate

In Upper Prep, students have been looking at how they can prevent waste.

They engaged in a year group debate proving and disproving 'Recycling is the best way to prevent waste'.

The students shared their ideas with enthusiasm and spoke clearly. It was so interesting to see how the ideas evolved from the beginning of the discussion. Some of them ended up thinking the opposite!

Mrs Flint



For weekly events and reminders, please go to your [My School Portal account](#)

This week's Heads Connected: [Something to be wondered at in all of Nature](#) by Nisha Kaura



Ufton Court Reflections



Students reflecting on their recent visit to Ufton Court:

Amber: Overall I really enjoyed the day because I learnt new things and got to do some of the things that the Romans actually did. It is much better going on a visit to learn something rather than learning it from a book or a video. You actually experience it in real life and see what it would be like for the Romans.

Elena: I felt excited and happy because it was my first time in Ufton Court. The banquet was delicious, the activities were fun and the overall experience was amazing.

Bella: When we made the weaved fence my hands got covered in mud from the bamboo. We used such great teamwork we ran out of bamboo before our time was up.

Mitali: I learned how Romans built houses, lit fire and made thread. I also learned how

to make flour and butter from scratch. My favourite activity was picking the herbs and making soap.

Alice: Out of all the activities that we did, my all time favorite was getting to meet the pigs, goats and sheep. Being able to stroke them and feed them was lovely as I



enjoy taking care of animals. When we did these activities I was excited to learn new things about the Romans, I was interested

about the artifacts we looked at and what they were used for.

Did you know Romans invented baby bottles? Neither did I until visiting Ufton Court.

Ella: I enjoyed making the flour the Roman way. I liked it because it was fun when you discover the flour coming from the grains and the sense of achievement when you get the flour.

Livia: I was really excited and happy because it was the first time in a long time



since we have been on a trip. My favourite activity was making soaps. I picked a big selection of herbs from the garden including lavender, mint, sage and chives and mixed them with oats and soap to make a new soap in the shape of a small globe. It actually works. I wash my hands with it nearly everyday.

Lucia: My favourite activity was making fresh butter out of soft white cream. It was absolutely amazing how you can make butter just by putting the amount of cream you want in a jar and shaking the jar with the cream inside for a few minutes. It was fun to make it on our own instead of just buying it from the supermarket.

Elizabeth: By having this experience I really understood the Romans and will remember it forever.

Sukh: I liked how to make flour as it was a hard activity as you had to crush the grain but eventually I made lots of flour! It was lots of work but fun too.



Alumna of the Week: Viki Shearer (2015)

Viki Shearer (2015) is currently studying for her Masters in Heritage Management with Queen Mary University and Historic Royal Palaces (HRP).

1. When did you leave The Abbey and what are you doing now?

I left The Abbey in 2015 and I'm currently studying for my Masters in Heritage Management with Queen Mary University and Historic Royal Palaces (HRP).

Although I have always been interested in history, I wanted to do something more practical and where I could work directly with people, so I studied Psychology and Business at the University of Edinburgh. I largely took modules in Organisational Behaviour, thinking I wanted to go into HR and employee engagement but after working as an Intern and later an Assistant in the Business School's Alumni Team, I realised that I wanted to work in external community engagement.

After graduating, I worked at Fettes College, running their alumni programme. I found myself spending more and more time in the Fettes' Archives and using the history to engage alumni. At the same time, I was working on a volunteer project developing an engagement programme and partnership opportunities for a historic church as part of a National Heritage Lottery Fund grant application. I realised that I wanted to combine my interests, working to engage people with heritage to improve the financial viability of heritage sites, so last March I applied for my Masters and began that in September 2020.

What I love about my course is it combines heritage with management in theory and practice, including weekly seminars led by staff from departments across HRP, including from Chief Curator, Lucy Worsley. I've also had the opportunity to work as an Intern at HRP as part of my placement modules.

I worked with the Head of Sales in the Commercial Department, looking at different ticketing models used in the sector and how HRP develop creative partnerships for event and merchandising opportunities to maximise income from the domestic market as they reopen sites.

In June, I move to a Digital Curation placement, where I shall be researching and producing online content for HRP, before going into an Operations placement at Kensington Palace in July.

2. What do you miss the most about The Abbey?

I think seeing my friends every day. We've all kept in touch and still see each other often but after five years living in Scotland, it's nice being back down South and being able to see them without lots of advanced planning.

3. What would you say is your biggest achievement?

I think one of my biggest achievements was having the activities and engagement programme I developed included as part of a National Heritage Lottery Fund grant application. That application was successful and without that, I don't know if I would have had the confidence to pursue it as a career.

Another is while at Fettes, a man got in touch, explaining his father had died young and he had very few photographs of his father's childhood, and knew little about it. I managed to not only find photos of his father at school in the Archives, but also found his father's best friend from school and was able to put them in touch. Both later contacted me to tell me having the opportunity to learn about his life at and after Fettes respectively was invaluable and a connection both wanted but had not imagined possible. Seeing how special it was for them and knowing that I was able



to help make it happen is something I think will stay with me for a long time.

4. What advice would you give to current students?

It is 100% OK if you don't know exactly what you want to do and if you do, don't be afraid to change your mind later on. Anything you try, view it as an opportunity. Whether a job or volunteering, there will always be something you can take away from it (even if it is realising you never want to work in that area again).

If you're thinking about working in the Heritage sector but not sure what you want to do, volunteer with smaller organisations that rely on volunteers to run. You'll be able to get a lot more involved in a range of areas and that's great for figuring out what you do and don't like.

Be Inspired by Amy and Ella Meek

Amy and Ella are 16 and 14-year-old sisters from Nottinghamshire and they're on a mission to get people, businesses and schools to take on a "plastic clever" approach to reducing single-use plastics.

The girls say that their desire to make a positive change started when they began studying the UN Global Goals about a year ago. Inspired by what they learned and wanting to make a change, they established the charity Kids Against Plastic, and so far they've picked up over 60,000 pieces of single-use plastic litter and developed their own app to log it in. They've even done their own TEDx talk and as part of their work for Kids Against Plastic, they've made over 50 cafes, schools, businesses, festivals and councils Plastic Clever.

Be inspired!

German Health Vocabulary

Jeden Morgen putzen Peppa und George ihre Zähne. Heute Peppa und George zu den Ärzten und Zahnärzten gehen.

Es ist Georges erstes Mal im Krankenhaus und beim Zahnarzt. Peppa und George warten beim Zahnarzt auf ihre Untersuchung.

Zuerst gehen sie zum Zahnarzt. Dr. Elefant untersucht Peppas Zähne. Dann untersucht er Georges Zähne. Peppa und Georges Zähne waren sehr sauber.

Dann, Peppa und George ins Krankenhaus, weil Peppa einen Fieber und einen Husten hatte. Zuerst untersuchte der Doktor Peppa und dann verschrieb er ihre Hustenbonbons und Tabletten.

Am nächsten Tag wurde sich Peppa viel besser und sie spielten im Garten. Peppa und George hatten Spaß, aber dann fiel George um und brach sich Arm und Bein, so dass sie wieder ins Krankenhaus gingen.

Guten Tag, Herr Doktor. Guten Tag, Herr George was ist los? Ich habe einen gebrochenen Arm und ein gebrochenes Bein. Ich werde dich untersuchen. Ja, du hast einen gebrochenen Arm und ein gebrochenes Bein. Können Sie etwas vorzuschreiben? Ja, ich verschreibe Pillen, Verband und Gips. Sie müssen auch im Bett bleiben und viel trinken. Muss ich wiederkommen? Nein, nur wenn es nicht besser wird. Ganz vielen Dank! Auf Wiedersehen und gute Besserung!

Dann ging George nach Hause und bald ging es ihm besser.

The Upper IV German students had studied the topic of health; as part of this, they watched a German film by Janosch about a little tiger who had to go to hospital to have an operation.

In order to practise the health vocabulary and different tenses, everyone wrote lovely stories.

Frau Byrne, Head of Modern Languages

Der Doktor Amy hat Clara gesehen.

Clara hat einen Gips und Krücken bekommen.

Du habst dein Bein gebrochen!

Clara und Alfie hat das Krankenhaus verlassen. Clara hat ihr besser gegangen.

Governor Award



As a community, we congratulate our Governor, Sanya Burgess (2010) who collected GOLD at this year's MHP + Mischief 30 To Watch: Young Journalist Awards 2021.

In the tenth year of the event, Sanya was awarded GOLD in the news category - recognition of her amazing work to date with Sky News.

The Abbey is proud of her achievements and wish her continued success in the world of journalism.

Upper Prep Robot Mats

Upper Prep have been designing, creating and testing their own mats for our floor robots.

They collaborated really effectively with their partners and were excited to be able to try out their own mats and each others.

Miss Boyden



Environmental Warrior

Elena in Upper I made a pledge for Earth Day to go litter picking every Sunday to help keep her local environment tidy.

It is great to see her taking action and making a positive impact on the world around her. She, along with the whole of Upper I, would like to give a message to the Abbey Community that if we all do something small we can make a big difference.



Keep Walking

After Mrs Kaura's assembly about the health benefits of walking, (both mental and physical), Upper II decided to challenge themselves to add extra steps to their week.

Having pledged to walk to and from school every day this week - even if it was raining - Miss Pinchbeck had to admit to her class that she drove in one morning. They forgave her, though, as four out of five isn't too bad.

As a class, they are all feeling the benefits of more walking.

Miss Pinchbeck