I write this week from Devon, shortly after handing out Common Entrance results to Year 8 boys. Presentation of results usually takes place in my Study, but given that Year 8 are enjoying their post-exam activity week in Tavistock, I have travelled down to play my part in the Results Ceremony. Two boys who returned to Winchester for singing duties met me on FaceTime and were guided to a sheet of paper in my Study – the closest we could get to the usual system, and perhaps more memorable.

The handing over of final Prep School exam results is an example of one of the rites of passage that disproportionately occur in Year 8. The boys recognize the rites: at lunch yesterday, ‘the Year 8 social’ (i.e. an evening with Year 8 girls from St Swithun’s) was mentioned as an example. Yes, they have met girls before, but this time it was possible that social media contact details were exchanged. These events establish and further the boys’ growing independence. A 13-year-old Pilgrim, whether he has sat Common Entrance, Winchester Entrance, or another exam (such as scholarship or day school) usually hears his grades – and in the case of scholarships, the actual outcome – before his parents. Responsibility is gradually, inexorably, and naturally sliding from parent to son.

Of course, the boys are not suddenly (and therefore damagingly) cut adrift. If a Year 8 boy ever failed to win entry into his senior school, there is a pastorally-sensitive protocol, with parents consulted about Plan B. (As a Headmaster, though, I have never had to travel that dark path; and this year, again, all boys passed their final hurdle.)

But the trend is towards independence. Parents do not suddenly cease to be important, but the relationship adapts as, gradually, friends grow in significance. Perhaps the greatest coming-of-age film (Stand by Me, which boys will be able to watch when they are 15) ends with the writer saying, ‘I never had any friends later on like the ones I had when I was 12. Does anyone?’ A 12 or 13-year-old experiences key events and times of change with his peers and that creates a unique bond. For example, our Year 8 boys will remember the ‘bog run’ ( pictured) and perhaps talk about it for a lifetime.

Soon our Year 8 boys will depart for their senior schools: as of today, every Year 8 Pilgrim is certain where that will be. A chapter is ending and the final paragraph should be memorable. The next chapter begins with the boy in a different situation, nearer to being a man than a small boy. Pilgrims’ is keen to enable that transition and build the right markers along the way.

The government has recently announced that the early May bank holiday in 2020 will move from Monday 4 May to Friday 8 May to mark the 75th anniversary of VE Day. Pilgrims’ will therefore have an Exeat beginning on Thursday 7 May at 1800. We will return for 0810 on Monday 11 May (boarders will be able to return on the evening of Sunday 10 May). Monday 4 May will be a normal day.

To be clear: contrary to what was previously published, the Exeat from Saturday 2 May at 1200 to Monday 4 May will not happen.
This week

Louis Jones (8W) shares his Kelly College experience with a group of Year 5s.

Grey shirts, white shirts, ties and jackets... and Diabolos!

Please take note of particular uniform requirements next week.

It is the whole school photograph on Wednesday morning, when boys should wear white shirts, jackets, and ties.

For the rest of the week, boys must wear grey shirts and ties, because we are filming for the new website. Pre-Prep boys will be wearing their normal uniform.

If your son is particularly skilled with a Diabolo please do bring it in to school to use on Thursday.
Fly fishing was definitely going to be exciting, in spite of the weather being somewhat overcast. An enthusiastic group met at Church Paddock Fishery in Headbourne Worthy, minutes from Winchester, and the morning got off to a flying start with a hot drink and a bacon butty. Roger Walker and George Burnand were excellent tutors and showed great patience when explaining the intricacies of tying a fly and how to cast a line – it is not as easy as they made it look! Those with more enthusiasm than skill ended up ‘catching’ lumps of grass and leaves! However, as the morning progressed the beginners were soon ‘getting the hang of it’ with lines being cast and hopes high for a catch. There was one near miss when George caught a trout and very kindly let me try and land it; but to no avail - it wiggled off the hook! The weather became more unsettled with the occasional heavy shower of rain but that did not dampen enthusiasm of the wannabe fly fishers. George expertly caught another trout, and this time I very sensibly declined to land it. With great skill this huge beast (well it looked huge to me) was reeled in – what a yummy supper! By then the rain began to pour in earnest, so rods and flies were put away. Considerable thanks to Roger and George for their endless enthusiasm, and to the PPA Culture Club for organizing such a fun morning. Christina Collins-Gilchrist
From the Base – Exercise to help mental health

It’s easy to recognize physical exercise is good for your health; it is also now well recognised that physical exercise helps mental health. I can personally testify that the benefits are huge and have transformed my views and my personal life.

So, exercise helps the body and mind. But why?

Many people who enjoy exercise quote that it helps clear their minds, that they can think deeply about things and mentally sort out problems; it allows them to make sense of their busy lives and find solitude in the ‘mental’ space. But does it go even further than that?

Well, there are well recognised physiological responses from the body, such as the release of endorphins, that make us feel better and good about life. There are also the rewards of setting targets and goals and striving for and achieving them. But it goes even further than that.

I would argue that exercise gives us a counterpoint in our lives. Much of what we do is sedentary: sitting, watching, listening. To get up, get going, come wind or rain or sun, forces us to restore a balance to our lives. And with that balance come the benefits of perspective.

In this exam season, getting our children to exercise is a great counterpoint to the stresses and monotony of revision. It certainly helps bring perspective and balance in an otherwise stressful time. If the balance wasn’t right this time, how about next year?

Dance for Leggy 2019

Jack Boissier and Sam Bradshaw recently organized a summer evening dance for Year 8s in memory of Allegra Whittome. The Whittomes are close family friends of the Boissiers and the Bradshaws, and Allegra’s two brothers Vere and Luke both attended Pilgrims’ School. Allegra died suddenly and completely unexpectedly, sixteen days after her 16th birthday. In her memory, Allegra’s Ambition has been established. This is an incredible charity that helps young people to improve their lives through sport and nature. To learn more, please visit www.allegrasambition.org.uk

On Friday 24 May, over 80 children from eight local schools gathered in the Cheriton Village Hall for an evening of laughter and dance. It was a wonderful evening much enjoyed by everyone, and friends old and new celebrated the start of summer. £1400 was raised. This is an amazing amount which will really make a difference to the charity and those who benefit from it.

Thank you to everyone who supported Jack and Sam in their endeavour, and in turn supported Allegra’s Ambition.

Isabel Boissier
Summer holiday sport courses: multisport and cricket

Sports courses will run through most weeks in the summer holidays. All courses are available to pupils from current Reception through to the end of Year 8. Siblings, sisters, and friends are welcome, as long as they are aged between 5 and 13.

We aim to develop skills, be active, and have fun with others, using a variety of sports plus individual and team drills.

Bookings:
To book, please complete the form on My School Portal. In School Information, choose the Forms to complete (online) folder where the form will be available. Please submit before Friday 12 July to reserve your space. Late bookings are not possible.

A Glorious Afternoon for Old Pilgrims
Last Saturday, 15 or so Old Pilgrims returned to reminisce, to see old friends, to make new ones. Some had not been back for 50 years; some had dampened eyes. All enjoyed the glorious weather and the exciting cricket; all were unanimous in their praise of their Year 7 and 8 hosts who toured and chatted with them charmingly, enthusiastically and caringly.

Many thanks to Sue Webb for providing archive materials, sending invitations and greeting warmly. GH

PPA Summer Ball 2020
As you are hopefully aware, Friday 10 July 2020 is the date of the next Pilgrims’ ball. A launch committee has been formed, and the first Pilgrims’ Ball 2020 meeting will be on Saturday 22 June 2019 at 0830 in the Old Library. Come and join us? The launch committee is small, but the list of roles to fill is large. Whether you’d like to be on the committee from these early stages, or put your name down for table-setting and other duties on the day, we’d love to hear from you.

Email Ball Chair Tamsin Raymond at Pilgrims-Ball2020@pilgrims-school.co.uk, or just come along for a coffee in the Old Library on 22 June at 0830.
Picture of the Week
Royal Academy — Young Artist’s Summer Exhibition

Michael Jin’s (6X) artwork, The Musical Titanic, has been accepted to be exhibited online by the RA in the first ever Young Artist’s Summer Exhibition from 10 June – 31 December 2019. 700 entries from across the UK were shortlisted by a panel of renowned judges, who later selected works to go on show, either online or on site at the Royal Academy. Well done Michael, for this phenomenal achievement.

Weekly Menu
Beginning 17 June

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<th>Monday</th>
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<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
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<tr>
<td>Main</td>
<td>Chicken curry</td>
<td>Steak and mushroom pie</td>
<td>Roast turkey</td>
<td>Mexican chicken</td>
<td>Battered cod fillet with tartar sauce</td>
<td>Pasta Bolognese</td>
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<td>Veg and pots</td>
<td>Rice and naan bread</td>
<td>Green beans and new potatoes</td>
<td>Roast potatoes, carrots and broccoli</td>
<td>Salad and potato wedges</td>
<td>Chips and peas</td>
<td>Salad and garlic bread</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pudding</td>
<td>Plum crumble and custard</td>
<td>Banoffee pie</td>
<td>Fresh fruit</td>
<td>Arctic roll and peaches</td>
<td>Treacle tart and custard</td>
<td>Chocolate sponge with chocolate sauce</td>
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*Salad is available daily from the chilled counter and homemade soup is available on Thursdays*

*A selection of homemade bakes and cakes, fresh fruit, yoghurts, and pudding are offered on a daily basis*

The menu is subject to change according to availability
This week in boarding...

**Boarders’ Raffle** – Hip hip hooray, it’s Friday! Main School has been a busy place this week with raffle tickets being earned left, right and centre. Winners this week are Raffy Coope, Thomas Edmondson, and Luke Edwards.

**Welcome back Year 8!** – It has certainly been quieter this week with the Year 8s at Kelly College, but the Houses have missed the bubbly characters of the boys involved. Welcome back; we hope you all had a great time!

**School Photo haircuts** – With the Whole School Photograph on Wednesday 19 June our hairdresser, Steph, is booked to visit from 1640 on Monday 17 and Tuesday 18 June. Please do let Mrs Short know if you would like your son/s to receive a haircut.

**Fun times** – Time in the dorms is always entertaining and none more so than last night’s Dorm 2 UNO championship where Christopher Higgs closely pipped Ben Hunt to the title after a hard fought game. Meanwhile in Dorm 3 we found a pirate!

**Coming up in boarding...**

**Exeat** – Enjoy your exeat weekend!

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**Sailing**

Despite the rather non-June-like weather, this week provided great training, with all the boys in one group, sailing together on the far side of the river. The crews were mixed up with the more experienced boys taking a less experienced crew, and working together to fight the very strong current that comes with a low tide on the River Itchen. There was more focus, more listening and more achievement. Everyone completed the course and lots of smiling faces came ashore for a session de-brief. It almost seems like there’s a regatta looming... watch this space. ASl
Cricket Courses at Serious Cricket, Basingstoke

With the end of term looming, thoughts turn to the summer, the ongoing cricket season and keeping the children active till school starts again in September.

Serious Cricket may have the answer...

**Summer Camps**

Our 5-day camps are full of cricket specific skills and competition in a fun and challenging environment.

**Age Groups**

- **Tots (4-5 yrs)** 9:00 - 10:00
- **Minis (6-8 yrs)** 10:30 - 13:00
- **Juniors (9-11 yrs)** 13:30 - 16:00

**Course Cost**

- **£90**
  - (£40 Tots)

To book a place on a course please go to our website: seriouscricket.co.uk/coaching/courses/

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**William of Wykeham walk to support the Alex Halliday Trust**

On Saturday 15 June 2019, as our leavers’ project, we will both be walking part of the route from the Chapel of Winchester College to the Chapel of New College Oxford to raise money for the Alex Halliday Trust.

Both were founded by William of Wykeham in the 14th Century, and still enjoy a close musical relationship that we have both benefited from a lot while we have been lucky enough to be singing at Winchester.

On 15 June, we will leave Winchester College Chapel on foot for St John in the Sock after the morning service. We will then walk the ten miles cross-country from Dorechester Abbey to New College Chapel to attend the evening service.

Charlie Tommink and Louis Jones

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“...I really liked Mr Halliday because he was kind and funny, and because he loved cricket even more than I do.”

Charlie

“Mr Halliday was a great teacher because he always checked we had understood and made things easy to follow, in a very patient and kind way.”

Louis

Find out more, and how to donate, at:

www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/wykehamwalk
SUMMER
ART + D&T EXHIBITION
FRIDAY 5 JULY
4.40PM – 7.30PM

Please join us for the opening of our annual Art + D&T exhibition, featuring work by boys in the Prep and the Pre-Prep.

The exhibition will be open to visitors until Tuesday 9 July.
NATHAN AND MIKE’S
24HR MUSICATHON
FREE ENTRY

JULY 5-6, 2019
THE PILGRIMS’ HALL (with a Finale on the Wolvesey Playing Fields)
1:30PM - 1:30PM

FEATURING
LIVE MUSIC
CLASSICS
FILM FAVOURITES
POP SONGS
GUEST APPEARANCES BY TALENTED PILGRIMS’ BOYS
CAKES FOR SALE

We decided our Leavers’ Project should be about something we love - Music
“IT’S NOT ABOUT THE TEACHING OF MUSIC... IT’S THE USING OF MUSIC TO HELP PROGRESS IN LIFE.”

Key Changes is a Hampshire based music therapy service supporting young and old with behavioural, developmental, learning and emotional issues.

Please kindly donate on Gofundme.com and search “Mike and Nathan Music Marathon”, at the event or on the link below.


IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN PERFORMING IN THE MUSICATHON, PLEASE CONTACT US ON:
M I K E A N D N A T H A N 2 0 1 9 @ G M A I L . C O M
**THE KAVE**

**Step By Step Design Process and Confidence in Colour for Interiors**

Ever wondered how to get that perfect looking room, whilst maintaining your own style and personality? Do you want to gain confidence in your colour choices?

We invite you to join us to explore understand and experiment with colours. Find out what your own natural colour impulses are and how to work with them in a cohesive and effective way.

Interior Designer Jane Morgan is ready to share ‘The Kave’s’ basic step by step design and colour process with you, sharing hints & tips for success. Whether you have a great eye for designing with colour, or no clue where to start, this workshop will introduce you to colour psychology and help you to develop your unique colour palette to use in different areas throughout your home.

Join us in a small group for this workshop and have fun learning how to create a room scheme with simple tips.

**What you will take away from this workshop:**

- Step by step principles for building a room scheme
- Where to start and when to stop, avoiding the pitfalls along the way
- Guides to colour scheming, when to use tints, tones and shades
- How to mix your own colours and pair neutrals, patterns and brights
- How to combine colour for walls, fabrics and accents and impulsion
- Create your own mood board
- Be inspired and gain confidence to think outside the box
- A goodie bag
- Refreshments and lunch provided

**Date:** Tuesday 24th June

Coffee and tea from 9am, prompt start at 9.30am
Finish at 3.30pm

Cost: £75

**Venue:** St Swithun’s Prep School

Email/text Alex Nowak, if interested (alexcooke187@gmail.com, 07854246883).

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**BRYANSTON**

**Holiday Sports Courses 2019**

Our sports courses provide a combination of fun and skill so that your child can enjoy themselves, make new friends, and improve their individual sporting talents.

- **Riding Course 1**
  - Ages: 8–15
  - Dates: 15–19 July
  - Course Leader: Sophie Storr

- **Hockey**
  - Ages: 8–10
  - Dates: 7–9 August
  - Course Leader: Jo Strange

- **Riding Course 2**
  - Ages: 8–15
  - Dates: 22–26 July
  - Course Leader: Sophie Storr

- **Hockey**
  - Ages: 10–12
  - Dates: 12–16 August
  - Course Leader: Jo Strange

- **Tennis**
  - Ages: 8–15
  - Dates: 29 July–2 August
  - Course Leader: Roni Peck

- **Rugby**
  - Ages: 9–13
  - Dates: 12–16 August
  - Course Leader: Scott Hobson

- **Outdoor Adventure**
  - Ages: 9–13
  - Dates: 29 July–2 August
  - Course Leader: Nigel Tuffley

- **Rowing**
  - Ages: 11–15
  - Dates: 5–9 August
  - Course Leader: Beth Redford

- **Netball**
  - Ages: 9–14
  - Dates: 5–9 August
  - Course Leader: Claire Bray

**Book now at:**

bryanston.co.uk/holidaycourses

**BRYANSTON SCHOOL, BLANDFORD, DORSET DT11 9PX**