

The  
Thomas Hardy  
School

# Newsletter



SUMMER #2  
2025



# Welcome

As we lower the curtain on another extraordinary term, all staff and students can look back with pride at the breadth of talent, generosity of spirit, and commitment to excellence shown by our students. From the joyful creativity of the Wessex Arts Fest to the rigorous challenges of national competitions, Thomas Hardy students continue to shine. The summer term has seen outstanding academic and co-curricular successes: our Chemistry students triumphed in the Cambridge Challenge, Year 12 engineers scooped national awards at The Big Bang Fair, and two of our linguists earned commendations from Oxford University. Meanwhile, Isabel Hurrell's invitation to the Royal Garden Party in recognition of her DofE Gold Award is a tribute to the leadership and character we see across our Sixth Form.

In sport, we've celebrated individual and team triumphs—from athletics and equestrianism to cricket, rounders, and beach volleyball—while our Geography students hiked volcanic landscapes in Sicily, and our historians trained as wartime spies at the Chalke History Festival. At home, we've continued to foster compassion and community: our Diversity Group is hosting a fundraiser, Year 12 students volunteered to keep Dorchester tidy, and everyone ran a mile to raise money for Mosaic, a bereavement charity supporting young people in Dorset.

To our Year 11 and 13 students, who approached

their exams with admirable resilience and good humour—thank you. And to all who have contributed to making this such a rewarding half-term—staff, students, and families—my sincere thanks.

We wish every success to students and staff leaving at the end of the year, although there are four I must mention by name due to their long years of service. **Kate Morgan** and **Robbie Jehu** leave the English, Media and Film Department at the end of the year, after a combined 33 years' service at the school. As well as being outstanding English teachers, they set up and ran the popular Film Studies and Media Studies A Level, and have provided incredible opportunities for students going into those industries. **Sally Voss** leaves after 19 years with the school and leaves a legacy of one of the best Food Departments in the country – the young people of Dorchester will be confidently preparing delicious, fresh and healthy meals for years to come because of Sally's incredible leadership. And **Gail Cheeseman**, after over 30 years with the school, during which time she has supported and nurtured so many students to believe in themselves and reach their potential, leaves with all our thanks and best wishes. On behalf of all the students who have benefited from your teaching and care over the years, Kate, Robbie, Sally and Gail, thank you.

I wish you all a restful and enjoyable break.

**Nick Rutherford**  
HEADTEACHER

Newsletter design,  
editing & layout:  
**Caroline Lester**

**COVER IMAGE:** Addams Family Musical  
*Photograph courtesy of Mr Trevorrow*  
More news from Music on pages 24 - 25

**Thanks to all contributors for their help with this issue**

# Year 11 Prom



## **CELEBRATING GOOD TIMES WITH YEAR 11**

**We were treated to a spectacle of sports cars, tractors, horses and even a go-kart as students arrived at Kingston Maurward in the Dorset sunshine for Year 11 Prom.** The students shone in their amazing outfits and enjoyed an evening of food, entertainment, and numerous visits to the photo booth!

The dancefloor was rarely anything less than full and the DJ was most impressed with the eclectic mix of song requests – apparently THS students have the best taste in music of all the schools he DJs for. At times, the dance moves were what could only be described as creative (both staff and students!) but a great night was had by all.

We were so proud to see everyone back together and having a great time and we wish all of Year 11 the very best for the future.

**Mrs Hedgecox**

# Library

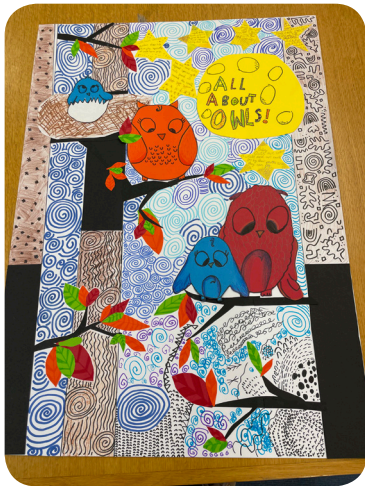


## COLLABORATIVE ILLUSTRATION

**In June the school hosted** the annual collaborative illustration event. This involved nearly 150 students from Year 2 to Year 12 from 16 schools across the area. Working on tables of 6 - 7 students, they had to create a piece of work set to a brief. Our special guest this year was **Jenna Herman**, an illustrator from Frome who ran a short workshop at the start on techniques for creating texture using pencil and crayon. They then used these techniques to work together and create a book cover for an animal. Each table was provided with

drawing materials, card, reference materials about an animal and lots of facts which they could include.

The level of work produced in just 2 hours was absolutely stunning and the twenty pieces of art will be put on display in Dorchester Library over the summer so students can visit with their family and friends.



## PRIDE MONTH

**The school took part in a** #ReadWithPride relay on social media to highlight young adult books with LGBTQ+ protagonists. This year the THS Diversity group got involved and championed our book choice 'Cinderella is Dead' by Kalynn Bayron.

**Mrs Stevens**

# Geography



## **YEAR 10 GEOGRAPHERS VISIT SICILY**

**On Friday 23rd May 2025, thirty Year 10 geographers** and four staff members travelled to the beautiful Italian island of Sicily to spend four days immersing themselves in a tectonically active area and experiencing some pretty impressive geography!

Here is what Rose C (10OB) thought about the trip - "I thoroughly enjoyed my time in Sicily. Highlights were the views from Vulcano and walking up Mount Etna, the different landscapes, making pizza in Taormina and eating lots of ice cream!"

**Sign ups are now live for the 2026 Sicily trip.** This is for current Year 9 geographers who have opted to study the GCSE next year.

Follow us on Instagram [@THSGeog](#)

**Miss Bright**

# PE



IMAGES L-R:  
W.BARNES; TWORSLEY

## THS SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS

**Congratulations to the following students who have** achieved the following in their individual sports recently:

**T. Worsley** – 2nd in Nations Cup Championship (Equestrian)

**T. Rawamila** – 1x Gold, 4x Silver, 1x Bronze & 1x 5th place in Fiji Nationals (Swimming)

**W. Barnes** – 3rd place finish at South-West Championships (Athletics)

**J. Usher & W. Launder** – Qualified for English Schools (Athletics)

**L. Thomas** – Selected for England U18 River and Bank Fly Fishing Team

**M. Van-Egdom** – Selected for Dutch U17 National Cricket Team

## THS SPORTS WEEK

*Our annual THS Sports Week started Monday 30th June, with activities for students to get involved in. There were 20 opportunities on offer, including traditional sports, fitness classes from 1610 and Mr Broadbridge's Ultimate Frisbee Masterclass.*

Alongside this, every student took part in a 'Mile for Mosaic' in their PE lesson. Mosaic are a bereavement charity who support children and young people in Dorset. We appreciate all the donations made to this cause.



## UPDATE FROM PE

**Rounders:** Students from across the area got involved in our Rounders Tournament which was hosted on Wednesday 25th June. A wonderful event organised by Miss Bright in PE. THS entered four teams into the tournament with the Year 9 THS Red team, coming in the runners up spot.

**Volleyball:** On Thursday 26th June, 30 students attended the beach volleyball tournament in Weymouth, after a great turnout of nearly 90 students attending club each week. The teams placed

**Cricket:** On Thursday 3rd July, the 1st XI Cricket took on a touring team from Newington College, Sydney (Australia). The Ashes were won by Australia!

**Tennis:** Well done to **C. Kearsley, E. Kirkpatrick, B. Dean & T. Johnson**, who played some fantastic tennis in the LTA Schools Tournament, with a win and a very close loss.

**Miss Leatherland**



# CCF

## AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

Old Hardyans Cup for the Best Junior CCF Cadet

**LCpl Danny Munford**

CCF Efficiency Cup **Sgt Thomas Hadgett**

The Bader Trophy for the Best RAF Section Cadet

of the Year **FS Samuel Dunlop**

The Tizzard Trophy for the Best Army Section

Cadet of the Year

**SSgt Max Thrift-Brothers**

Governors Sword for the Most Outstanding Cadet

of the Year **FS William Christian**

Certificate of CCF Long Service

and Good Conduct

**SSgt Max Thrift-Brothers**

**Sgt Alfie Hedges**

**FS William Christian**

**FS Samuel Dunlop**

**Sgt Thomas Hadgett**

**Cpl George Peukert**

Army Cadet (CCF) Training Syllabus passes

Basic Star:

**Jago Austin**

**Gracie Brown**

**Ella Carter**

**Ellie Coulson**

**Scarlett Daley**

**James Dobson**

**Lili-Mai Gillam**

**Annabella Heath**

**Bethany Jackson**

**Eloise Johnson**

**Frankie Lavelle**

**Isla Long**

**Zander Peak**

**Thomas Seaton**

**William Stoker**

**Maya Taylor-Lloyd**

1 Star:

**Poppy Mitchell**

**Danny Munford**

**Jessica Reid**

**Isabella Stokes**

3 Star:

**Thomas Edwards**

**Clerise Fouche'**

**Rachel Grist**

**Finn Hadgett**

**Eliza Stephens**

4 Star:

**Jessica Rose**

**Theo Narraway**

The following CCF Army Section Cadets are promoted to Lance Corporal with effect from 7th July 2025:

**Gabriel Crane**

**Bethany Jackson**

**Frankie Lavelle**

**Scarlett Daley**

**William Stoker**



## CCF ALUMNI EPIC CYCLE RIDE

*Former Hardy's School CCF member,*

**Chris Dooley**, is cycling from Canada to Mexico this summer. Chris is currently the Lead for Outdoor Education and CCF Contingent Commander for Kingston Maurward and Weymouth College.

Chris was a cadet from 1977-1981, served in the Royal Navy from 1982-1992 and the Police service from 1993-2021. His ride is to raise awareness in PTSD and burnout experienced by those serving in both police and UK armed forces. Chris credits CCF for setting him up to join the forces and for the life skills learned.

You can follow Chris' progress on his YouTube channel here

<https://youtube.com/@chrisdtravels?si=I5Vv02OKyBy9bBuR>

**Maj Matthews**

## NEW RECRUITS NEEDED! CAN YOU HELP?

The Thomas Hardy School CCF needs new adult volunteers. No previous Cadet Forces or Regular Forces experience is necessary but would certainly be of benefit. What matters most is enthusiasm and a willingness to learn new skills.

Watch this short video about being a Cadet Forces Adult Volunteer.

<https://www.thomas-hardye.net/for-parents/cadet-forces-adult-volunteer-recruitment>

Please feel welcome to contact

Maj, Kevin Matthews on

[kmatthews@thomas-hardye.net](mailto:kmatthews@thomas-hardye.net)

if you would like more information.

# Futures



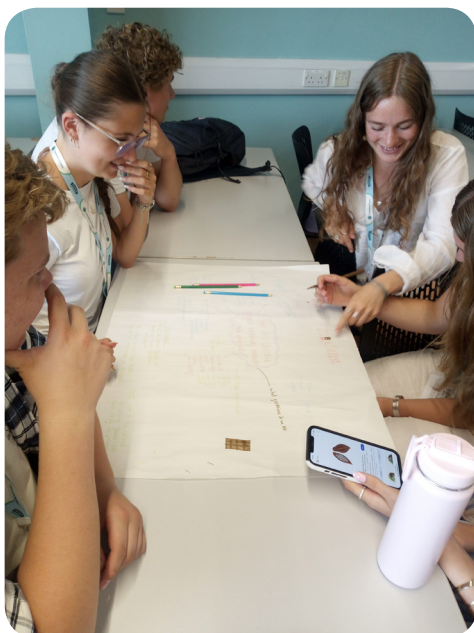
## YEAR 12: THINKING ABOUT UNIVERSITY

### **90 Year 12 students attended an open day at the**

University of Exeter in July. This event was exclusively for schools. Students were given a tour of the Exeter campus and were able to speak to existing Exeter students. They also took part in workshops designed to help them choose a course and to develop their research skills. Attending an open day is essential when deciding which university to apply for and we would encourage all students to do this.

Earlier in the term, our Early Applicants students attended a workshop on personal statements as part of the New College 'Step Up' Programme. Some of our students have been part of this programme since Year 11 and it was a fantastic opportunity for them to get some crucial advice on their applications.

Advice and guidance on UCAS applications for all Year 12 students can be accessed via Class Charts.



**Mr Ayre**



# DofE Gold



## ROYAL GARDEN PARTY HONOUR

**Year 12 student Isabel Hurrell was invited to** attend a royal garden party hosted by HRH The Duke of Edinburgh at Holyrood Palace in July, in recognition of completing her DofE Gold Award. Isabel even shared a conversation with Prince Edward, which was very special.

Well done Isabel on such a fantastic achievement and commitment to the DofE award. Additionally, Isabel is 1 of 18 who have been selected for the NHS Allied Partnership work experience programme.

IMAGES COURTESY OF SARAH HURRELL

**Sixth Form Team**

# Sociology



## **DORCHESTER PRISON THROUGH THE AGES**

***On Wednesday 2nd July, Year 12 Sociology students went on a trip to*** Dorchester prison. Although this historic setting is no longer a working prison, our tour guide was a serving prison officer elsewhere in the county and gave us an additional insight into how modern day prisons function.

A key theme of the tour was how the prison system has developed through time, transforming from a system of retribution and deterrence to one of rehabilitation and deterrence. The tour perfectly supported our current studies as part of the Crime & Deviance unit and confirmed to us all that a night in a cell was not at all appealing!

**Mrs Hedgecox & 12D Sociology**

# Student Union



## **SIXTH FORMERS KEEPING DORCHESTER TIDY**

*Josie Stokey, Mary Mitchell, Ania Clegg-Prado and Millie Gammaidoni* from the Sixth Form Student Union accompanied the head of Year 12, **Mr Hall**, on a recent voluntary litter pick. Giving up their own time for an hour, the students went off the school site to conduct a litter pick of the area around the 1610 Leisure Centre, the astroturf and adjacent car parks.

Millie said, "There are a few of us who have study periods at the same time and we wanted to do this to keep the school surroundings clean and welcoming to everyone'.

Mr Hall added, "We know this area is extremely busy and there can be issues with litter. It was heartening to see the students being so proactive and community minded."

The group are meeting every other week to continue the litter pick through the summer term.

**Mr Hall**

# Equestrian



## A GALLOPING SUCCESS!

*The Thomas Hardye School Equestrian Team has* enjoyed a remarkable run of competitions this spring and early summer, securing a host of qualifications for upcoming national championships. They are set to carry their success into a very exciting summer season.

At the Dorset Showground Arena the team claimed first place in the 85cm Showjumping Qualifier.

Individually, **Carmen Hillier** placed 5th, followed by **Miya Willsher** (7th), **Dilly Barbour** (9th), and **Hannah Fitzpatrick** (10th) – a solid performance from all riders.

In the 95cm Showjumping, the team finished second overall, with standout individual results: Hannah Fitzpatrick (3rd); Miya Willsher (8th); Carmen Hillier (9th) and Dilly Barbour (10th).

**Isobel Sutherland** also contributed to the team's strong performance.

These results secured the team's qualification for the Addington Manor National Championships.

In May at the Hickstead All England Jumping Arena, Carmen Hillier placed 9th in the 85cm Showjumping and Dilly Barbour 14th out of a strong field of 45 riders.

In the Jumping With Style competitions, Thomas Hardye placed 3rd in the 85cm team event, with another qualification for Addington this autumn. In the 95cm category, a commendable 9th place finish was achieved individually.

At Moreton-Russell Events, the team placed 3rd overall. Carmen Hillier finished 8th and qualified for the National 3 Day Event Championships in August.

Team Manager **Sue Russell** praised the team's unity and resilience, saying, "The results speak for themselves, but I'm most proud of the team spirit and comradery shown by our riders. A huge thank you to the parents who gave up their weekends, braved tents, and supported our students every step of the way – they couldn't do it without you."

**Mrs Russell**

# Chemistry



## A LEVEL STUDENTS SHINE IN CAMBRIDGE CHALLENGE

**Congratulations to our A Level Chemistry** students who took on the prestigious Cambridge Chemistry Challenge, a demanding national competition designed to test students beyond the standard curriculum.

We're incredibly proud of their achievements:

Gold Award: **Mia Wright**

Silver Awards: **Chloe Clarke, Emily He, Hazel Yap, Katie Sugg, Sophie Bartlett**

Copper Awards: **Ania Clegg Prado, Canon Reid, Ciaran Godwin, Evie Dovey, Jessica Mortimer, Sonny Dunn**

This is a fantastic set of results that reflects the hard work, curiosity, and determination of all who took part. Well done!

**Ms Brammer & Mr Mules**



## NEW KIT FROM BATH UNI

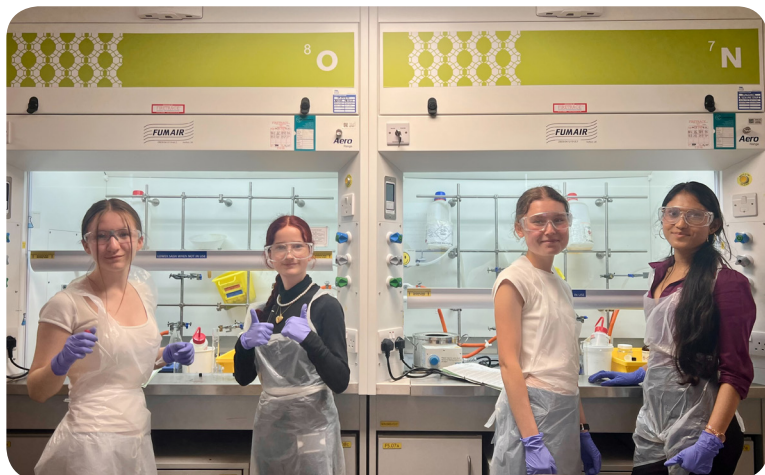
*We've teamed up with the University of Bath* to borrow two amazing pieces of kit – an IR spectrometer and an NMR machine. These are the same types of machines used by professional chemists to analyse chemicals and identify molecular structures. Our Chemistry students will get the chance to see how real analytical chemistry works – not just in theory, but in practice.

This equipment links in perfectly with the end-of-term lectures coming up with leading professors from the University of Southampton, giving you a proper taste of what studying chemistry at university is like. It's a great opportunity to boost understanding, build skills, and see how the science you're learning in class applies in the real world. Mr Mules has extensive experience with these techniques.

We're really excited to bring this experience to you – get ready to level up your chemistry!

**Ms Brammer, Mr Mules & Mr Bruchez**

# Chemistry



## ORGANIC TECHNIQUES AT SOUTHAMPTON

*Our Year 12 Chemistry students recently enjoyed a twilight practical session at the University of Southampton, gaining hands-on experience with university-level lab techniques. Under expert guidance, they used organic methods such as rotary evaporation and recrystallisation to extract trimyristin from nutmeg.*

This engaging session brought chemistry theory to life and gave students valuable insight into what studying chemistry at university is really like.

We're excited to build on this partnership and look forward to welcoming professors from Southampton to school soon for a series of workshops with our Chemistry cohort.

**Ms Brammer & Mr Bruchez**



During the visit, students explored Nantes and spent a day at their partner school, where they took part in lessons and cultural activities. Highlights of the trip included visiting Futuroscope theme park, the fascinating Océarium in Croisic, and the medieval town of Guérande.

## FRENCH EXCHANGE PART II

***In late May, 24 of our students travelled*** to Nantes for the second part of this year's school exchange. After welcoming their French partners earlier in the year, our students were excited to experience life in France. They travelled by ferry and stayed with host families, enjoying warm hospitality and the chance to practise their French every day.

Students embraced new experiences, from tasting regional dishes to building strong friendships with their exchange partners. It was a fantastic opportunity for personal growth, language learning, and cultural exchange. Everyone returned home with great memories and a deeper appreciation for French life and culture.

**Miss Didier**

## MFL ACHIEVES IN OXFORD UNIVERSITY CHALLENGES

***Congratulations to two of our amazing Year 12 languages students for their achievements in national competitions.*** **Thea Spackman** entered the Oxford University Spanish Flash Fiction competition, submitting an original short story in Spanish. Thea's entry was highly commended in the Year 12-13 category, which is a fantastic achievement!

Five of our Year 12 students entered the Anthea Bell Prize for Young Translators, also run by Oxford University, and we are delighted to say that **Lily Wilson** received a commendation from the judges. With nearly 5000 entries judged, this is very impressive. Congratulations to both students!

**Mr Davison**

# History



## CHALKE VALLEY GETS HISTORICAL

### *Year 10 and 12 historians*

attended the Chalke History Festival in June, immersing themselves in the past through interactive workshops, historical reenactments, and engaging talks by historians on topics such as Tudor Queens and the Power behind the throne and Crusader armies and tactics.

The festival offered a unique opportunity to explore different time periods, from the Anglo-Saxons through the medieval period, and into the modern era.

Students participated in hands-

on activities such as English Civil War combat demonstrations, the historical kitchen, navigating a trench and training to be SOE (Special Operation Executive) operatives – spies – during WW2. This fostered a deeper understanding of the periods and brought the history to life in dynamic ways.

Students were struck by how interesting periods of history were that they had not come across before. The experience not only enriched their knowledge but also inspired curiosity, critical thinking, and a stronger connection to the stories that shaped the world.

**Mrs Bunker**

# STEM



## **BIG BANG WIN**

***Two groups of students have won the prestigious nationwide competition***

celebrating young engineers, scientists, and technologists at The Big Bang Fair at Birmingham's NEC.

ECITB Teamwork Award was won by **Chloe Clarke, Gwendolen McLeod, Sofia Neilenko,** and **Grace Ward** (Year 12) for their project "Tree Generator". The Tree generator harnesses the kinetic energy of swaying tree branches to generate electricity through electromagnetic induction. The team developed a prototype using 3D-printed components and eco-friendly materials, aiming to provide clean energy in off-grid areas.

Senior Technology Award went to **Sophie Cradock** and **Harry Hannam** (Year 12) for "How predictive AI can save the oceans". Their project uses AI and satellite data to predict and prevent illegal fishing by analyzing patterns such as ship speed, location, and proximity to the coast. The goal is to protect marine life and support global biodiversity.

We are incredibly proud of all the hard work, determination, and passion these students have put into their projects. We look forward to seeing how they continue to develop their creations and change the world!

**Mr Davis**

# Exams Team



## GOOD WISHES FROM INVIGILATORS

### *After this summer's exams,*

The Thomas Hardye School invigilators extend their warm wishes to the students. They have been truly impressed by the dedication, conduct and courtesy of students who have been taking their exams this Summer. The exam season can be a stressful time for the candidates; however, the Invigilation Team strive to create a calm and orderly environment in which the students can perform to their full potential.

It is a unique experience for young people to sit silently, facing ahead,

without the distraction of phones and music, but these are necessary exam conditions, and it is commendable that they respect and adhere to these guidelines without any hesitation.

The invigilation team have worked diligently and ensured that each of the over 15,000 exam papers handed out this season have been delivered with a friendly and reassuring smile.

The Thomas Hardye School Invigilators wish the students a well-earned restful summer and that they achieve the exam success they rightfully deserve.

**Mrs Charlton**

# Computing



## PRESTIGIOUS PRIZE IN EUROPEAN AI CONTEST

*In June, a talented team from THS* travelled to Berlin to take part in an international AI competition, joining nine other teams from eight different countries. Representing the school were **Sophie Cradock** and **Harry Hannam**, who had spent several months researching and developing a Predictive AI model designed to detect when and where illegal fishing activity is likely to occur in our oceans. Their innovative project impressed an international jury and earned them a place in the finals of this prestigious European-wide event. As a reward for their hard work, Sophie and Harry were invited to Berlin to present their project on



the main stage and face a panel of expert judges at their stand.

After further development and fine-tuning, the students delivered a confident and passionate presentation, which was met with high praise. The judges commended the sustainable focus of the project, the creativity behind the solution, and the dedication and enthusiasm both students demonstrated throughout.

We are incredibly proud to share that Sophie and Harry were awarded second place overall—a fantastic achievement on the international stage. Congratulations to both students on this outstanding success!

**Mr Davis & Mr Price**

IMAGE TOP RIGHT COURTESY OF ANDREAS MINICH

# Diversity Group



## **MASKED SINGER FUNDRAISER EVENT**

***The Diversity Group, formed*** earlier this year, is delighted to announce our first fundraiser event, ***The Masked Singer: Teacher Edition.***

Our wonderful teachers will take to the stage, performing one of their favourite songs completely disguised, whilst the audience attempts to guess the member of staff behind the mask.

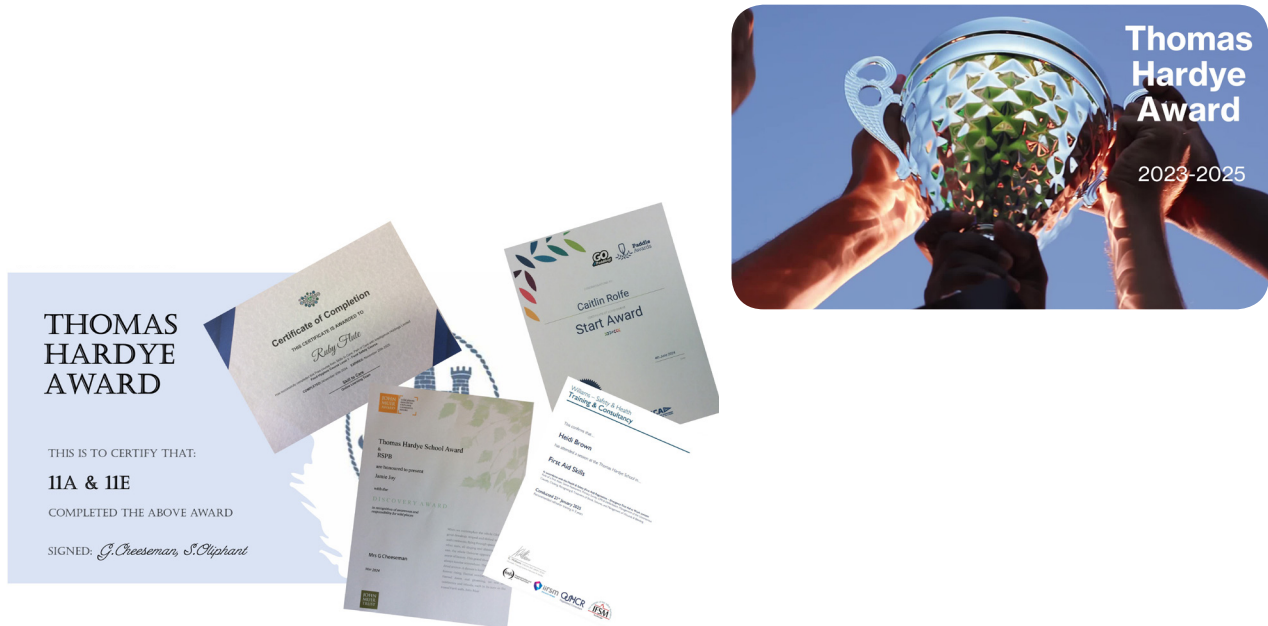
The whole family, not just students, are invited to join us. With live voting, a half time sing-along, and the possibility of some fan-favourites joining us on stage — Mrs Glennie may like a sing-along — everyone is included.

It's going to be loud, proud, and most importantly of all: it's going to be silly.

Join us for one night only at **6pm on Wednesday 16th July. Tickets are £4**, and can be purchased from reception. All funds raised will go towards Diversity Group initiatives.

**Alex Jones**

# THS Award



## **THOMAS HARDYE AWARD 2023 - 2025**

### ***Our students have successfully completed their***

course and were presented with up to five certificates for their achievements over the past two years. These included a First Aid Certificate and a Food Hygiene Certificate.

As the course was completed at Easter, this gave the students a sense of achievement before their GCSE examinations.

The students have tested themselves both physically and mentally with challenges at Buddens Activity Centre and also carried out some volunteering work for the RSPB at Arne Nature Reserve.

In the classroom they have been investigating Independent Living and Vocational units, which have prepared them for their futures at college and in future employment.

It has been a pleasure working with them and we wish them all the best.

**Mrs Cheeseman, Mr Oliphant & Mrs Williams**

# Science



## PODIUM POSITIONS IN DORSET SCIENCE RACE

**Congratulations to The Noble Hardy's ( Niamh Bradley, Tom Cheeseman, Lucie Liddicott, Orson Marsh, Arlo Spackman) and Hardy Catalysts (Edward Brown, Myeongsuk Ha, Ethan Kirkpatrick, Charlotte Marsh, Eilidh Murray),** who achieved an outstanding 2nd and 3rd place respectively in the Dorset Science Race!

Competing against ten teams from across the county, both year 10 Thomas Hardy's teams scored impressively, securing two of the top three positions on the podium. Their performance showcased exceptional teamwork, scientific knowledge, and school spirit.

Well done to both teams—you've done Thomas Hardy School proud!

**Ms Brammer & Mr Richmond**

# PSHCE

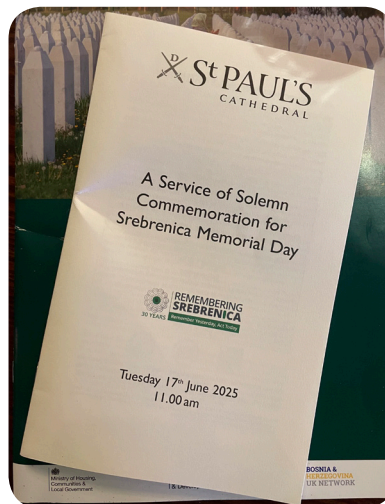


## ST PAUL'S SREBRENICA COMMEMORATION

In recognition of the work that the Thomas Hardye School has done in the past towards genocide and human rights education, Mr Matthews, Leader of PSHCE Education, was invited to attend the UK national commemoration for the 30th anniversary of the Srebrenica genocide on 17 June 2025 at St Paul's Cathedral.

In attendance was the President of Bosnia and Herzegovina His Excellency Denis Bećorović, Mayor of London the Right Honourable Sir Sidiq Khan and Deputy Prime Minister the Right Honourable Angela Rayner.

**Mr Matthews**



# Music



## TUNING UP FOR ANOTHER MUSICAL SUMMER

**The music department has been busy this term! In April, we hosted a workshop with** the National Children's Orchestra, see image top left. Several of our Year 9 students were invited to take part. They played a medley from the Jungle book, conducted by the infectiouslly lively **Veronica Urrego**, (who got the students shouting and moving as well as playing!), followed by a fantastic film composition workshop. Everyone had a wonderful day.

In May, 700 people joined us for our annual Arts Fest, see *image top right*. The day included performances by 11 music ensembles, 5 drama groups and 19 bands and soloists. There were also 10 workshops and a barn dance! All of these things were completely free to attend and the day had a wonderful creative and inclusive ethos with people of all ages participating and watching.

This has become a staple of our annual calendar and we are already making plans for next year to be even bigger and better! We hope to see even more of you next year. Summary video to watch here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w4F8crpiPz8&feature=youtu.be>

In June, renowned international clarinettist, Emma Johnson, visited our school to deliver a masterclass for two Year 12 students, see *image top right*. To have such a high level musician working with them was truly inspiring for everyone.

Later the same week, 25 students from TH Singers performed their second Evensong of the year, see *image bottom left*. They performed some tricky repertoire to a very high standard. This marks the end of a very successful year for the choir with performances including Faure's Requiem and a collaboration with the Gabrieli Consort in Exeter Cathedral. The following day, some Year 9 bands performed an informal gig at Vinyl Van in Brewery Square, see *image bottom right*. It was a lovely evening and the students performed brilliantly. We hope that this might become a regular fixture in our musical calendar!

**Mrs Trevorrow**



# Communication & Support

Reason for Contact	Contact Person	Preferred Method	Contact Information	Notes
Attendance	Attendance Office	Website/phone	<a href="https://www.thomas-hardye.net/for-parents/report-an-absence">https://www.thomas-hardye.net/for-parents/report-an-absence</a> 01305 266064	Report absences before 8.40am
General Enquiries	School Reception	Phone/Email	01305 266064	Opening hours 8.30am-4.30pm
Academic Concerns	Child's Tutor	Email	Email address will be first initial followed by last name (no space) @thomas-hardye.net e.g. JBloggs@thomas-hardye.net	First point of contact for all educational queries
General/Social Concerns	Child's Tutor	Email	As above	First point of contact for general or social concerns
Safeguarding Concerns	Guidance Leader for Your Child's Year Group	Phone/Email	Year 9- Mrs Kelly <a href="mailto:CKelly@thomas-hardye.net">CKelly@thomas-hardye.net</a> Year 10- Miss Gosling <a href="mailto:JGosling@thomas-hardye.net">JGosling@thomas-hardye.net</a> Year 11- Mrs Morgan <a href="mailto:CMorgan@thomas-hardye.net">CMorgan@thomas-hardye.net</a>	If your concern is urgent, please also phone reception. If your concern is out of school hours, please see helpful services below.

## Tips for effective communication

*Contact the tutor first:*  
For most academic and general/social concerns, the child's tutor should be your first point of contact.

*Please be clear, concise and respectful.*

*Respect staff's working hours:*  
Parents should be mindful of teachers' workload and should not expect a response to emails immediately. Many staff are part-time, and teachers are not expected to respond to emails outside of the usual working day.

***If your concern is urgent, please contact the school office: Monday - Friday 8:30am - 4:30pm.***

- **Family support and advice line** - 01305 228558  
<https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/w/family-help-in-dorset>
- **Samaritans** (116 123) -  
Free, 24/7 support line for anyone struggling
- **Shout Crisis Text Line** - Text "SHOUT" to 85258 (24/7)
- **YoungMinds Parents Helpline** (0808 802 5544) -  
For advice on supporting your child
- **Connection** - Dorset's 24/7 Mental Health Helpline
- **Call 0800 652 0190** (free, open to all ages) -  
This NHS service offers round-the-clock support for anyone in Dorset experiencing a mental health crisis, including parents concerned about their children

# Dates

## SUMMER TERM

*last day of term:*

Friday 18th July

## AUTUMN TERM

*sixth form enrolment:*

Monday 1st September

*open for staff training only:*

Tuesday 2nd September

*term starts: Years 9 & 12*

Wednesday 3rd September

*Years 10, 11 & 13*

Thursday 4th September

*open for staff training only:*

Wednesday 22nd - Friday 24th October

*half-term:*

Monday 27th October - Friday 31st October

*last day of term:*

Thursday 18th December