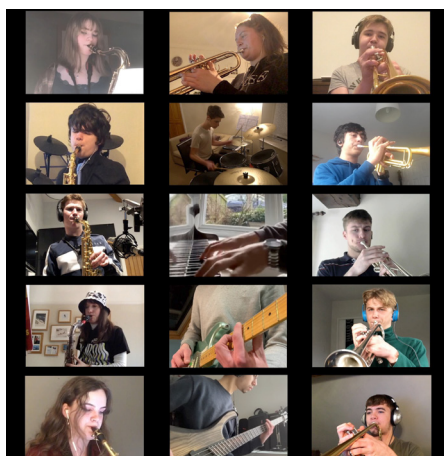
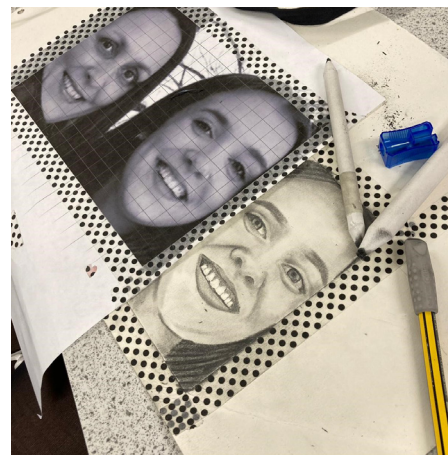


# INTOUCH

ST. AIDAN'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

NO.6 - MARCH 2021



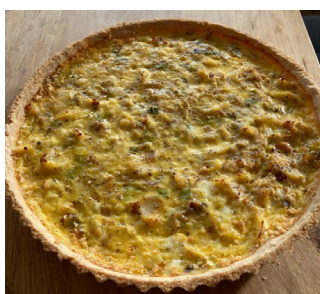
Welcome to this edition of InTouch, at the end of yet another extraordinary term to add to what feels like rather too many of those last year. It has been a joy, though, to welcome our wonderful students back into school, bringing with them their characteristic and much-missed energy and vitality. We hope you will agree that the news in this edition speaks of a school which embraces and encourages "life in all its fullness". We would like to thank you for your on-going support and we pray that the eternal Easter message will bring us all renewed hope in the future. Have a restful and blessed Easter break.





## Food Technology Feasts

Our students have been creating some delicious dishes and baking some sweet treats at home over the last few weeks. Year 9 have been making cheesecakes, Year 10 have been working with pastry and Year 11 were challenged with a coffee shop themed task.



## Sports Round Up

Following on from our Lindisfarne challenge, it is delightful to hear from the students about their runs, walks and bike rides over January and February. We have been so happy to see the students back in the classroom and exercising together, whilst laughing, smiling and having fun. As well as Extra-Curricular PE and Sports being back after the Easter break, we will be holding our Interform competitions for Years 7-9 in the first week of term, which will be Football, Hockey and Basketball. We are really encouraging the students to get as much exercise as they can over the holidays, as it will really boost their mental wellbeing during these difficult times.



## Sixth Formers at the McWhirter Conference

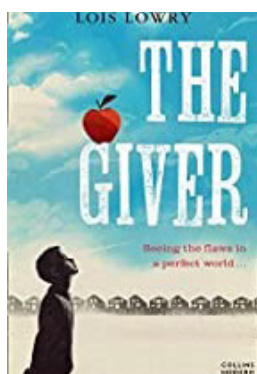
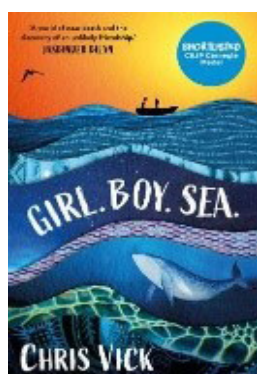
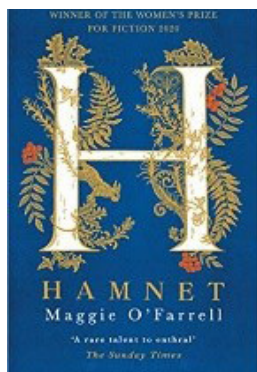
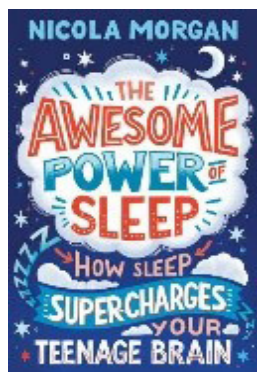
The McWhirter Conference is a prestigious annual event for politics students usually held in Oxford, although this year it was held online. The theme of the conference was 'Will A.I. make us any happier?' Finlay Noble and Tom Wallace were our two students who attended. They found the discussions enjoyable and stimulating, and were commended by the organisers as being fantastic delegates who provided intelligent debate and were a credit to the school.





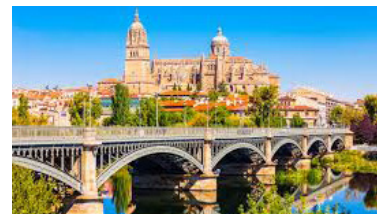
## Reading Corner

We are delighted to recommend some exciting reads for the Easter holidays. Please click on the book covers to find out more.



## Year 12 Spanish Day

On Wednesday 24th February, our Year 12 A level Spanish students enjoyed a day of teaching direct from Spain. In the capable hands of two fabulous teachers from Salamanca, both A level classes took part in a series of interactive debates, games, and activities to consolidate their learning from Year 1 of the course. The impact of the day is probably best summed up in this review from Hannah Carey:



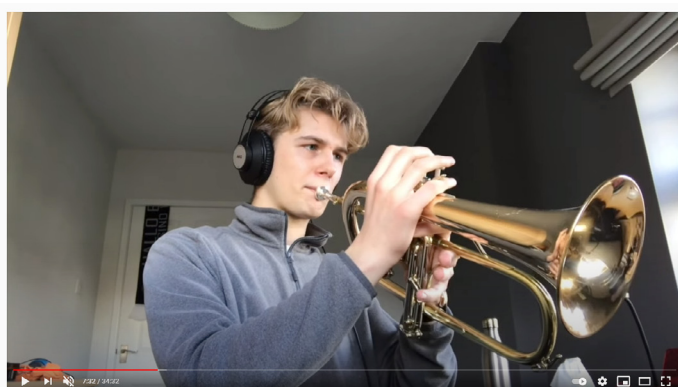
'A massive, massive thank you to ISLA and especially our amazing teachers, Luis and Maria! All the lessons were spoken in Spanish, with the use of very little and occasional English words to ask questions or to understand something further, which really helped me get a better grasp on the language and made it easier to respond to instructions as I was put into a Spanish mind-set from the first "¡hola!". The teachers were so lovely and welcoming and broke the ice quickly to allow for a fun, interactive and beneficial day. My favourite part was scanning QR codes which would result in a random picture and question appearing on my phone screen, which then needed to be answered in a group discussion format. It was so fun hearing my peers views and interesting and hilarious ways in which they answered these questions in a format that we have spent time studying. Although we couldn't go to Salamanca, they really did bring Salamanca to us! Thank you!'

Click on the photo to find out more.

## Virtual Jazz Night

Our fabulous and legendary Jazz Night went live on our YouTube channel on Thursday 11th March! It was virtual this year, of course, but lacking none of its usual toe-tapping energy and impressive talent!

Click on the image below to watch it on our YouTube channel.



St Aidan's Virtual Jazz Night 2021



St Aidan's Virtual Jazz Night 2021



## Looking for a new Career?

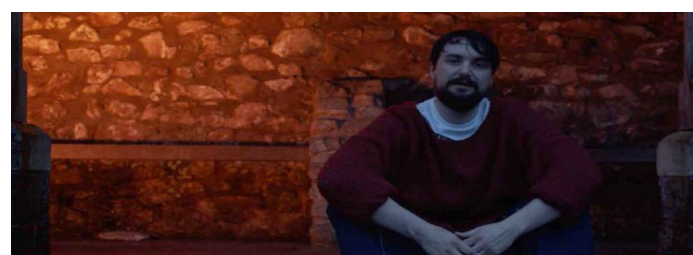
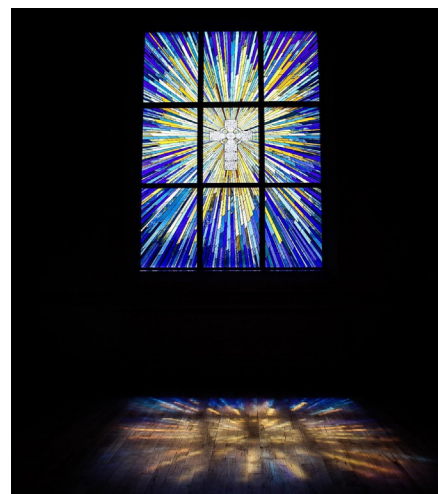
Email [admin@yorkshiresa.co.uk](mailto:admin@yorkshiresa.co.uk) for more details about Teaching Careers.

Places available in 2021



## Virtual Easter Services

In virtual Easter assemblies this week, Mr Pallant has led pupils and staff to reflect on God sharing our humanity in the person of Jesus, and his suffering with us in all our fears and struggles, especially in this 'testing time'. He took as a sign of hope the cross and the blue and gold rays emanating from it in the wonderful stained-glass window in Constance Green Hall, facing each person as they left the testing facility over the last 3 weeks. Form groups were also encouraged to watch 2 dramatic videos by the Bible Society telling about the trial and resurrection of Christ through the experience of Peter.



**Peter: A two-part Easter spoken word**

## Extra-Curricular Sport is back!

We are delighted to welcome back Extra-Curricular PE and Sport to St Aidan's. Please click the timetable for details and all sessions will finish at 5pm.

We look forward to seeing students enjoying their chosen sports.

Athletics, Cricket and Tennis are for boys and girls.

Rounders is girls only (apart from Year 11 Rounders which is girls and boys).

Year 11 to get changed in the outdoor changing room.



**PE and Sport Extra-Curricular Timetable April-July 2021**

Day	Activities/Facility	Staff
<b>Monday Y7</b>	Athletics - Grass Cricket - SPH/Y7 Play area/Astro Rounders - Astro/Grass Tennis - Top/Middle/Bottom Courts *Y11 Football - Grass/Astro	MB, TB, EW, SWW LM, RJ VL, CEB CPW, AR TH
<b>Tuesday Y10</b>	Athletics - Grass Cricket - SPH/Y7 Play area/Astro Rounders - Astro/Grass Tennis - Top/Middle/Bottom Courts *Y11 Softball - Grass	DJH, CEB, TH, DRB VL, KTH EW, CPW LM
<b>Wednesday Y8</b>	Athletics - Grass Cricket - SPH/Y7 Play area/Astro Rounders - Astro/Grass Tennis - Top/Middle/Bottom Courts	EW, TH, DRB JJS KTH JM, VL
<b>Thursday Y9</b>	Athletics - Grass Cricket - SPH/Y7 Play area/Astro Rounders - Astro/Grass Tennis - Top/Middle/Bottom Courts *Y11 Rounders - Grass	JJS, MB KTH, TB VL, TH JM, EW SWW





## Virtual Work Experience

During the last year a great many UK & Global companies have stepped forward to create some excellent Virtual Work Experience opportunities, available across a very wide range of career sectors – many arising in companies and departments which would normally not be accessible to school students.

Most are offered in real time and combine webinar style talks about their specific career journeys, programmes of work with on hand advisors for advice and guidance plus individual and group challenges. Some take place over 4 or 5 days whilst others are one day 'insight' sessions.

Placements have covered a huge variety of professions - ranging from Construction & Engineering, Digital Technology and Green Energy through Economics, Politics, TV & Film and Journalism to Nursing, Veterinary Science, Business, Economics, Finance and Graphic Design. A current list is available on the Work Experience page of the website - updated each week with new opportunities in different industry sectors.

The skills and insights gained by taking part in work experience are immeasurable and provide valuable depth to a CV, university or apprenticeship application.

**Poppy Potter and Maddy Gill, both Year 10 Textiles students spent several days with Tesco F&F Clothing Fashion during February Half Term. Poppy said 'It was very different to normal work experience, but it felt like there was a whole community of people surrounding me, teaching me about what I love - fashion. I learnt about life behind the business doors and it sounds amazing. This has helped my understanding for textiles and I will definitely be looking for similar experiences in the future'. Maddy added 'Work Experience was useful and exciting. I have taken in a lot and I understand much more about sustainability in the fashion industry.'**



**Tom Barrett, Year 12, spent time with Springer Academic Publishing and commented 'I really enjoyed the content – there were some very interesting talks, with my favourite linking to climate change research journals. We also worked in virtual groups to create a magazine, which was great fun.**

It is likely that there will be plenty more places uploaded in the coming weeks to take place over Summer Half-Term and during the Summer holidays. So keep checking back on the website – and if you see something you are interested in – apply well ahead of the deadline as some placements close early once fully subscribed. Virtual events have also been arranged with local companies. Emma Doughty from Harrogate Family Law and Sam Crich from Berwins were joined by recent Durham graduate Rachel Stanley, currently studying for her LLM. Together they put together an invaluable and bespoke webinar about their training journey, their day to day work and top tips about a career choice in Law. Over 20 students from Years 10 – 13 attended a very useful and interactive session which was able to address specific areas of interest and answer individual questions.

## Oxbridge Offers

The Associated Sixth Form is delighted to announce that ten students have been offered places at Oxford and Cambridge for September 2021. Five students have received offers from Oxford and a further five have offers from Cambridge. We would like to congratulate the students on their outstanding achievement. It reflects their hard work, impressive academic ability and the dedication of their teachers, whose encouragement and support has helped through the application process. The students are:

**Oxford:** Thomas Abeyawardene, Pippa Linden Howes, Sophia Lubiecki, Lois Parker and Niamh Robinson-Wakefield.

**Cambridge:** Emma Hain, Molly Howard, Emilia Johnson, Frank Lawrence and Yvette Wong.



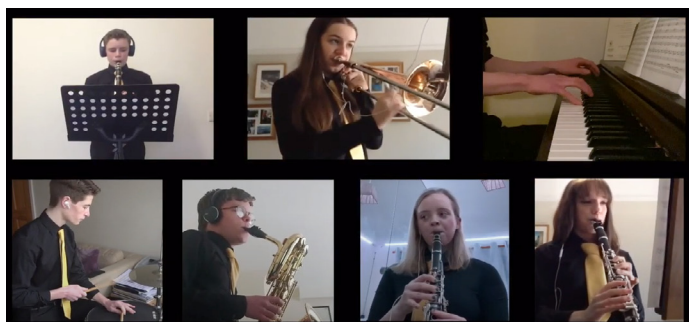
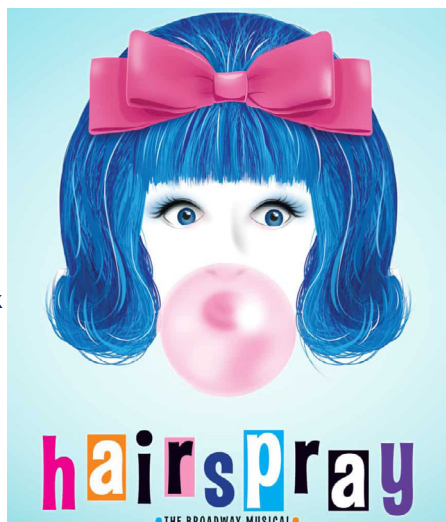


## Virtual Symphonic Band perform Hairspray

Symphonic Wind Band have been busy creating an online performance video - "You Can't Stop the Beat", from the hit musical and film Hairspray.

Please click on the link below to have a listen, it's wonderful!

You Can't Stop the Beat - St Aidan's YouTube Channel



## FOSA Update

2020 was a really difficult year for our fundraising activities and unfortunately we had to put all our plans on hold. We will not be defeated and in 2021 we have already come up with a schedule of events to raise funds for a new minibus which can be enjoyed by everyone at St Aidan's.

In your Parent Pay account you will now be able to give a one off donation to help fund this project. Other events we have planned are a sponsored walk taking place on the 11th September and we have put the 4th December in the diary for a glitzy ball in Constance Green Hall.

You can also help by using Amazon Smile and Easyfundraising. All the details are on the FOSA page of the school website.



## Extra-Curricular Music Update

The Music Department have sadly been unable to restart their Extra-Curricular timetable due to the ongoing restrictions within school. However, we hope to recommence some of the Extra-Curricular Music activities during the second week back after the Easter break (week commencing 19th April). Further details will be published on the school website during the first week of next term.

The St Aidan's YouTube channel has provided a fantastic platform for our musicians to keep creating remarkable pieces of work together. The Symphonic Wind Band has performed Hairspray, which is just a taster of things to come next term and beyond.

Please check our website for further updates next term.



PROUD TO BE A  
MUSIC MARK  
SCHOOL

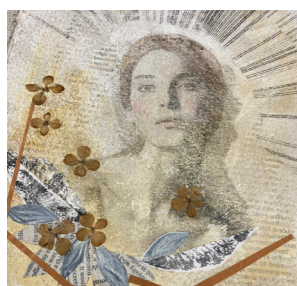
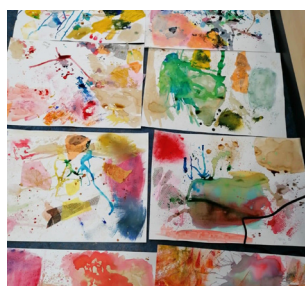
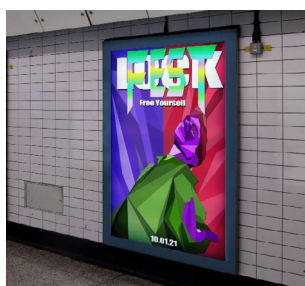
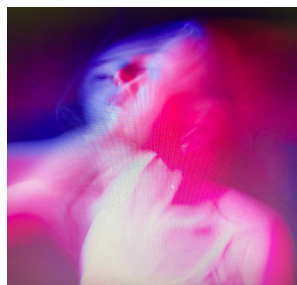
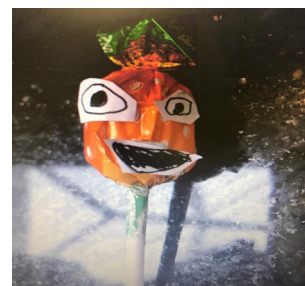
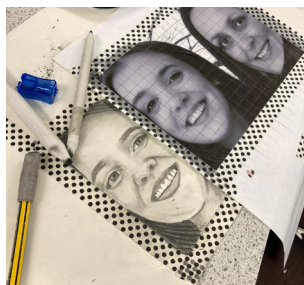






## Graphic Design and Fine Art On Display!

We have seen some fantastic Art this month. Year 11 were delighted to see their work in a 'real' gallery context and Year 8 have been creating some Louis Jover inspired backgrounds! Year 12 Photography have been looking at movement and image transfer, whilst Year 10 Fine Art have created some wonderful pieces.



## Upcoming dates for your diary

27 March: Easter Holidays

3 May: May Bank Holiday

12 April: Summer Term begins

5 May: Year 7 Parents' Evening (C,D,E,G)

12-16 April: Interform Football, Hockey and Basketball (Year 7/8/9)

11 May: Year 7 Parents' Evening (P,S,W,Y)

12-16 April: Year 9 Exam Week

17 May: Year 10 Mock Exams begin

29 April: Post 18 Options Evening (Virtual)



"Thine be the glory, risen conquering Son. Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won."

We hope you have enjoyed this edition of **INTOUCH**. Thank you for your feedback so far; please do send any further comments or suggestions to Cath Harrison ([c.harrison@staidans.co.uk](mailto:c.harrison@staidans.co.uk))