



A Message from Sue Marooney, CEO DMAT and Executive Headteacher, DHS

July 2019

We have had a very busy and successful summer term which has included our students in year 11 finishing their GCSE exams and saying goodbye to Durrington High, and our year 6 students saying goodbye to The Laurels after achieving the best ever SATs results for the school. Our excellent SCITT trainees became fully-qualified teachers and several will be returning to us in September. Alongside these academic achievements, we have also had opportunities to celebrate our students during sports days, awards evenings and performances. As we come to the end of this year, I want to thank all our staff for their continued hard work to ensure our students are given every opportunity to succeed, parents and carers for their ongoing support, and our wonderful students for their hard work and dedication. I wish you all a great summer break and our year 6 and 11 students the very best of luck in September as they begin an exciting new phase of their education.



Sports day fun

Both The Laurels and DHS enjoyed fantastic sports days out on the DHS field in July. Students and staff from both schools had a great day being active and supporting their

classmates. The sun shone on both days and the students all gave their best in a range of sports including athletics track and field events and football for both schools. DHS students also played handball, volleyball and rounders and The Laurels KS1 children took part in a multi-skills event. Although competing as teams and individuals, both days were also inter-company competitions with Raleigh coming first at The Laurels and Coubertin at DHS.



Maths challenge success

Three DHS students excelled in a national maths challenge this term. Year 7 student Benjamin Norton and year 8 students Tomasz Daniszewski and Joe Thomas progressed to the 2nd round of the competition and did very well. Joe Thomas was exceptional, achieving 123/135 points and earning a merit certificate and a place in the top 25% of students across the country. He also now holds the highest score ever achieved by a DHS student.



The Laurels achieve fantastic SATs results

Congratulations to the year 6 students at The Laurels who have achieved some amazing SATs results. 81% of students achieved the expected standard in reading, writing and maths combined which is 16% above the National standard and 19% above the West Sussex average. We are very proud of our students. Huge thanks to year 6 teacher Tom Edwards and Leader of KS2 Beth Collins for their hard work and dedication in supporting and leading year 6 to achieving these exceptional results.



DHS bid goodbye and good luck to the class of 2019

Having finished their GCSE exams, year 11 students at DHS gathered together for a final assembly in which they celebrated their time at DHS, taking a trip down memory lane and hearing good luck messages from their teachers. They also gathered for their much deserved summer ball at the Avisford Park Hilton Hotel, a perfect evening and a fitting end to their four wonderful years at DHS.



Both schools take part in Race for Life



On 16th June students, staff and parents/carers from DHS entered a record-breaking team of 384 into the Worthing Race for Life. It was a great event which not only raised over £5000 for Cancer Research UK but was a great way for our students to strengthen friendships, get active and



do something amazing. Students from The Laurels also took part in Our Race for Life, competing multiple laps of an obstacle course on the DHS field which included a water slide! All students in KS2 took part and were a credit to the school, pushing themselves and having a fun time.

Enrichment opportunities

It has been a very busy term at both schools with many students taking part in enrichment activities including residential trips to the Jurassic Coast and the Isle of Wight. These opportunities give our students the chance to take their learning outside of the classroom as well as increase their independence and team building skills. The Laurels year 6 students put on an amazing production of The Greatest Showman, which was a fabulous way to end their time at the school.

DHS students also had the chance to perform at their Performing Arts celebration evening which included both drama and music. Both schools also attended the annual Eco Summit held this year at Worthing College.



SCITT trainees become teachers

Congratulations to our SCITT trainees who became fully qualified teachers

at the end of June. They have worked incredibly hard throughout the year and enjoyed a well earned celebration at The Pavilion. We are proud to be contributing to providing excellent teachers to our local community, with the vast majority of the cohort having secured a job at a school in the Worthing area, including at DHS. This term has also seen the induction day for the new cohort and we are very much looking forward to working with them.




The role of the Research School

Our Research School has come to the end of a very successful second year leading on training for teachers and schools nationally. The Research School also ensures that all teaching practice at DHS and The Laurels is informed by the very latest research evidence, which means your children are taught in ways proven to be the most effective. We are delighted that alongside the research team at DHS teachers from The Laurels will also be running training programmes from September, meaning our schools are playing a vital role in improving teaching and supporting school improvement in West Sussex and beyond.

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The Laurels
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