



# THE CHRONICLES

OF ERMYSTED

2020-21

- THE LOCKDOWN EDITION (PART 2) -



RAISON



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Pictured: DofE Gold Team leaving their campsite at 5:30 am, July 2021

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## Headmaster's Report

The full return of pupils in September was a moment of great joy. Yes, we had lots of new rules and procedures to follow; yes, year groups were to be kept apart and the location of each pupil to be carefully recorded; and, yes, there was the scourge of contract tracing, which created hours of administration and required so many of our pupils to learn remotely. But it was great to be back!

Once again the pupils made us proud by their good humour and willingness to follow the many preventative measures. It made a difficult job just that little bit easier and contributed significantly to the high levels of attendance that the School was able to maintain throughout the year.

The one-way stickers, the hand sanitisers, and the additional sinks will be removed one day, but there remain echoes still around the school of this phase of the pandemic.

The preventative measures required teachers to move from classroom to classroom, taking their books and equipment with them each time.

New tablets enabled staff to deliver 'blended learning' - in the *new-to-us* challenge of teaching pupils onsite and at home at the same time. It was a steep learning curve, but after a while we got into the swing of it.

It was a surprise and a great disappointment, therefore, to learn of the cancellation of exams in January.

Some of the lessons of 2020 seemed to have been learned, however, as Ofqual detailed the *Teacher Assessed Grades* (TAGs) process that would be used instead.

Once again the exam cohorts were thrown into the unknown but as before the pupils amazed us with their resilience and ability to adapt to the situation.

The School decided on a programme of short topic tests to be run in the summer term and the pupils rose admirably to the challenge.

The final outcomes at both GCSE and A Level were extraordinary, not by virtue of the extraordinary process used to create them, but because the boys are extremely talented and worked very hard to achieve them. The 2021 results are no more than they deserve. Well done, boys.

The other year groups progressed well, working around the occasional disruption and being creative and determined in their efforts to access the full curriculum.

To those who achieved high grades, received prizes, contributed to the School newspaper or website, completed the various reading challenges and academic competitions, participated in the fixtures or at Sports day, or completed the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme whilst in the teeth of the pandemic... we salute you. You deserve your reward.

Well done, boys, your School is proud of you.



**Michael Evans**  
Headmaster

## Head Boy Team and House Captains



### Front row (left to right)

Charlie Reader, Elliot Evans, Jeremy Steward, Mr T Hodgson Mrs J Lindsley, Amaan Akhtar

### Middle row (left to right)

Aaron Kannenkeril, Sebastian Segger-Staveley, Chris Faulkner, Matthew Speak

### Back Row (left to right)

Ben Waterworth, Louis Hudson, Arthur Peel

## Head Boy's Report

My most memorable experiences at Ermysted's Grammar School are ineffable. Although I will write the particularly clichéd expression, time has gone by fast, it seems a lifetime ago since I first walked up that main drive in September 2014. The School has certainly changed. Teachers have left, new ones have arrived, buildings have changed, and classrooms have moved. And yet, my sense of belonging has always been constant. Indeed, my 7 years here are dwarfed by the school's 529-year history, but the impact it has had on my life and the lives of my classmates is immeasurable.

It has been a true privilege to have served Ermysted's as the Head Boy. I owe my enormous gratitude to the entire cohort of prefects, particularly my Deputies and House Captains, without whom I couldn't have managed, a fact they wouldn't hesitate to tell you themselves. I would

also like to take this opportunity to thank all the teachers and members of staff. They have undoubtedly left a lasting impression on all of us students, which we will hold on to for the rest of our lives.

There isn't an individual memory that exemplifies my time at Ermysted's Grammar School more than any other, but rather a collection of sentiments spanning the seven years of my Ermysted's career. Every morning for the past two years of the Sixth Form, I would walk into the workhouse and see a quote conspicuously placed halfway up the staircase. 'Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire.' Although I would not think about its meaning at half-past eight in the morning, I would always notice it. Of course, now I can reflect and understand its significance. Ermysted's is more than just the number of 9's at GCSE or A\*'s at A-Level. Ermysted's provides an environment, unlike other schools, allowing students to flourish and actualise the promising potential which presents itself on those first days and weeks of year 7.

I feel honoured to have shared my Ermysted's years with many unique characters. Whilst many will not share my sense of melancholy, I am sure nobody can deny that Ermysted's Grammar School has made a profound difference in our lives. Our memories will always be fond, and unlike Ozymandias, our friendships will pass the test of time. Though much is taken, much abides; and though we are not now that strength which in old days moved earth and heaven, that which we are, we are, one equal temper of heroic hearts, made weak by time and fate, but strong in will to strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield.

**Jeremy Steward, Head Boy 2020-21**

## School Governors

Mr C Worts.....Chair of Governors  
 Mrs J Lloyd ..... Vice Chair of Governors  
 Mr H G Cutler ..... Foundation Trustee Governor  
 Mr A M Davies..... Foundation Trustee Governor  
 Dr S Humphrey..... Foundation Trustee Governor  
 Mr S Flanagan ..... Foundation Trustee Governor

Mrs D Swiffen..... Foundation Trustee Governor  
 Mrs R Nazar..... Co-opted Governor  
 Mr J Burton ..... Co-opted Governor  
 Mr B Garner ..... Local Authority Governor  
 Mr S Clarkson..... Old Boys' FT Governor  
 Ms S Trelease.....Parents' Association FT Governor  
 Ms V Anderson..... Parent Governor  
 Mr A Hart ..... Parent Governor  
 Mr C Baker .....Staff Governor

## Staff News

This year we welcomed...

Mr M Aqab..... Teacher of Computing  
 Miss E Gorman.....Teacher of English/AHoF Languages  
 Mr A Mangham .....DT Technician  
 Mr B Speak ..... Science Technician  
 Mrs M Weedy ..... Science Technician  
 Mrs K Porter ..... School Secretary  
 Mr T Shaw ..... Finance Assistant  
 Mr F Islam ..... IT Network Manager

And we said farewell to...

Miss R Dee..... Finance Officer  
 Mrs C Lockyer..... School Secretary  
 Mr B Speak ..... Science Technician  
 Mr M Ferridge..... Caretaker  
 Mr T Shaw ..... Finance Assistant  
 Mr J Derry ..... IT Network Manager  
 Mrs R Hopkins ..... Teacher of Mathematics  
 Mr M Peters .....Teacher of History  
 Mrs A Price..... Assistant Headteacher  
 Dr A Heron ..... Teacher of French  
 Mrs K Spouse .....Teacher of English/AHoF Languages  
 Mrs K Lane ..... Science Technician

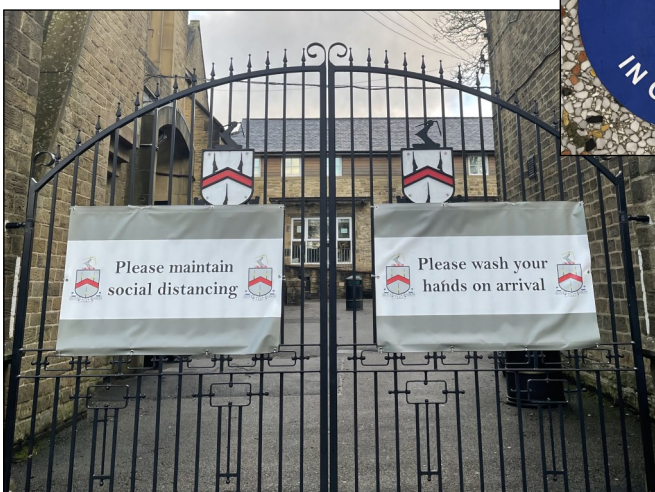


## Site Works

Staff and pupils returned in September after months of lockdown to a very different school. Changes included:

- Installation of network hardware and site-wide Wi-Fi
- Installation of handwashing facilities and sanitiser points (pictured below)
- Conversion of M15 (Staff Quiet Room) to teaching area / drama space
- New floors in S1 and S2 (middle, right)
- Redecoration of Art staircase (below, right)
- Classroom redecoration – H01 / H01 / H15 in May and H12 / H13 in August
- Post and rope dividers in bus pen area (top, right)
- Installation of benches in Quad (funded by Old Boys' Association)

We also adhered to new operational modifications to minimise year group mixing including one way systems, zoned areas and split lunchtime sessions, as well as lots of additional cleaning.



## Trips and Visits

### Nell Bank—September 2020



The whole of Year 7 embarked on a journey at Nell Bank on Wednesday 30th September. Nell Bank is a fun activity centre located in Ilkley, where children get to experience a range of outdoor activities and get to know each other better. One activity was orienteering, which some people understood really quickly, whilst others were running around cluelessly! One of our favourite activities was an obstacle course, where we had to work in teams to carry a plastic baguette, a rubber chicken and a tray containing 1000ml of water without spilling any. The hardest thing was that you were not allowed to move when holding any of the items, but this meant that we had to work strategically as a team. The team with the most water left at the end were crowned the winners. With all the energy sucked out of us, it was then time for lunch. The next experience involved rescuing (rubber) ducks, where we were transformed into soaked sponges due to getting water everywhere! After this, we skied down the Nellbanian mountain range to feed a frozen frog and bear, before travelling to our final adventure of crossing a piranha-infested, poisonous pit of custard (gravel), by working together to use wooden planks and rubber lily pads to get to the other side. This is an amazing place to visit, which filled us with happiness and encouraged us to spend time outside. Bonds were made and we feel like a strong team with the rest of our form and other Year 7s. We strongly recommend it to other pupils.

**Written by 7 Hartley**

### Biology Fieldtrip to Malham—October 2020

During a time when many external activities have been postponed or cancelled due to Covid-19, it was great that the school allowed the A-level Biology fieldwork to take place. The trip consisted of both Year 13 classes being accompanied and instructed by the four Ermysted's Biology teachers and took place on Wednesday, 7 October.

The aim of the fieldtrip was to determine if water pollution had any effect on the invertebrates, specifically mayflies, living in Malham Beck. The students worked in groups of four to obtain results from two sites of the river, one before and one after the village. Using a variety of sampling techniques and fancy equipment, they were able to collect data on: flow rate, pH, temperature, depth, width and cross-sectional area to see if there are any noticeable similarities or dissimilarities between the two sites in what could be variables that affect the distribution of invertebrates.



In the morning, students carried out three 'kick samples' in the middle and at both edges of the river, in Malham village, in order to catch a variety of water dwelling creatures. Since we were only interested in invertebrates any fish we caught were immediately released back into the streams. These kick samples consist of standing in the stream and dislodging stones and weeds that creatures may be living under and positioning a net slightly downstream to collect the sample. Students then emptied the contents of the net into a bowl of water to observe anything caught. By carefully scooping up insects of similar species and placing them in compartments of



paint pallet trays they could record the abundance of each species of invertebrate. They also placed the mayflies into petri dishes with graph paper inside to measure their length. After collecting the samples all the creatures were reintroduced back into the river to go about their day.

After lunch, the students then switched sites and moved further upstream to Malham cove where the river emerges. Here, the water quality was expected to be better as it has had no time to become polluted, this was able to be measured by seeing how many invertebrates that can only live in clean water there were in comparison to the village. They repeated the previous methods of collecting these samples and recorded their findings.

After returning back to school, the students then looked over and tested their data using statistic tests to see if there was any correlation in their results. Overall, the fieldtrip was a great success as it allowed the students to carry out and gain essential practical skills, all while using methods and knowledge gained during lockdown.

**Matthew Speak**

### **Biology Fieldtrip to Malham—July 2021**

As part of the A-Level Biology curriculum, Year 12 took part in a fieldtrip to Malham in the Yorkshire Dales. We



sampled the variety of stream invertebrates found above (near Malham Cove) and below Malham village using a technique called kick sampling. Once the sample was netted, it was transferred to water-filled sample dishes where the invertebrates could be identified and

counted. After this, the invertebrates were released carefully back into the stream from which they came.

For the entirety of the day the temperatures did not drop below 25 degrees. Conveniently, there was a local shop that sold ice-cream. As you can imagine they received a lot of business that day!



The main purpose of the trip was to teach us about ecological sampling methods and how species diversity and biotic indices can be used to determine the quality of water in the stream. The hypothesis to be proven was that the water quality above Malham village was better than that below the village. Through data processing techniques carried out by the boys this was suggested to be true.



Many members of the public were interested in what we were doing. It was a great opportunity for us to explain the process and aim of our practical work to other people and not just members of the school.

**Tom Edward**



Thornthwaite Outdoor Activity Days—July 2021



From 12-15 July, 232 students in Year 7 and 8 enjoyed a day out to Thornthwaite Scout Activity Centre. Two forms visited each day and undertook a variety of activities, including raft building, bushcraft, climbing, orienteering and a water fight.



Monday's group saw a lot of water, yet fabulously got on with it in the rain, before the weather turned glorious for the rest of the week. It was great to see the students in a different environment and spend a day exploring the woodland and having fun outside.



## Duke of Edinburgh



This would prove to be a busy year for DofE as the challenge was to steer those who signed up last year towards completion of their full awards, as well as open up the award scheme to this year's cohorts. Despite all the uncertainties and practical difficulties presented by the pandemic, some 56 boys signed up to start the



Bronze award. 28 boys decided to sign up for Silver, despite not having completed the full Bronze award due to the cancellation of last year's expeditions.

From Year 12 there were 11 students who decided to take on the challenge of the Gold award.

Finding suitable activities in the Volunteering, Physical and Skills sections would not be easy, though as the country gradually opened up from restrictions, more possibilities became available. A number of modifications were brought in nationally to facilitate the completion of the expedition section.



Finding dates for those expeditions carried over from last year, along with both practice and qualifying expeditions for the new



cohorts, would put real pressure on the window for expeditions. With some relief, the first of the practice expeditions went ahead in the autumn term. Unfortunately camping was not permitted, but the teams could go out in their groups of 7.

It was not possible to hold regular meetings so the bulk of the expedition training was done online. The boys engaged well with this process and gained the skills necessary in readiness for the practice expeditions. For the Bronze teams this comprised a day walk which was rounded off with some camp craft instruction back on the school field. Camping overnight was still not permitted for the expeditions which ran early in the summer term, but eventually this restriction was lifted so that the boys could benefit from a more authentic experience. The Bronze groups were out for a minimum of 6 hours per day, Silvers for 7 and Golds for 8. Routes had been carefully planned and, despite the inconvenience of some Covid outbreaks in the school community, all but 3 boys managed to complete their qualifying expeditions. Much is learned from these expeditions and the boys soon realised the importance of teamwork. The unpredictable British weather often throws up additional challenges and some teams had to cope with relentless rain and thunderstorms. Arguably the biggest challenge

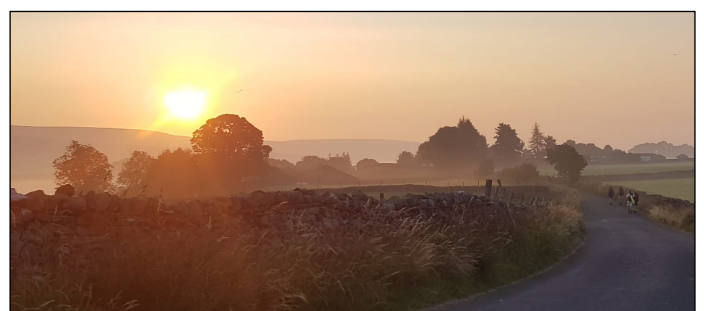


was posed by a heatwave in July which tested the Gold teams to the limit. Very early starts were made so that the bulk of the distances could be

achieved before the highest afternoon temperatures were reached.

During the course of the year a large number of boys did manage to complete an award. Some 56 boys were presented with the Bronze award and 28 collected their Silver Award. None of the Gold participants managed to complete the award during the academic year, the restrictions imposed on the Residential section proving an obstacle for many. Nonetheless, despite all the lockdowns and restrictions, a number of those who started Gold in 2019 are close to rounding things off.

**Mr Lane**



## Shine School Media Awards 2021



The Reason, Ermysted's student newspaper, has achieved national success for the third year in succession at the Shine School Media Awards 2021. The newspaper was Highly Commended in the following categories: Best Newspaper, Best Newspaper Front Page and Best Sustainable Initiative Leading to a Greener Future.

Each year the Shine School Media Awards, sponsored by the likes of Google, Daily Mail and General Trust (DMGT) and The Times Educational Supplement, is hosted at the Stationers Guild in London. However, due to current COVID-19 restrictions the ceremony in London was cancelled and a pre-recorded ceremony was published to announce the results.

The newspaper, which is published on professional newsprint, is run by an editorial team of sixth formers with writers coming from all year groups. Due to restrictions in schools on extra-curricular activities and year group mixing, the entirety of The Reason's production this year was conducted remotely via Microsoft Teams: a challenging, but impressive feat for Senior Editors Alex and Theo. Alex and Theo ran several virtual workshops with Section Editors to help them with the editorial process and gave regular iterative feedback on numerous drafts throughout the process.

Since the inception of the newspaper nearly two and a half years ago, The Reason has achieved considerable national success, either winning or being Highly Commended for sixteen national awards. Though The

Reason did not achieve the same levels of success in 2021 as at the 2019 and 2020 awards, the feat is particularly impressive given the awards are dominated by independent schools who have considerable time and resources to devote to student publications.

Editor Alex, Year 13, said "Despite this year's restrictions, The Reason's team has worked tirelessly to ensure our continued success with the Shine awards. Working with the editorial team was a great fun and provided experience that will be valuable in my future career, from the communication skills and leadership I developed to quality assurance."

Teacher Mr Barrett, who assists with The Reason, added: "This has been such a disrupted and challenging year for our students in so many ways and so the achievements of Alex, Theo and the rest of the team are even more impressive against the uncertain backdrop of their education and lives. The Reason continues to grow in popularity at Ermysted's and this is all down to the talent, dedication and hard work of our outstanding Editorial Team and writers."

## Art Hope for the Future



Toby Francis, Year 9 was short-listed for the national competition, Art Hope for the Future, and in the running for a trip to Westminster to see an exhibition of his artwork and to meet our local MP and climate change activists.

We were delighted to learn that he had won the overall prize in a virtual event that took place online in September. This was instead of a trip to Westminster which was due to take place in May, and was first postponed and then cancelled due to Covid-



19. This was a cross-curricular competition organised by Geography and Art, and open to secondary and sixth form students concerned about climate change. Along with the artwork, part of the submission was a written piece about their climate change concerns and their thoughts on what governments should be doing to tackle the issue.

## A Strong Performance in the National Reading Champions Quiz Final

Congratulations to the Year 8 National Reading Champions team, Aaron, Jacob, Elliot and Alfie (pictured below, left), who put up a strong performance in the national final this year. Over 500 teams had competed to gain one of the coveted 18 finalist places.



Ermysted's demonstrated their wide reading knowledge and thoroughly deserved their final place in the country's top ten NRCQ teams.

The Ermysted's team holds the Yorkshire cup for this year, in addition to winning £80 worth of book tokens, plus a book prize for each team member. Well done, you represented the school with distinction.

Thank you also to the NRCQ reserve team, who performed well in the heats and were on standby for the final (Hugo, Ikhlas, Taha, Teilo, Joe, and Michael, pictured above, right).

**Mrs McCabe**

## Carnegie Reading Challenge 2021

The enthusiasm of our readers has ensured that the Carnegie reading challenge continues to thrive at Ermysted's despite the challenges posed by COVID restrictions. The library recently held its annual Carnegie awards celebration, marking the end of the three month competition and recognising the achievements of those involved in the project.

Completing the Carnegie is an achievement of which the pupils can be proud. The 8 shortlisted books introduced them to new authors and were thought-provoking, dealing with diversity, equality and human rights issues. This has given pupils an opportunity to develop their critical thinking and debating skills as they engaged in discussions at our regular book club meetings. Excellent creativity was also demonstrated in the production of art work, models and a cake, to represent favourite Carnegie books. The national judges awarded the Carnegie Medal to 'Look Both Ways' by Jason Reynolds, the Showers' winner was 'Run Rebel' by Manjeet Mann and the Ermysted's winner was 'The Fountains of Silence' by Ruta Sepetys. The following Awards were made:

Librarian's Award for outstanding participation: Samesh C Year 9 (pictured below, with Mr Evans)



Excellent effort: Ikhlas S Year 8, Aaron B Year 8, Shariq S Year 7

Excellent Creativity: Daniel E Year 7

Outstanding book reviews: Samesh C Year 9

Congratulations to everyone that took part.

**Mrs McCabe**



# The Ermysted's Open and the Skipton Schools Open



Ermysted's welcomed Ripon Grammar and Prince Henry's to Skipton Golf Club to compete in the Skipton Schools Golf Open on Wednesday, 30 June.

The Ermysted's Open was played out in parallel to the Skipton Schools Open, on the same day with the 10 Ermysted's lads competing with each other to be crowned the Open Champion, six playing both the Ermysted's and Skipton Schools Open.

Skipton Golf Club were great as usual, hosting the event for the second time, with the Captain of the club



awarding the winners with the shields in the presentation. The weather on the day was as good as the course, great sun all the way through and the course was in lovely condition and was primed for a challenging round for all, with some difficult pin positions from the

club competition help the day before.

The team format of the Skipton School Open consisted of three students from each school combining their stableford scores to form a team score (with 108 points equating to level par for the day). Ermysted's ended up winning the Skipton Schools open on the day with our first team coming in with a combined score of 106 stableford points, with Archie getting 31 points, Mark with 35 points and Dixon with a whopping 40 points. Ermysted's



did well to fend off tough competition from Prince Henry's Grammar School and Ripon Grammar School, both of which brought some sub five handicap golfers, which proved to show a high quality of golf on show.

Bobby also won the Ermysted's Open, as well being in the winning team of the Skipton Schools Open, with a huge 40 stableford points, four under par, and being on the tough long Skipton course, 40 points is a fantastic

Overall Results 2021	
Skipton Schools Open (Team)	
Team Champions	EGS (106)
Team Runners Up	PHGS (100)
3rd Place	EGS 2 (92)
4th Place	Ripon GS (90)
Ermysted's Open	
Champion	Bobby (40)
Runner up	Jack (39)
3rd Place	Haris (38)

score. A special mention must also go to Haris (Year 8) who in his first competitive outing for Ermysted's scored an incredible 38 points to come third in the Ermysted's Open in his first attempt.

**Archie (Captain), Year 12**

## A Close Shave for Mrs Hopkins



On the last week of the summer term (and her last week at Ermysted's!), Mrs Hopkins, with the help of the School, organised a very special fundraiser for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. The Foundation works to help treat, cure and prevent Type 1 Diabetes and as well as being a great cause, it has a personal connection to Mrs Hopkins as her nephew was diagnosed with diabetes whilst in primary school.

As a way to motivate people to donate, she very bravely had her head shaved at her hairdressers and donated the hair to a charity to create wigs for people who suffer from hair loss due to medical conditions. The whole process was documented with photos (see below and right)

Her target was £2000, and by the time the day came around she had already raised £2399! At the time of writing, this had increased even further to a grand total of £3362. Well done Mrs Hopkins!



## The Ermysted's Award

In November we recognised the achievements of many of our pupils who gained an 'Ermysted's Award'. They each received a smart enamel pin badge and an impressive certificate.

The Ermysted's Award is organised so that pupils in Years 7 & 8 aim for Bronze, Years 9 & 10 are eligible for Silver and Years 11 & 12 go for Gold. Evidence of achievements is spread over both years and the award itself is claimed via submission of a portfolio, usually at Easter with awards being received on Speech Day in the Summer term.

This year was very different with government restrictions meaning that portfolios couldn't be submitted until the Autumn term and we are therefore now belatedly recognising the pupils' achievements.

Pupils had to show evidence of substantial and sustained contributions under six headings; Academic, Service in School, Cultural, Skill, Physical and Community. Although called the 'Ermysted's Award' for a reason, this year, due in part to lockdown, we looked favourably on any



evidence which might have demonstrated commitments outside as well as those for school.

The following boys have submitted successful portfolios this year and have received their respective awards.

### Bronze

Samesh C, Hashim D, Joseph D, Harrison F, Joseph F, Toby F, Thomas G, Finlay J, Archie M, Ben P, Samuel S, Theo S, Edward T, Joshua T, Benyamin V, Angus W.



### Silver

Gabriel B, Simon C, Nathan H-B, Ishaan K, Jacob N, Robbie P



### Gold

Chris F, Euan H, Adith J, Jacob L, Charlie R, Jeremy S, Louis S, Matthew S, Alfred V, Ben W, Oliver Y



## Brief summary of the Cross Country season

Covid-19 hit massively all inter-school sport throughout this season. The boys did well to keep themselves fit and were able to compete in a few virtual events during the season before the summer fell running season when things started to return to normal. All face to face running events were cancelled, as were the Whole School Cross Country and in house relay events. This meant the only races available to us throughout the year were our own Race Series, the Schools National Cross Country and the Coventry Relays.

The EGS race series was due to be a six race event with boys competing at three venues, once as a scratch race and then as a handicap. However, this too was curtailed after the first two races. At Castle Woods in October Ewen W led the way ahead of Tom H and Oscar S. The same runners were in the top three when we had our second race on 'The Top' in November, this time with Oscar coming second behind Ewen with Tom third. As the other races were cancelled due to bubble restrictions the overall winners were 1st Ewen Wj, 2nd Tom H & 3rd Oscar S (decided on total time).

Across the country in the last fortnight in March elite performers were invited to take part in the English Schools' Cross-Country Championships. Unfortunately due to Covid-19 these races had to be virtual, which meant that athletes were running round courses of their own choosing. Some courses would have been flatter, windier and across easier terrain than others which meant that the championships were not to be officially





recorded with medals and trophies awarded but were taken extremely seriously by the athletes and were an opportunity to run a competitive event for the first time in over a year.

The Senior Boys team at Ermysted's Grammar School has been hit harder than most as far as their running is concerned. Last year they were selected to represent England in the World School Cross Country Championships which should have taken place in Slovakia in April. Unfortunately those championships were cancelled and the boys lost out on their chance in a lifetime to represent their country. However, the boys clearly have not been resting on their laurels as their performance in these championships has shown. They really wanted to perform well so when the rest of their schoolmates went home for the Easter break they went across to the Steven Burke Sports Hub at Barrowford. This is a custom built cycling facility comprising a flat one kilometre tarmac course next to the Leeds-Liverpool canal. This gave the runners a good chance of a fast time and in spite of the weather, they took it with open hands.

The boys set off as a group for the first of the five laps intending to help each other around the course. On the second lap Joe C opened a bit of a gap which grew as he had clearly been working hard on his fitness through lockdown. Three of his team-mates were not far adrift and still pushing each other to fast times. As they started the final lap Joe was ahead with Sebastian S and Alex T battling for the runners-up spot and Arthur P just another 10 seconds down. A determined effort by all of the boys brought good times for the 5km time trial and we just had to submit their results to the national organisers.

The results were released on Monday 12 April where we found that their efforts had been more than worthwhile as individually Joe C was placed 4th nationally with his 5km time of 15minutes and 56 seconds, Sebastian S was 9th (16.19), Alex T 12th (16.28) and Arthur P 15th (16.37).

Just as impressive was the team result where the best four places counted towards the Senior Boys County Competition. All four North Yorkshire scorers came from Ermysted's and they ran away with the team competition with their low score of 40 for the total of their finishing positions ahead of Essex (60) and Kent (72). So not

running for England but at least beating all the county teams from the rest of England to show they still are a great team that would have done their country proud.

Since 1972 King Henry VIII School in Coventry has hosted what is now regarded by many as the national Inter-Schools Cross Country Relay Race. Boys and girls normally compete in their own categories: the Boys' Race is 6 x 2.3 miles; the Girls' Race is 4 x 2.3 miles. The course is over pavement, grass, woodland – and usually quite a few puddles – and is largely flat with no real hills. Schools enter their best runners, regardless of their age, although this will usually include predominantly runners in the Sixth Form. The race has a strong legacy, boasting former competitors of the calibre of Seb Coe, Alistair & Jonathan Brownlee, and Richard Nerurkar.



However, as we all know this is no normal year so the event's 50th running was a little different. It involved teams entering a 'Virtual Relay' using a recognised 5km course. These were usually park run courses but Ermysted's travelled to nearby Barrowford to use the flat designated cycling course at the Steven Burke Sports Hub.

Conditions were not very good, chilly and windy, which meant fast times were going to be hard to come by despite the almost perfect flat tarmac route. Ermysted's have a great crop of athletes at the moment with the school being picked to represent England last year and had hopes of another high placing in this national event. The students had aspirations of a high finish and were hoping to go one better than last year's runners-up spot.

The event is normally a relay but as teams were running in venues all over the country what happened were the runners were allowed to run at the same time as each

other but with their individual times totalled for the overall team time. The Ermysted's runners set off in determined fashion with Joe C (17.09) leading the way and Alex T (did not finish) in close pursuit. Unfortunately they had set off a little too fast and struggled to maintain their pace as both Seb S (16.11) and Arthur P (16.33) caught and passed them. Louis H (17.25) showed a return to form and then it was left to Ermysted's tremendous juniors to complete the fastest times for the 'A' Team as Year 9 Sam B (18.03) and Year 8 Ewen W (18.08) had great runs. Ermysted's actually had 15 runners on the day and the 'B' Team were impressive, finishing 9th of all of the teams running and first 'B' Team. Their team comprised of Year 8 Tom H (18.09), Year 9 Samesh C (18.52), Year 9 Lachlan W (19.00), Year 8 Joe G (19.03), Year 8 Daniel R (19.43) and Harvey L (19.57). Our two non-scorers were Seth B(20.08) and Year 8 Rowan B (20.31).

This was the final representative fixture for most of the 'A' Team so it was pleasing when the final placings were calculated that Ermysted's were runners-up overall repeating the same one-two as last year as The Judd School from Kent took the top honours. Ermysted's did receive a nice commemorative trophy and some medals for Seb S who was 4th fastest individual, Arthur P who was 7th fastest and Ewen W who was fastest Year 8.



Roll on next year when we can look forward to running some competitive races at cross country and before that

lets hope the athletes can get back into the swing of things with some athletics and fell running.

One of the hardest decisions of the season is awarding the Golson Shield for the best individual performance of the year. Once again we had strong competition as Sebastian S ran well throughout the year and at the Coventry Relays. However, Joe C with his 4th place at the Schools' National XC and consistently good performances throughout the year just edged it.

## Sports Day

At the end of such a disrupted educational and sporting year it is fantastic to be able to report on yet another successful Sports Day. The pre-requisites of green grass, clear skies and for this year safe bubbles meant that special



plans could swing into action for what would become Super Monday (a day akin the Gold rush of super Saturday at the London Olympics of 2012). Let's hope we do not have to wait until the year 2102 for these magical numbers to align again.

Sports Day is at heart a whole school event focused on mass participation. There is no doubt that the points gained towards the end of year House Trophy are important, but it really is the taking part that is the focus. To this end it is fantastic to report that all of the throws and jumps and the vast majority of foot races had maximum participation levels. With boys stepping in at the last moment in events to cover those that have been "pinged" and had to self-isolate etc.

Throughout the day we must give a mention to the Sixth Form helpers who showcased to the younger boys the maturity expected of young men as they progress through our school. Also we would like to thank the Parents Association on behalf of the boys for supplying much appreciated ice-creams for all.

As has been highlighted mass participation is the key to the event. Yet it would be remiss to not highlight some outstanding athletic performances. Super



Monday, 19 July 2021 will go down in the history books as the event where four school records were broken in one day. In my time at Ermysted's I cannot remember this happening before.



When I began at Ermysted's some two decades ago I took over the organisation of the school athletics records. Before my time a young man by the name of Capstick held the record for the high jump at 1m 60cm. If you know of this probably not so young man I am sure that he would be pleased to know that Toby F in Year 9 finally broke this long standing record with a jump of 1m 61cm. Toby's measured run up belied a gazelle like spring in his step.

The Hop, Step and Jump of the triple jump for Year 7 is a relatively new event with Jack S (Year 11) relinquishing his crown to L.ouis S with a distance jumped of 9m 26cm.

England Athletics adapted the rule for running in recent years with boys in Y7 and 8 now running the 300m as opposed to the 400m. This year Tom H (Year 8) beat the current school record with a time of 43.59 seconds.

Finally on Super Monday the Blue Ribband event of the 100m previously held by the now Professional Rugby League player H. Farnworth was beaten by Joseph R (Year 10) with an astonishing time on our grass track of 11.96 seconds.

Ermysted were the winning house on the day, with a score of 140. The final word of thanks must go to the boys who helped make this sports day one to remember.

**Mr White**

## Virtual Speech Day

Although we were unable to hold our usual Speech Day event this year, we did manage to put together a wonderful virtual event in it's place, which was made available to pupils, parents, staff, governors and friends of the school to watch online.

The event began with a welcome speech from Mr Evans, followed by an introduction from Mr Worts, Chair of Governors. Lower School, Middle School and Sixth Form prizes were then announced by Mrs Diccox, Deputy Head of Lower School, Mr Jackson, Head of Lower School, Mr King, Head of Middle School and Mr Marsden, Head of Sixth Form. Sporting achievements for the year were announced by Mr Speak, and this year some pupils were also presented with the Virtual Learners' Award, which was created to reflect how pupils have adapted to learning remotely, from home. Head Boy, Sam Pilling, ended the ceremony with his vote of thanks.

Musical Interludes were provided by Ben Feather and Jacob Sayer in Year 10 with a duet of "Live Forever by Oasis (filmed separately from home and expertly put together) and Josh Luxon-Robinson in Year 12 played a beautiful rendition of Waltz in D-flat Major, Op. 64, No. 1 ("Minute Waltz") by Chopin on the piano.

Although we weren't able to welcome guests into school this year to celebrate in person, we were pleased to be able to acknowledge to pupil achievements virtually.

### Foundation Form Prizes

7E.....	Matthew Snowdon
7H.....	Ikhlas Saboor
7P.....	Hugo Murray
7T.....	Joseph Greening
8E.....	Joshua Tywang
8H.....	Samuel Smith
8P.....	Toby Francis
8T.....	Jack Jenkinson
9E.....	Joseph Thomas
9H.....	Reuben Nong
9P.....	Oscar Smyth
9T.....	Eisa Barket



**Lower School Prizes—Year 7**

Skipton Town Council Silver Jubilee Shield... Hugo Murray

**Lower School Prizes—Year 8**

Marmaduke Millar Art Prize ..... Toby Francis

Mechanics' Institute Biology Prize..... Omer Badawi

John Bevis Wilkinson Chemistry Prize ..... Oscar Johnson

Lower School Computing Prize ..... Jamie Smith

Mechanics' Institute D&T Prize ..... Archie Morton

Petyt Trust English Prize ..... Lachlan Wills

Foundation Food and Nutrition Prize ..... Ismail Kamran

George Bottomley Memorial French Prize . Theo Sturman

Foundation History Prize ..... Theo Sturman

George Bottomley Memorial German Prize..... Samesh Chotai

Rodwell Memorial Geography Prize..... Brinley Pratt

Petyt Trust Latin Prize..... Caspar Alderson

Mechanics' Institute Mathematics Prize ... Samesh Chotai

Firth Memorial Music Prize..... Toby Francis

Foundation PE Prize..... Nathan Butterworth

Foundation PE Prize..... Joshua Tywang

Mechanics' Institute Physics Prize ..... Samesh Chotai

Foundation Religious Studies Prize..... Lachlan Wills

**Lower School Prizes—Year 9**

Marmaduke Millar Art Prize ..... Bramwell Tuck

Mechanics' Institute Biology Prize..... Hatim Aziz

John Bevis Wilkinson Chemistry Prize ..... Oliver Mann

Lower School Computing Prize ..... Oliver Mann

Mechanics' Institute D&T Prize ..... Ammar Khedapa

Mechanics' Institute D&T Prize ..... Gurdith Singh

Petyt Trust English Prize ..... Reuben Nong

Foundation Food and Nutrition Prize ..... Jamie Fox

George Bottomley Memorial French Prize ..... Joseph Thomas

Foundation History Prize..... Caleb Shaw

George Bottomley Memorial German Prize..... Reuben Nong

Rodwell Memorial Geography Prize ..... Reuben Nong

Petyt Trust Latin Prize ..... Caleb Shaw

Mechanics' Institute Mathematics Prize..... Oliver Mann

Firth Memorial Music Prize..... Caleb Shaw

Foundation PE Prize ..... Oscar Smyth

Mechanics' Institute Physics Prize ..... Oscar Smyth

Foundation Religious Studies Prize ..... Rohaan Chaudhury

**Middle School Prizes**

Jonathan Chapman Memorial Art Prize ..... Ben Ho

Mechanics' Institute Biology Prize ..... Michael Heron

Foundation Chemistry Prize ..... Daniel Batchelor

Foundation Computing Prize ..... Daniel Batchelor

Foundation Design & Technology Prize ..... Jack Tiler

Foundation English Prize..... Hamish Wills

Foundation Food & Nutrition Prize ..... Michael Heron

Jack Eastwood Memorial Prize for Languages: French .....  
..... Jamie Burgess

Jonathan Chapman Memorial Geography Prize ..... Ruben Francis

Foundation Modern Languages Prize: German ..... Mattie Sheldon

Foundation History Prize..... Luke McCormick-Merry

Mechanics' Institute Mathematics Prize.....  
..... Zayyan Mahmood

Edward Scott Music Prize..... Bram Heierman-Rix

Foundation PE Prize ..... Ruben Francis

Mechanics' Institute Physics Prize ..... Ben Havers-Strong

Foundation Religious Studies Prize ..... Mattie Sheldon

**Senior School Prizes**

Mechanics' Institute Biology Prize ..... Matthew Joynson

John Bevis Wilkinson Chemistry Prize...Matthew Kenneth

Senior Computing Prize.....Finlay Burkinshaw

Foundation Cricket Prize.....Joseph Holderness

Mechanics' Institute Design Technology Prize.....

..... John Storey

Arthur Coe Prize for Distinguished Service ..... Benny Hick

Dramatic Society Prize .....Luca Campana

Foundation Economics Prize..... Callum Worts

Arkwright Engineering Scholarship .....Alex Old

Petyt Trust English Prize..... Jude Owers

Fleming Essay Prize .....William Danson

Senior Football Prize ..... Edward Croft

.....Oliver Newbould

Parents' Association Fortitude Prize ..... Jude Owers

George Bottomley Memorial French Prize .....

..... Matthew Joynson

Foundation Further Maths Prize.....David Cowen

Foundation General Efficiency Prize ..... Torin Ziebold

Foundation Geography Prize ..... Benny Hick

George Bottomley Memorial German Prize .David Cowen

Old Boys' Association Head of School Prize ..... Sam Pilling

Foundation History Prize.....Tipu Sultan

Foundation Linguistics Prize..... Max Boumphrey

Mechanics' Institute Mathematics Prize.....

.....Matthew Kenneth

David Morgan Memorial Prize for a Prospective

Medical Student.....Hamzah Ali

..... Reuben Burns

..... Tipu Sultan

..... Shahmeer Zeb

..... Matthew Beanlands

..... Hudhaifa Amin

..... Oliver Newbould

..... Abdul Mahmood

Head of Sixth Form's Merit Prize ..... Thomas Shaw

Foundation Music Prize ..... Laurie Petrucci

Foundation Music Prize .....Ben Finnett

Doris Altham Barker Prize for Musical Achievement.....

..... Tom Merrall

.....David Cunningham

..... Luca Fairhurst

Foundation PE Prize ..... Callum Worts

Mechanics' Institute Physics Prize ..... Sebastian Vereker

Senior Public Speaking Prize ..... Torin Ziebold

Senior Religious Studies Prize ..... Daniel Coghill

Longden Smith Prize for Rugby..... Daniel Shackleton

Jimmy Harrison Memorial Prize for Progress in Senior

Rugby .....James Muirhead

**Athletes**

Year 7 English Schools' Fell Champions ....Ewen Wilkinson

Year 7 English Schools' Fell Champions ..... Tom Hooper

Year 7 English Schools' Fell Champions .. Joseph Greening

England Team for World Schools Cross-

Country Championships..... Sebastian Segger-Staveley

.....Louis Hudson

..... Joseph Carnelley

.....Arthur Peel

..... William Thompson

..... Alex Thompson

Golson Shield for Achievement in Cross Country Running  
 .....Sebastian Segger-Steveley

## 2021 Leavers Destinations

Institution	Course
Adelphi University NY	Economics
Durham University	Environmental Geoscience
Durham University	Computer Science
Durham University	Mathematics (3 years)
Durham University	Theoretical Physics
Employment	Construction work
Employment	Sports coach
Employment	Building and Construction
Employment	Unknown at the time of writing
Employment	Worcester Cathedral Choral Scholarship
Gap year and work	Applying 2022
Gap year and work	Applying 2022
Gap year and work	Applying 2022
Gap year and work	Applying 2022
Gap year and work	Applying 2022
Gap year and work	Applying 2022
Gap year and work	Applying 2022
Gap year and work	Applying 2022
Gap year and work	Applying 2022
Gap year and work	Applying 2022
Gap year and work	Applying 2022
Gap year and work	Applying 2022
Harper Adams University	Rural Enterprise and Land Management
King's College London, University of London	English Law and German Law
Lancaster University	History
Lancaster University	Psychology
Leeds Beckett University	Sports Journalism
Leeds Trinity University	Business Management and Marketing
Leeds Trinity University	Business and Management
London School of Economics and Political Science, University of London	Philosophy, Politics and Economics
Manchester Metropolitan University	Human Physiology

Manchester Metropolitan University	Mechanical Engineering
Manchester Metropolitan University	Primary Education with QTS
Manchester Metropolitan University	Sport and Exercise Science
Newcastle University	Biomedical Sciences
Newcastle University	Chemical Engineering
Newcastle University	Economics and Business Management
Newcastle University	Biomedical Genetics
Newcastle University	Geography and Planning
Newcastle University	Law
Newcastle University	Biomedical Genetics
Newcastle University	Geography and Planning
Newcastle University	Biomedical Sciences
Newcastle University	Geography
Northumbria University, Newcastle	Business and Management Foundation Year
Nottingham Trent University	Business Management and Marketing
Plovdiv Bulgaria	Dentistry
Royal Agricultural University	Rural Land Management with Placement Year
Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama	Music (piano)
Swansea University	Aerospace Engineering with a Foundation Year
The University of Edinburgh	Economics
The University of Edinburgh	English Literature and Classics
University of Birmingham	Money, Banking and Finance
University of Bradford	Foundation Year
University of Bristol	Economics and Mathematics
University of Bristol	Physics with Astrophysics
University of Central Lancashire	Pharmacy
University of Essex	Economics and Politics (Including Year Abroad)
University of Exeter	Economics and Finance with Industrial Experience
University of Glasgow	Veterinary Medicine
University of Leeds	Pharmacology
University of Leeds	Computer Science
University of Leicester	Politics



University of Liverpool	Aerospace Engineering
University of Liverpool	Computer Science (Foundation) (1+3)
University of Manchester	Chemical Engineering with Industrial Experience
University of Manchester	Optometry
University of Manchester	Architecture
University of Manchester	Chemistry
University of Manchester	Geography with Professional Placement
University of Manchester	Politics and Modern History
University of Manchester	English Language
University of Manchester	History
University of Manchester	Economics
University of Manchester	Law
University of Manchester	Economics
University of Manchester	Modern History with Economics
University of Manchester	Computer Science
University of Manchester	Modern History with Economics
University of Manchester	Management
University of Manchester	Physics
University of Nottingham	Economics
University of Nottingham	Economics
University of Nottingham	Physics with Theoretical Astrophysics
University of Oxford	Earth Sciences
University of Oxford	Biochemistry (Molecular and Cellular)
University of Oxford	History of Art
University of Reading	Finance (Investments)
University of Sheffield	Mechanical Engineering
University of Sheffield	Aerospace Engineering
University of Sheffield	Economics
University of Southampton	Philosophy
University of Southampton	Aeronautics and Astronautics
University of Stirling	Economics
University of Strathclyde	Mechanical Engineering
University of Strathclyde	Architectural Studies
University of Warwick	Computer Science
University of York	History/Politics (Equal)
University of York	Interactive Media
University of York	Computer Science

## Old Boys' Society

**President Mr Michael Evans**

**Chairman 2019-20 Mr David Clough**

**Chairman 2020-21 Mr Graham Hamilton**

**Treasurer Mr Ken Oxley**

**Secretary Mr Stuart Clarkson**

Unfortunately no committee meetings have been able to take place due to the pandemic, so formal ratification of a change of Chairman has yet to take place.

### Fundraising Events

The pandemic has meant that unfortunately no reunion events have been able to take place since December 2019, when our most recent Old Boys' Dinner was held.

In a change to the usual format there wasn't a Chief Guest at the 2019 event, but instead Old Boys in attendance heard short reminiscences from three former pupils who each were at EGS in different eras. Simon Smith (1968-74), Stuart Clarkson (1992-99) and Josh McCartan (2006-13) each spoke for a few minutes about their time at Ermysted's and the role the school has played in their life.

Headmaster Michael Evans shared news of the school's recent successes, and Master of Ceremonies Ian 'Adge' Douglass presided over proceedings in his usual inimitable style. Great food and drink was consumed (including hand-pulled pints of Old Boy' real ale) and the evening concluded with the singing of a few songs including Forty Years On and Men of the Upland.

In lieu of the 2020 Annual Dinner we asked for donations to our Covid Appeal Fund. Old boys gave generously and we were able to make a £3,500 contribution to Ermysted's in January 2021. The school has put the money to good use by upgrading its computer systems to improve communication with parents, in particular with school reports which have gone digital! It has already saved many hours of admin time for staff and significantly reduced the volume of paper being used each term.

### Sports Fixtures

April 2021 saw the return of the now annual Old Boys v School football match, which was played on the astro turf at

Sandylands. A hat-trick from man-of-the-match Harry Farnell helped the Old Boys to a memorable 7-1 win. The result means that after five games since the fixture became a regular thing, the School leads the Old Boys by 3 matches to 2. Our thanks go to Stephen Speak for organising the match.



The return of the Old Boys v School cricket fixture was scheduled for Friday 25th June 2021, and the history books will no doubt record the result as a hard-fought draw for manager James Tiffany's side. The reality is, however, that once again we were sadly defeated. Not by the school's First XI, but by the Yorkshire summer weather - with no play possible due to the heavy rain all day! Fingers crossed for better weather and an Old Boys win in 2022!



### Old Boys' News

Richard Sutcliffe (1986-91) left his job as Chief Football Writer at the Yorkshire Post after 15 years to take up a new role with new sports website The Athletic.

Ken Oxley (1950-55) celebrated his 80th birthday in September 2019. Ken is still actively involved with the Old Boys' Society as Treasurer and also oversees the school archives. He recently stepped down from his role as Treasurer to the Foundation after many years' dedicated service.

Richard Holden (1996-2001) was elected as MP for North West Durham in the general election of December 2019.

Brendan Threlfall (1997-2004) was awarded the CBE for

public service. He was worked in the civil service including as Deputy Director, Ireland and Northern Ireland in the Department for Exiting the EU.

Patrick Ralphson (2014-18) was part of a group called Since September, which won the BBC One talent show Little Mix The Search.

Charlie Wood (2014-19) signed his first professional contract with Bradford City AFC.

Henry Taylor (1932-40) turned 100 years old!

Charles Whiteley (1983-90) took up a new role as the European Union's Head of Delegation to Bangladesh. He was previously Head of Political, Press and Information section of the Office of the EU to Hong Kong and Macao.

### Obituaries

A full list of Old Boys whose deaths we have been notified of can be found on the Society's website at [ermystedsoldboys.co.uk/obituaries](http://ermystedsoldboys.co.uk/obituaries)

The obituaries in the last two years have included former Mayor of Skipton Fred Armitage (1938-44), who was also Secretary of the Old Boys' Society from 1978 to 1981 and has died aged 91. Peter Rymer (1942-48) was a star rugby player during his time at EGS and went on to be prop-forward and captain of Wharfedale RUFC. Craig Cartman (1985-90) passed away aged just 47 following a 20-year career with the Metropolitan Police. Stephen Judge (1938-45) died aged 92 - he had worked as a photographer for the Craven Herald.

Two former teachers also passed away - acclaimed wildlife artist David Binns was a pupil at the school (1947-52) before returning for a brief spell as Head of Art (1975-78). Jim Hartley taught countless Ermysted's pupils during his 25 years at the school as Head of French (1963-88) - he died aged 89.

Find out more about the Old Boys' Society at [ermystedsoldboys.co.uk](http://ermystedsoldboys.co.uk).

