



Croydon High School

for girls aged 3-18



Year 7 Croydon Schools' Athletic Champions

Every girl, Every day



Highlights - Summer Term 2019 Part One

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GDST

GIRLS' DAY SCHOOL TRUST

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Headmistress Emma Pattison writes...



Jeremy Kyle has had a lot to answer for in the past weeks and I am sure I am not alone in believing that his show, recently described as 'bear baiting' by The Telegraph, has met its deserved end. Kyle sought to reveal the very worst aspects of his guests' characters by exposing them to unkindness and humiliation, often from those they were closest to, making the pain inflicted even more acute. Reading about the lamentable record the show has of exploiting and then abandoning its guests and the subsequent whiplash of commentary on Twitter has saddened me.

Last week was Mental Health week in The UK and I was fortunate enough to have been invited to contribute to a panel discussion at the Royal Society of Medicine. One theme which we explored was the absolute importance of encouraging each student to recognise what is good about him/herself and the ways in which he/she is distinct from peers. Encouraging discussion with and reflection from students in this respect and teaching them to 'wear' these differences and preferences with great pride are, it was argued, the keys to developing stronger mental resilience and improved mental health.



Girls enjoying Mufti Day to raise money for local charities

At Croydon High School, we are, of course, so fortunate in so many ways. We already know that every student has a great deal to be proud of and we try, with this very newsletter for example, to ensure she receives the acclaim she deserves. We also recognise that we are a diverse community and we teach each student to celebrate her own individual place within it. I am inspired by every girl who proudly tells me about her culture, the idiosyncrasies in her family and the things which "make me, me". I delight in

EVERY GIRL - EVERY DAY

seeing students who demonstrate a robust and deliberate sense of self while showing their joy in belonging to a strong community.

It has been examination week in Senior School and my thoughts have been with all of our students sitting their end of year examinations along with those in Year 11 and Upper Sixth taking their external examinations, hopefully performing at their very best to secure the best outcome they can. In particular, my thoughts have been with those students, staff and parents who have been fasting this week (or perhaps for the students it has been a version of fasting, given it is exam week).

Ramadan is a period of sombre spiritual reflection and increased charitable behaviour for Muslims and I have always had great respect for those who fast in daylight hours for this month each year. One member of staff explained to me that fasting allows him to become closer to God and that all Muslims try to be the very best version of themselves in this month. It is a commendable purpose and one which should inspire us all, whether or not we are fasting.

Our community is one in which endeavour, support and achievement are celebrated and one where the humility and kindness of Croydon High girls is a great source of pride for me. So, best wishes to those who having been sitting exams and everyone in our community observing Ramadan. For those of us who are not, perhaps we could be inspired by our Muslim peers to be the best version of ourselves and celebrate that in others.

Ramadan Mubarak

24 May 2019

Prayer & Reflection Room **for ALL** (Rm 28)

This room is open to all.

It is a designated space for worship and prayer, as well as peace, quiet and reflection.

PLEASE BE RESPECTFUL:

- Please remove your shoes before using the prayer mats.
- Please refrain from eating in this room- especially meat products.
- Please remain quiet whilst people are in prayer.
- Please return any items used to the box before leaving.



AVAILABLE MON-FRI 1-1.30pm

NO MALES ALLOWED AT THIS TIME- THANK YOU! 😊

If you have any questions about the use of this room,
or if you feel you need something in addition to the items already provided, please speak to Miss. Kelly



An Ivy Link Easter Reunion

We were delighted to welcome back girls who left the Sixth Form last summer- the Class of 2018. Prosecco, Croydon High's famous brownies with an Easter twist and a good catch up were the order of the occasion. All the girls were very happy to see one another and staff alike; conversations centered on how much they love University life with new friends and new challenges. Several girls talked about how much they miss their Croydon High family and how glad they are to have opportunities to return. We look forward to hearing of their progress. Once a Croydon High girl... always a Croydon High girl!

Mrs Roe



The Ivy Link is a way of bringing together the alumnae, parents and other friends of our school to keep in touch with what is happening and to stay involved in the life of Croydon High School.



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ALUMNAE



Spring Concert 2019



The annual Croydon High Spring Concert concert featured a varied and ambitious programme and was a big success, showcasing the numerous musical talents of Croydon High girls.

The Second Orchestra, led by Senaya, started the evening with two British folk songs. The first was the Scottish Ye Banks and Braes (featuring the lower strings imitating bagpipes) and the second was the traditional English Country Garden played with a light-hearted swagger. It was hard to believe that the magnificent sound was being produced by some of the youngest students in the senior school. Next, the Chamber Choir performed a complicated arrangement of Singin' in the Rain and a rousing rendition of The Rhythm of Life from the musical 'Sweet Charity'. The middle School Choir then performed a medley of Disney Princess songs showing us their versatility and dramatic singing qualities in their final performance before their tour to Paris and Disneyland.

The student-led a cappella choir Blended once again displayed their electrifying close-harmony singing in a moving performance of Yesterday by Lennon and McCartney.

The first half ended with the Big band, led by Mr Pickering, performing the Glen Miller classic, Moonlight Serenade which created a perfect segue to the interval featuring several solos from within the group. The second half of the concert showcased the beautiful voices of the Senior Choir who have worked so hard this term to learn Fauré's Requiem, accompanied by a string quartet and directed by Mr Suranyi. The guest soloists included old girl Charlotte Clapperton and singing teachers Mrs Gill and Mrs Lucas as well as Eloise Demay who performed the Pie Jesu with sensitivity and pureness of tone. The Requiem is a very moving piece, having been written by Faure to commemorate the death of his father, and we are very fortunate to have had a performance of this quality and emotional power at the school level. Well done to everyone involved!

Mr Suranyi



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TeenTech Festival

Just before the Easter half term holiday some of our Year 9 girls attended the Arsenal football stadium in North London to take part in this year's TeenTech Festival. The TeenTech Festival is a national STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) event which provides pupils with the opportunity to participate in a range of workshops, to handle leading edge technology and most importantly to spend time with technologists and scientists. With over twenty five schools and forty exhibitors in attendance there was a sense of real excitement throughout the day.

In the Innovation Zone the girls worked in teams to invent a product that would make life better, simpler and safer. The teams identified a real world problem, designed a solution and considered how they would take their product to market. The girls then pitched their ideas to an audience of industry experts and teams from other schools. I am delighted to report that Croydon High won two of the main awards.

Congratulations to Titilayo, Inaya, Holly, Eloise, Krisha, Suvini, Abigail, Aaravi and Jessica for winning the TeenTech Tinkerer Award for Best Invention. The team's "Emergency Stab Pack" invention would provide medical assistance including automated emergency calls with GPS location information in the event of a knife crime.

The TeenTech Award for Best Presentation went to Erna, Amy, Eleanor, Maddy, Rianna, Nyla, Darshali, Shriya, Delicia and Ashwini for their confident and well considered marketing pitch for their "Watch Out" product, a personal security watch with a discreet messaging service.

The Insight and Challenge Zones enabled the girls to experience technology, science and engineering in action and to participate in a range of activities.

Croydon High won three inter-school competitions; Darshali won the Middlesex University Prize for building an Aspirin molecule in the fastest time, Delicia won the JVC Kenwood Technology Quiz and the Bristol University Prize was awarded to Titilayo, Inaya, Holly, Eloise, Krisha, Suvini, Abigail, Aaravi and Jessica for their design of a multisensory globe for visually impaired children.

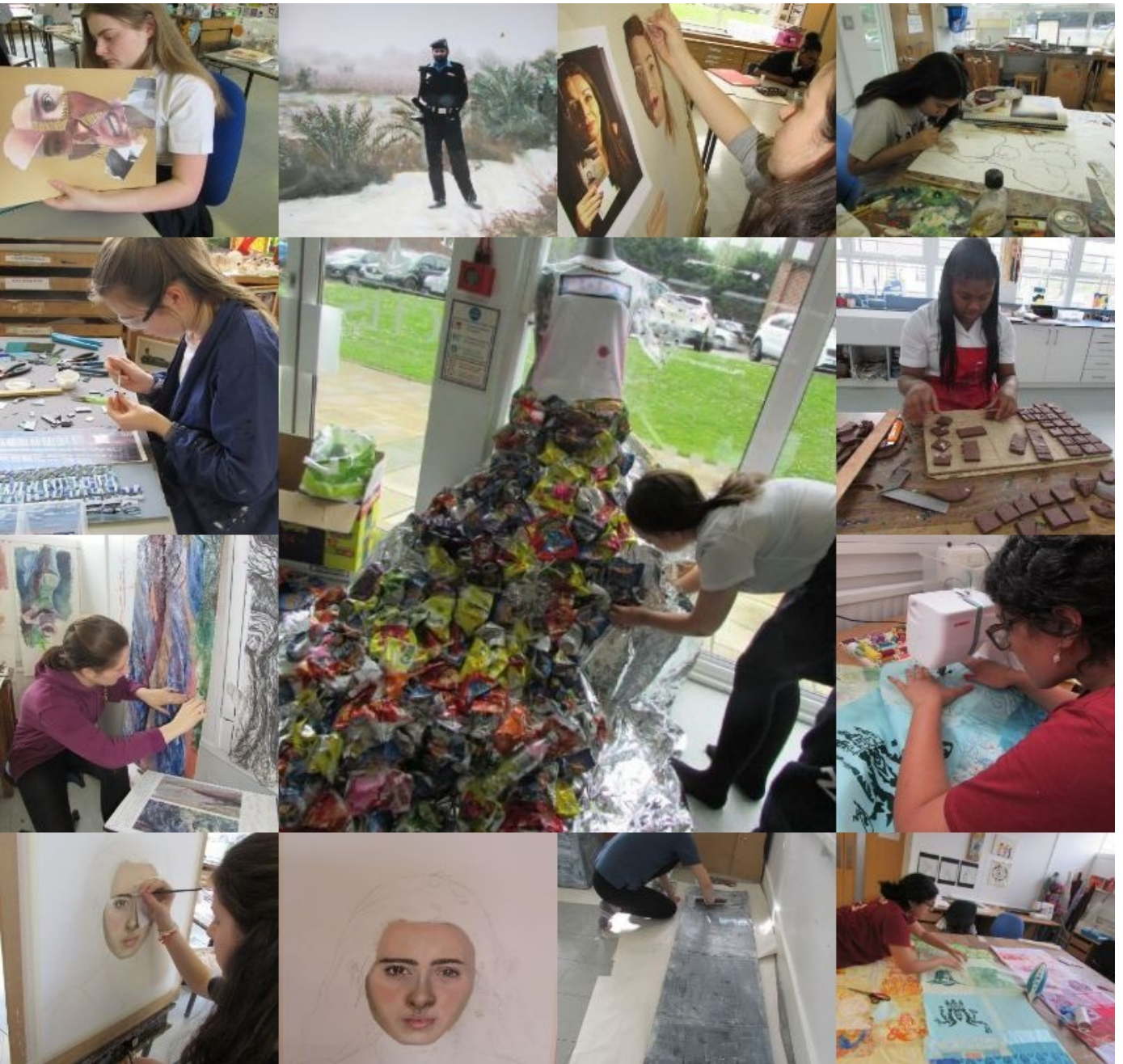
Mr Brady



Art & 3D Design

The Year 11 & 13 girls kicked off the public exams this week with their GCSE and A level Art & 3D Design examinations. They have worked extremely hard over the last 8 school weeks in preparation for their 10/15 hours of practical work and have created some beautiful paintings, sculptures, prints, textiles, photography, ceramics, glass and mixed media work. We would like to extend a warm invitation to our Summer exhibition, where you will be able to see all the girls' work on **Thursday 13th June from 4.00pm to 7.00pm**. This is truly a celebration of their creativity, talent, commitment and determination, especially the Year 13s who have completed over 50 hours of art exams over the last four years (we won't mention how many post-it notes we have used) - well done girls; we are extremely proud of you!

Mrs Smith



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Environmental Report

Specific Cause of Plastic Pollution:

Lack of Plastic Recycling

There has been an enormous increase in plastic production since 1950, and most of this is because we are using far more plastic packaging every year and this needs to come to an end now. Plastic takes more than 400 years to break

down and when we don't recycle or repurpose plastic objects (and just put them in the normal bin), this ends up in landfill, and the sites are already overflowing with the amount of rubbish we throw away. This is dangerous and harmful for our planet, sea life and other animals.

Scientists predict that by 2050 the oceans will contain more plastic waste than fish which is shocking, scary and no one would want this to happen. Also 91% of plastic can't be recycled at all and half of all plastic produced becomes waste in less than a year. This is why our landfills are overflowing and our oceans are becoming poisoned with plastic.

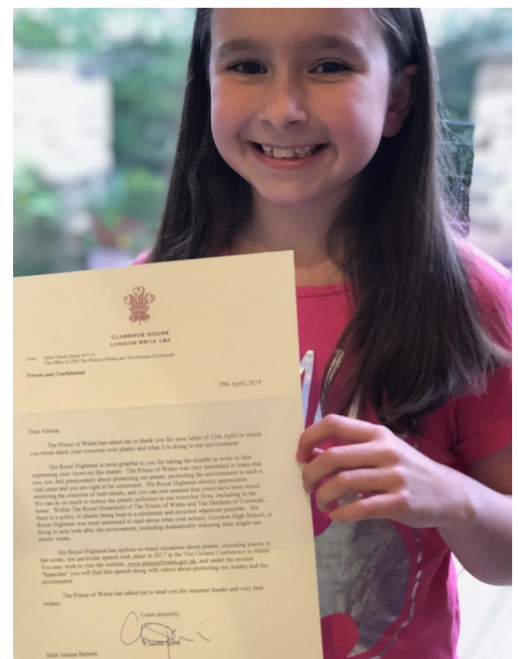
We all have to take charge and rise up to the responsibility of looking after our planet and stopping plastic from destroying our oceans. We can all make a change by ensuring we are taking the following steps:

- 1) Make sure we are recycling or reusing as many plastic products as possible
- 2) **At Home** - Stop using unnecessary packaging, e.g. to use lunch boxes instead of cling film for packed lunches and left-over food
- 3) **At School** - Always take our reusable water bottles to school and ask school to provide reusable cups for each classroom in case someone forgets their water bottle. We will ask our caterer to stop using plastic bottles for school trips and let girls take their own water bottles.
- 4) **In the shops** - Not buy items or products which use non-recyclable plastic or too much packaging. Ask shopkeepers to reduce the amount of unnecessary packaging. Always take our reusable bags, coffee mugs and water bottles when we are out because not only will we be saving the planet but also our money because shops charge for plastic bags, and hot drinks are usually cheaper if you bring your own mug.

We can also write to the government asking them to ban non-recyclable plastic by making it illegal, so shops won't be able to use it and it will stop harming our oceans and overflowing landfill sites.

Finally, we can write to famous and influential people for support to help us put pressure on the government e.g. when I wrote to Prince Charles (who is interested in plastic pollution and warned the public about it 40 years ago), he said he is "most interested to read about what Croydon High School is doing to help look after the environment."

Aleena, Year 4



Raspberry Pi Awards 2019



Congratulations to four of Croydon High's Year 5 girls for being chosen as finalists in the PA's Raspberry Pi Competition 2019. The team Ivy Travel Pi-oneers designed and developed an interactive voice-activated system for passengers with visual impairment to get real-time bus information and flash a light in the bus stop to notify the driver and request a stop.

The winners were invited for an awards day and spent the day at CodeNode, which is UK's largest venue dedicated to technology events. They spent the day participating in different workshops and presenting their project to important and highly successful professionals from different walks of life. This was a well-deserved and amazing experience for the team.

Huge well-done girls - we are very proud of you!

Mrs Krishnamurthy



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Year 4 Fryland Wood Trip

Year 4 went to Frylands Wood Scout Activity Centre for a one-night residential trip. We all had lots of fun! We went pond dipping and played giant games such as Connect 4 and Jenga. We tried a climbing wall and we also learnt some archery as well as team-building skills and effective shelter building.

We stayed in cabins and slept in bunk beds.

We asked some of our classmates what they thought of Frylands Wood.

“It was a great place to go to!” Meenakshi

“I loved it!” Eshana

“I liked the food and activities” Lauren

“I liked the rock climbing” Alisha

“It was a good experience and I loved the rooms.” Laura

“I liked all the activities, it was the best!” Ahaana

Riyah & Prisha, Y4

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Careers in the Classroom

We have had a fantastic Careers in the Classroom Week. The week began with an assembly from Mr Pickering who brought in one of his model steam trains, Betsy (yes she has a name). Betsy demonstrated right in front of the girls eyes how we burn fossil fuels to heat water to create steam to turn wheels, in this case to produce motion but in most cases to turn electricity generating turbines. They also saw (and smelt) the resulting smoke, even from a small model train. Mr Pickering could link this demonstration of fossil fuels being used and the resulting effect on environment to the climate change protests in London, which many of the girls knew about.

Over the week in their Computer Science lessons girls have been researching the ways in which we could all make changes in our daily lives and in our homes. They have created posters to display that information. All girls took part in a carousel of lessons where they learnt about careers including Climate Scientist and Renewable Energy Engineer.

They also learnt about how documentary makers and investigative journalists can change public opinion on topics like climate change. Having spent the week thinking about careers, our girls had the chance to visit our Senior School the following week to think about life beyond Juniors.

Mrs Bradshaw



Year 11 Drama students 'wow' the audience for the final time

From their arrival on the stage in the rock and pop icon themed "A Midsummer Night's Dream" at the Shakespeare Schools Festival in 2017, this GCSE group has been a real dramatic force. Their dedication, passion and talent has been exceptional and on Wednesday May 1st they showed this in abundance.

Olivia and Megan started the evening with two monologues. Olivia played a young girl, then her mother, in their struggle with her undiagnosed autism; the piece was taken from the play "Find Me". And from Claire Dowie's "Adult Child/Dead Child" Megan took us from laughter to tears with her portrayal of a character coming to terms with schizophrenia.

Rianna, Sophie, Vaishnavi and Analisa launched us back to the 1980s with their performance of John Godber's "Shakers". Set in a busy cocktail bar, the girls portrayed a number of characters including waitresses and supermarket assistants and gave us a stunning glimpse into their lives.

Shermya, Esme, Nana and Aashna wowed the audience with their performance of "Queens Of Sheba", outlining the struggles and joys of a group of friends and their experiences as women of colour, and finally, Elizabeth, Emma, Sienna and Alice became four "Bouncers", giving us a glimpse into the world of nightclubs through the eyes of the security men on the door.

The final GCSE practical performances always leave me with mixed emotions. A sense of anxiety before they start, pride at everything they have achieved and sadness that these excellent young women are performing together as a group for the last time. I wish these girls every success in the rest of their exams, and look forward to seeing them on the Croydon High stage in the very near future.

Well done to each and every one of you from one VERY proud teacher!

Mrs Webb

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BOX Young Enterprise



Business Advisor Luke presents MD **Victoria** with the team award for participating in the Croydon and Bromley Showcase of Young Enterprise groups



On 7th May, our Young Enterprise company rebranded to 'Gaia by Box', and held the official launch of their new exciting range of hand-made scrunchies. The pre-advertising for the launch resulted in a great turn out of customers.

The burgundy velvet scrunchies proved most popular, accounting for half of all units sold. Attractive pricing and special promotional offers bagged considerable sales revenue and additional pre-orders.

This leaves the firm well-positioned for a profitable end to their business year.

Maya, Lower Sixth



Lower Sixth visits the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom

Our Pathways mentoring programme provides Lower Sixth with an unparalleled practical opportunity to explore particular job sectors and find work experience whilst making sure that relevant university courses are carefully considered. As such, the Pathways mentoring programme provides a cornerstone of our plan to make sure that Sixth Form students are 'real-world ready.' To this end, students have the option of choosing one of the following pathways: law, civil service, medicine, veterinary and dentistry, business, creative industries, media and an open pathway (for those who have yet to find a specific career of interest). Students are free to transfer between different pathways as their career plans inevitably evolve over the Lower Sixth year. Amongst many other things, each 'pathway' undertakes a visit to see the particular career sector 'in action'. This week it was the turn of the Law and Civil Service pathways to explore the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom, the highest court in the UK judicial system and the ultimate arbitrator of civil (and, in some cases, criminal) legal disputes.

Our students were treated to a tour of the main courtrooms by a guide who explained the inner-workings of the court right down to its crest which comprises symbols from the four parts of the United Kingdom (can you spot them?) surrounded by an omega sign (whose finality—as the last letter of the Greek alphabet—symbolises the finality of the court in the legal/appeals hierarchy). Indeed, we learnt that this crest not only colours the judicial makeup of the court—with Justices from Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales and England sitting alongside each other—but also makes multiple appearances on the carpet throughout the building! The students were given an overview of the court's relatively short history; in fact, this year marks the tenth anniversary of the symbolic move of the court from the House of Lords to the former Middlesex Guildhall on the opposite side of Parliament Square. We learnt that the Justices always sit in odd numbers so that a majority can be reached; we were treated to the background of Baroness Hale of Richmond, the first female President of the Court as well as details of some of the more famous appellant cases it has heard such as *R (Miller) v Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union* (the 'Brexit case' led by Gina Miller) and *Lee v Asher's Baking Company* (the so-called 'gay cake row').

After the tour, we went to a question and answer session with two Judicial Assistants (whose research supports the Justices): an opportunity not ordinarily available to school groups. Our students asked a rich set of questions which ranged from the specifics of studying law at university and the ethnicity of certain legal issues to the practicalities of the separation of the legal and government systems. Our students (and the accompanying staff) came away inspired by what they saw and heard. Perhaps, just perhaps, one or more of our number will be appearing as barristers, solicitors or even Justices of the Supreme Court in the not-so-distant future!



Dr Purvis

Race for The Line Competition – Regional Finals

Our **Race For The Line** school champions Milly, Leona, Rebecca and Aiyana successfully represented the school at the regional finals of this year's Race For The Line competition.

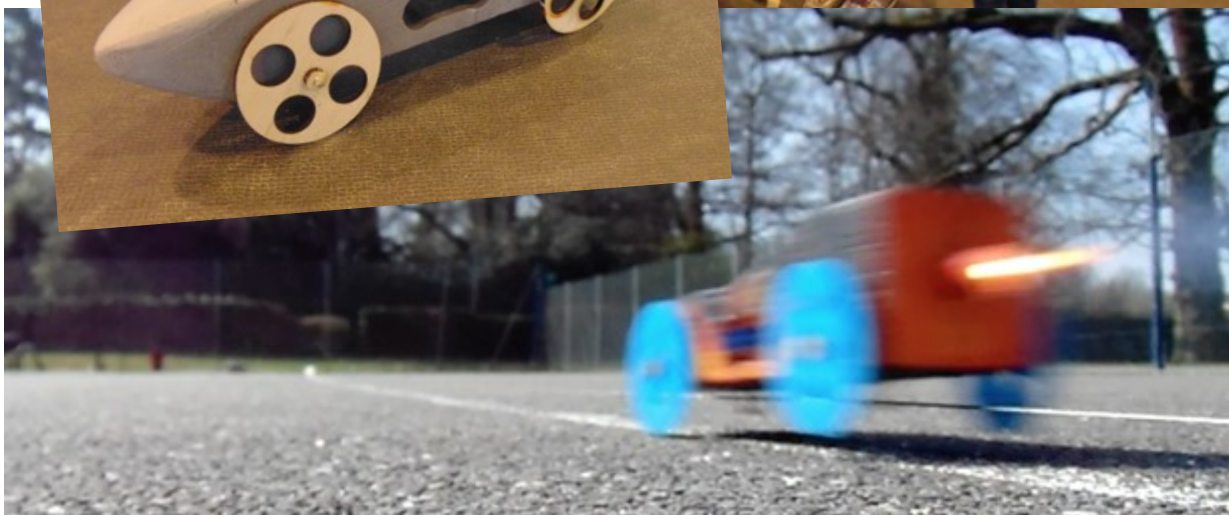
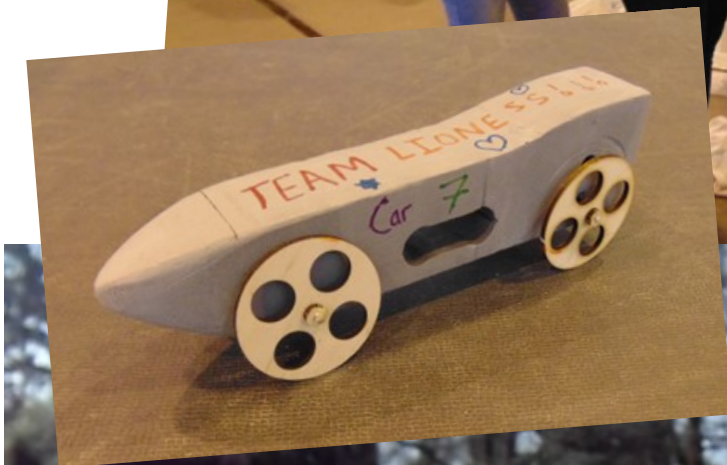
With a place at the national finals at stake, the girls had to design and build a rocket-powered car and race this against teams from twelve other schools. The girls applied their 3D design skills and knowledge of aerodynamics and forces to create a high performance car, narrowly missing the nationals by just one tenth of a second. The human eye blinks slower at three tenths of a second! This was an incredible engineering feat and an outstanding team performance of which we are very proud.

After the race, a loose wheel was identified as the potential problem, which if tightened might have made all the difference! The girls were so keen that they wanted to fix the wheel and race again. The girls have offered to mentor the school teams competing in next year's competition, so will be invited to Enterprise Technology lessons to act as design consultants.

Well done Team Lioness!

Mr Brady

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Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Practice Expedition



Year 10 students set off from Amberley Station to continue developing their walking and navigation skills and practise camping for their assessed expeditions. Hiking across the South Downs with their packs was tiring for many and they collected their fair share of blisters, but morale was kept high with singing, swinging and fantastic views.

Descending on the campsite, the girls set to putting up their tents, putting plasters on feet and cooking up huge quantities of pasta. As evening fell, we debriefed around the campfire and headed off for an early night, ready for an even earlier start. Having practised their navigation skills, the second day saw the groups hiking between checkpoints independently and very successfully. All groups made it back to Amberley Station in good time and headed home for a well-earned rest!

Now, the girls should be completing their volunteering, physical and skills sections, uploading these to eDofE and reflecting on how this weekend went. Well done everyone!

Mr Coley



Congratulations to Croydon High School's Class of 2019 Jennifer, Leah, Rebecca and Stephanie for receiving **Gold** DofE awards at Buckingham Palace

Besançon Exchange to France

We had an amazing experience overall! We packed each day with fun activities around Besançon and were very excited to meet up with our partners again after their trip to London in March/April.

On Friday, we went to the covered market in the city centre for some local food tasting and tried lots of regional specialities including a cheese called Morbier, made with a layer of ash inside it! In the afternoon, we took the tram to 'Le Criollo,' an artisan chocolatier based in Besançon. We were able to see the process of making one of their signature chocolates, Faiencine and were lucky enough to have lots of free samples! Afterwards we had a good look around the shop, where there was a wide variety of different selection boxes we could buy. It was a lovely and rather delicious experience. Later that day we went bowling with our partners, followed by a scrumptious pizza meal, which was a great bonding experience for us all!

At the weekend, we spent time with our families and did some more fun activities. I went shopping with my partner and a few of the other girls and then to a local cave, which was very interesting.

On Monday, we went on a lovely boat trip around Besançon where we saw all the lovely local architecture from the viewpoint of the river. We then took 'le petit train,' which trundled up a steep hill leading to the citadel. It was very interesting to learn about the city's past here, and we also enjoyed the zoo and insectarium.

Emily, Y8



Sports Pages



Congratulations to Amber winning gold and a bronze at the Surrey Athletics Championships



Congratulations to Francesca and Amelia who have both qualified to represent GB at the European Biathlon Championships in Madeira in June!



Congratulations to Year 3-6 swimming team who were overall winners at the St Dunstons Gala



Congratulations to Croydon Champions Kaylin, triple jump and Tamia, long jump



Congratulations to Croydon Champions Lexi who wins silver in the discus, Lucy who wins bronze in the 70m hurdles and Fran who wins gold in the 1500m





Congratulations to Sereana who represented Croydon district and won the U12 football league. Sereana also represents Palace Ladies FC who won the U12 County Cup



Congratulations to Lily who placed 3rd at the London Regional Floor and Vault Level 4 competition - she has now qualified for the finals in November



Congratulations to Saathana who won gold and a trophy for the highest scoring vault in Level 5 at the London Regional South Competition



Congratulations to Croydon Champions Jess and Renae, 75m and 80m hurdles



Congratulations to Croydon Champion Chloe, high jump



Congratulations to Croydon Champions Sophie and Olivia, 1500m

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Congratulations to Ariana and Sienna who after winning their matches have helped the team qualify for the London Youth Games finals in June





**GDST
Alumna
of the
Year**



“As there are so few women working in sport, I hope to use the NextGen programme to encourage more young people to consider sports business as a career path “

Vote now for Croydon High’s



Emma Vetriano!



www.gdst.net/AOYA - voting closes 8 July

Levelling the playing field in sport

- ★ Awarded the accolade of **Sports Industry NextGen Leader 2019** – a highly prestigious award
- ★ **Global Partnerships Manager** at Electronic Arts - creators of the **EA SPORTS FIFA** football video game
- ★ Works with the **Premier League**, the **EFL**, Chelsea FC, Manchester City, Manchester United, Tottenham Hotspur and Manchester City player Kevin De Bruyne and Manager Pep Guardiola.
- ★ **First female member** of a Match Officials team at a European Rugby Champions Cup Final in 2015
- ★ **Passionate about equality** in sports, campaigns tirelessly – from tackling homophobia in football to encouraging more women to become competitive FIFA players.
- ★ **Co-founder of Women in Sports Business**, a member of Women in Football and a former 30% Club mentee, which stands for **gender balance** in all industries.