

DAME ALLAN'S Digest



JULY 2015



Indian summer

Forty-two of our students have set off for a month-long adventure to India.

Our students who are in Years 11, 12 and 13 will take part in a series of exciting activities, including a two-week trek across the Himalayas with seven river crossings, as part of their expedition with World Challenge. The group have been

training and preparing for the trip for the last 18 months and as well as passing rigorous fitness tests and training expeditions, each pupil had to raise £4,000 to fund their place. The money was raised through a series of fundraising events including an Indian night at the Schools. The expedition will take our students to Kerala, Agra and Jaipur as well as

the Himalayas and remote villages. They are largely left to figure out everything from cooking to their accommodation themselves, under the watchful eye of their supervisors from Dame Allan's and World Challenge.

This is a fantastic opportunity for our students and we wish them a very successful and safe trip.



A welcome from the Principal

The end of the academic year marks a time of celebration and transition. It has been a busy, exciting and successful year at Dame Allan's and we have many positives to reflect on as we break for the Summer holiday. After an intense exam period for many of our students it is right that they have time to rest, 'switch off' and then prepare for the next academic year. Of course a number of students are leaving the Schools to go on to university, travelling and other endeavours. Though they will be missed we wish them the very best of luck, we look forward to celebrating with them on results day and we hope to keep in touch with them through the Allanian Society. This newsletter comes with thanks for your support over the course of the year; we hope you have a very enjoyable summer.



Avast ye!

Children in our reception class were treated to a fun filled day when a pirate ship ran aground on the Junior School field. Live theatre company Dodgy Clutch spent the

day teaching the reception children about pirates through music, dance, drama and art, following on from their pirate project earlier in the term. Everyone had a brilliant day!

Having a ball

The Sixth Form leavers' ball this year was held at the Centre for Life in Newcastle, a superb venue for an evening of fine dining and music. It was a brilliant and nostalgic event to celebrate the success and hard work of our Year 13 pupils, many of whom have been at the Schools for many years.

Meanwhile at the other end of the school our reception children have now officially graduated from Early Years into Year 1.



Battlefield visit

Over the half term holiday fourteen Year 9 and 10 pupils spent three days in Belgium and France visiting Ypres and The Somme First World War Battlefields. The students visited the graves of James and Basil Knott, to whose memory Fenham Parish Church was built. The Vicar of St James' and St Basil's church, Revd. Canon Nicholas Derby, who is the Schools' Chaplain, accompanied the visit and led prayers and reflections at the graveside.



Go go girls

We were thrilled to welcome our former pupil Leyla Carter back to the schools this term. Leyla has started her own business called The Motivation Project which uses dance focused workshops to teach young people about a

number of different issues including stress, team building and self-esteem. Our Year 8 girls took part in a workshop on body image which they all found fun and helpful. It was a brilliant session and our thanks go to Leyla!



Horse tales

This summer our reception pupil Jamie Airlie will be competing at the Royal International Horse Show at Hickstead. Jamie, who is just five years old, qualified for the show in the spring with his pony Cosford Vanity Fair through the

British Show Pony Society. He will be competing against at least 30 other competitors up to the age of nine years old.

We are very proud of Jamie and we look forward to hearing all about Hickstead in September!

LAMDA

We are thrilled that this year has seen yet another outstanding set of LAMDA exam results for the Schools' pupils. 47 students from Dame Allan's took exams ranging from public speaking to acting

and a bumper 41 of them achieved a distinction, the highest possible mark, with the remaining 6 achieving impressive merit grades. These are brilliant achievements for everyone who took part in the examinations. Well done!



Acting royalty

Our Year 6 children were treading the boards at the end of this term, putting on an impressive performance of 'Hamlet'. The play was adapted to

include song and dance as well as drama which helped to demonstrate the fantastic range of talent we have at the Junior School, as well as making the play more accessible to young children.

Looking to the future...

Thursday 2nd July – End of term, 12 noon
Thursday 13th August – A Level results day

Thursday 20th August – GCSE results day
Thursday 3rd September – Start of term

Thursday 15th October – Allanian networking and drinks reception

DASPA

DASPA Junior has held its last meeting for this academic year. The year is going out on a high with the hugely successful Summer Fair raising £2,880 for the children at the Junior School. Over the summer purchases will be made for more playground toys, bibs in house colours for internal and external sporting events and also sets of goal posts so the children can participate in a new football league to be introduced in September. Many thanks to all parents and staff for their massive support this year for DASPA Junior. Have a great summer.

Adrianos hosted the DASPA end of year get together where the committee members enjoyed delicious Italian food and wine and looked forward to next year's events.

We were pleased that the announcement of the Spring Ball date of May 7th at the New Parents' Evenings resulted in a lot of interest. A full annual report will be given at the AGM on 13th October at 6pm which all parents are welcome to attend. Anyone interested in becoming involved with DASPA can also attend the committee meeting which follows immediately after the AGM at 6.30pm.

Allanian Society

Following the success of last year's event in London, Dame Allan's Schools are again hosting a drinks and networking reception in London for the Allanian Society. This year it will be held on October 15th, so put the date in your diary and look out for further details coming soon!



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 building the future

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