





School House Newsletter

Second half of Spring Term 2021

Although we are not yet back to our full boarding community we have enjoyed welcoming back most of our School House family over the past four weeks. The remaining international travellers are due to return in just over two weeks, ready for a busy and mostly 'normal' return to school life. We have much to look forward to and I am excited to have a full, busy and vibrant house for the Summer Term.



Following the announcement that schools could reopen from 8th March, we have had a busy four weeks readjusting to face-to-face teaching and our daily routines and enjoying reconnecting with many friends.

Our School House Double Ultra Triathlon has certainly been a highlight of these past weeks, raising a huge £1,711.00 for the boys' chosen charity, YoungMinds.





I couldn't have been more proud of everyone's efforts but a special mention must go to Jack Dormer for his epic 44km cycle. He suffered two punctures on route from his home in Beer, having finally to abandon his road bike to cycle in on his mum's mountain bike. His determination is admirable and we were all relieved to not only receive his total distance but also to see him arrive at school, albeit much later than anticipated! Seb Sanders also contributed generously to all three activities; swimming, cycling and running great distances to enable us to complete our challenge seven hours after it began. The evening KFC was well deserved and greatly enjoyed! We have also enjoyed some on-site activities this term. Sunday Segway races were a particular highlight, some of the boys surprising us with their confidence on two wheels! The annual closely contested Channon versus School House football match took place on the

Sunday just past.

The atmosphere was fantastic and, although tensions ran high, this was a wonderful reminder of competitive sport, enjoyed by both the players and spectators.

If only Sam's overhead bicycle kick had found the back of the net, we may have found the victory.

However, Channon had the flair we lacked (but made up for with effort) and were able to lift the trophy this time. Well done Channon but we'll be even more determined to win it back next year!

The lockdown period provided a little space and time to start the renovation of some of the bedrooms in School House.



Attic Flat received the first makeover (pictured below) with now much of Paradise Alley also being renovated. We are so fortunate to have such incredible and unique spaces in

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School House – it is wonderful to fully show-off what a fantastic boarding house we have and making the boys proud to call these spaces their home.

We will start putting ideas and wish lists together for the social spaces after Easter and I am hoping many of the boarders will contribute their ideas to create the final plans.

LED lighting, projector screens, wireless gaming, and comfy beanbags with an industrial theme have already been suggested by the boys – keep these ideas coming; all great so far!

Anyone who would like to design a feature wall for any of these spaces, please do send me your ideas as I want this to be a space that everyone can connect with.

Also, any parents with an eye for design, please do send me your thoughts and ideas — we have some great spaces in which to be creative! (I can always send some *before* photos of the spaces if you wish).

Although the UK would appear to be controlling the pandemic very well, with most of the population receiving vaccines and regular testing taking place in

schools, we are still aware that for some students the disruption of the past year will have caused difficulties which will continue beyond the easing of any lockdown. Please do use the many resources school has available for you on your return.

Also here is a link for a Kooth Parent and Carer Information session which you may find useful to attend on April 26th at 16:00 GMT.

Kooth is a free, safe and anonymous wellbeing support and advice platform for young people aged 11-18 who attend school in Somerset.

CLICK HERE for information.

Kooth have also created a resources and promotion hub where you can find information, help and support on a variety of issues.

Please take a look at the link by CLICKING HERE.

I have included a few photographs of the past busy few weeks and I look forward to capturing many more of the exciting activities planned for the Summer Term.

I hope you have a lovely Easter break and I look forward to seeing you all when the chocolate eggs have all been eaten!

Mrs Cooling







