



COTTESMORE SCHOOL



Academic News

We are delighted to announce a 100% pass rate in the Common Entrance examinations with all candidates taking up places at their first choice schools. Well done to our leavers for their hard work and our good wishes go with them for happiness and success at their new schools. Destinations for senior Cottesmorsians for the new academic year in September include Eton, Harrow, Charterhouse, King's Canterbury, Marlborough, Oundle, St Edward's and Bryanston. Our seniors' hard work and focus has set an excellent example, not only to those who will become Cottesmore's seniors in September, but also to the younger pupils lower down the school.

Chapel

There have been a few changes to the schedule for Chapel services this year with the introduction of Exeat Friday services.



This enables the choir to perform together and gives parents a chance to come and hear them. They are going from strength to strength and have performed at the school concert as well as at a couple of 'Musical Fridays'.

Chapel continues to be a thoughtful space in which the school community can reflect on its values and look forward to times ahead.

Sports Round-Up



Our cricket teams and their coaches have been justifiably proud of some excellent results this season. Notably, the 1st & 2nd XI boys, who have won every game they have played.



Cottesmore swimmers were national winners at the IAPS National Swimming Finals at the London Aquatics Centre. There was a large squad of national qualifiers from Cottesmore and we are so proud of them all. The U11s team became national Small Schools Relay champions on the day.

The Colts A won the Lancing College U11 Cricket VIII's. Senior Boys, Senior Girls and U11s Tennis teams have won every game they have played.



Sports Day traditionally closes the first half of the summer term; our marching band were in fine form.

A fabulous family day provided a fitting finish to the first half with camaraderie and gamesmanship always to the fore. Incredibly, nine new records were set:

Zara – 400m New Record
Hattie – Javelin New Record
Zofia – High Jump New Record
Lara – Long Jump New Record
Charlotte – Triple Jump New Record
Monty – Triple Jump New Record
Genevieve – Long Jump New Record
Lily – Triple Jump New Record
Sahar – Shot Put new Record

Congratulations must go to our sports scholars, who have all been awarded full sports scholarships: Lily – Hurst, Josh – Cheltenham.

Clay Pigeon Shooting Team



The U13s opened proceedings with a very promising 10/10 on the first stand from Charlie, turning several heads – not least that of the scoring official! The team went on to produce similarly impressive results on a variety of stands including Robin's 10/10 on the driven pair and, perhaps most impressively, Tenzen's 10/10 on the rabbit and high bird combo. Both boys earned the praise of former British and world champion clay pigeon shooter Mickey Rouse.

Alejandro, Felix and Joe all had a great morning, each scoring 9/10 on some tricky stands. Our U12 side, captained by veteran Hugo, also had a terrific day missing out on first place by three shots. However, the rising stars of the day were our U11 team who won gold with Freddie coming in as the second best shot in that age category.

Well done also to Monty, Paddington, Fran, Sebastiaan and Gilo for their tremendous efforts.

Chess Team News



The U11 chess team played beautifully at the Butler Cup tournament which is the Sussex Schools Chess Tournament for primary state schools and prep schools. Cottesmore ended up in Division 1 and came fourth overall in the final. Our junior team also placed fourth in division one. Well done both teams! Sussex is renowned as one of the best counties nationally for chess, so this is a great achievement. National Chess Finalist! E played for Sussex in the National U11 Chess Finals in Nottingham and won 2 out of 3 of his games.

Arts News

The end of year Art Exhibition showcased both the hard work of the Art Scholars and also the developing talents of those in other forms. This year, the artistic talents of Uma resulted in her getting an Art Scholarship to Millfield.

Art Trips this year included;

Form 2 went to see the Hilma Af Klint and Mondrian exhibition at the Tate Modern.

Form 3 went to the Van Gogh Alive immersive experience at Brighton Dome.

Form 5/6 went to the National Gallery and solved a Who Dunit? quiz by following clues they found in the paintings.

This year's Art Scholars had a painting and picnic afternoon at the Chattri Memorial on top of the South Downs.

Visits & Lectures

Osmington Bay PGL – Devon

The Remove trip went down to the Osmington Bay PGL near Weymouth this year, and what a fun place it was! Beautiful weather, great food and brilliant activities. The activities ranged from axe-throwing, archery, fencing, high ropes climbing, zip wires, survival skills, abseiling, wall climbing and dragon-boat racing. The instructors were full of energy and verve, which was definitely the key factor in making the activities come alive. Down time was fun in the sun, and the last night down on the beach until sunset was a real highlight too. What a fabulous trip! – *Mr Andy Livermore and Miss Tilda Emlyn-Williams*

French Trip

This summer term saw the re-introduction of the 5 day, Year 7 French trip to Normandy. We were met at the hotel by Leandre who was our guide and 'animateur' for the week and who only spoke French to the children!! As ever, we enjoyed all that Normandy has to offer including sampling the local cuisine, as well as visiting places of interest including the World Heritage site of Mont St Michel, the Bayeux Tapestry and the D-Day landing beaches at Arromanches. Pupils relished the challenge of being given Euros to spend at a local market in order to buy their lunch. This resulted in the most glorious spread at a beautiful picnic site with a breath-taking view of Mont St Michel. They visited a goat farm where they not only were able to pet the goats but also had the opportunity to milk them too and sample three goats cheeses at different stages of maturity!



We went to the Château de la Baudonnière where they were taught the fine art of fencing as well as bread-making; all under French instruction! However, it was not all work work work; we did all spend the most glorious afternoon at the beach too where many holes were dug, bat and ball, frisbee and football were played! This was all topped off with a well-deserved ice-cream at the end of the day!

The children were a delight to have on the trip and the staff received a number of comments from the hotel staff about how well they conducted themselves and how polite they were. It was a privilege to run the trip and I would like to say a big thank you to the staff who came of the trip (Mr Ellis, Miss Yeates and Mr Taylor) but also to the children who were amazing! – *Mary-Anne Revill*

South of England Show

On Friday 9th June, to celebrate the end of a successful CE week the Form 5 and 6 'remove' pupils joined the 60,000 other visitors in Ardingly for the annual South of England Agricultural Show. Among the highlights of agricultural and equestrian displays were the motocross stunt displays, showjumping, scurry racing and livestock competitions in the Main Ring. Additionally, pupils were able to experience forestry, falconry, fly casting and of course, sample locally-sourced food from the many food stalls. A lovely afternoon was had by all and it was the perfect post-exam release!

Westminster Abbey

Form 4 visited Westminster Abbey in order to consolidate their study of the English Reformation. The superbly engaging Lou Cash led the education team who took us on a wonderful behind-the-scenes tour. The children were able to both visualise the changes made to the church as well as those not made due to the abbey's status as a royal peculiar. The children asked excellent questions of the staff there and really made the most of the afternoon. The timing of the trip was fortuitous as many Form 4 pupils chose to answer questions relating to the English Reformation during their end of year examinations. Having now run the trip for many years, I can honestly say that it is my absolute favourite day trip and it was enjoyed by

all pupils and staff. A huge thank you to Grace and Mr Revill who supported me on the trip this year – *Mr Ross Borthwick*

Goodwood

Form 1 went to Goodwood Estate. We started our day at the motor racing circuit, seeing fast cars on the track, and experiencing time in race control. After a hike up the Gallops to the top of the Trundle (and a much appreciated picnic!), we spent the afternoon at the farm, seeing cows being milked, making butter and also a sustainable flower pot to take home and plant – *Mr Henry De Renzy-Martin*

Fun Activities

The summer term is packed with activities and opportunities for fun and games, whatever the weather, with relaxation on Sundays 'in' high on the agenda. The children enjoyed some Sunday beach time, with a trip to Goring Beach for a picnic, dip and ice cream. Go-karting is always popular for a Sunday trip out of school but this term it's the fun activities programme in our beautiful grounds that has been very popular, they enjoyed Tag Archery and Laser Tag.



The Cottesmore Quidditch Tournament 2023 for London Prep schools was a huge success, children learnt all about 'Quidditch' from the professionals, and these sessions were interspersed with owl-training displays and other magical activities. The purpose of the Quidditch Festival was to draw communities together to have some educational fun. We were happy that so many children could come to Cottesmore's event.



Cottesmore Coronation Weekend



To honor this momentous occasion and to celebrate and commemorate a new, exciting era in history we decided to hold a series of events over the royal weekend.

The first was a Cottesmore Coronation Sporting Bonanza on Saturday afternoon. We invited our Cottesmore community to play sport all afternoon, including tennis, paddle-boarding, cricket and swimming followed by a coronation match tea.

On Sunday the school headed off to the Historic Royal Palace of Hampton Court – a most apt excursion for the Coronation weekend.

On Monday we held the Cottesmore Coronation Fete and Dog Show 2023, hundreds of dogs descended upon the 1st XI cricket pitch for an afternoon of canine shenanigans.

'Most Regal Dog', 'Waggiest Tail' and 'Best Trick' were some of the most sought-after prizes. Alongside the dog-based entertainment was a fundraising fête to raise money for our charities – The Prince's Trust and Dogs Trust. We raised £2327.70.

Celebrating the coronation instilled a great sense of tradition and history but also brought the community together in a fun and meaningful way. By taking part in the festivities, the girls and boys gained an understanding of the significance of the coronation.

A.I. Conference



On 12th May, Cottesmore hosted a free conference on the theme of artificial intelligence (A.I.). Tickets were snapped up in a day and so the Cottesmore team moved to pivot by opening it up to a live national and international online audience through a livestream broadcast. There was certainly a global buzz surrounding the event. Educationalists joined from Singapore, Scotland, Nigeria, New York, Hong Kong, Honduras and from many places in between.

Apparently the Cottesmore Free A.I. Conference is already stuff of legend.

We ended up hosting representatives from an enormous array of associations, state schools, public schools, prep schools, consultancies and government departments – it was a veritable Who's Who of the education world.

Generative artificial intelligence is increasingly being embraced due to its transformative capabilities across multiple domains. A.I. enables one to create new images, music, and even entire stories, with unsettling ease.



Complimentary access links to the talks from Cottesmore's Free A.I. Conference are available on our website.

Pre-Prep News



The Pre-prep have enjoyed a fabulous term with varied experiences through exploration of our magnificent grounds, augmenting their studies, as well as undertaking trips further afield. A super day of seaside activities and a visit to Drusillas zoo enhanced topic knowledge as well as developing outdoor learning.

Learning about Kenya, the year 1 and 2 children made links with habitats at the zoo and the year 3 children enhanced their science knowledge about anatomy of animals. The Pre-prep sports day was well received; the whole Pre-prep celebrated the King's Coronation with a super fete and dog show, and the Reception children explored some super coronation play dough. During the wonderful trip to Goring beach, the children's rock pooling enabled some close hand learning about small sea creatures. Our school lake provided a wealth of learning and a beautiful backdrop to study art, science and literacy.

Staff News: Salvete and Valete

Ross Borthwick, Fiona Borthwick-Wybar, Will Forbes, Emily Clark are moving on this term, we wish them well in their future endeavours. Our sincere thanks for their contributions to Cottesmore go with them, as well as good wishes for their new roles.

In September we welcome new members of staff: Miss Hannah Curl will be joining the team as a French teacher. Hannah is currently teaching French at Coopersale Hall Prep School Epping. Mr George Baird will be joining the team as Head of History. He is presently Head of History at King's Wimbledon Prep School. George will be moving to Cottesmore with his wife Alice. Baird, who will be teaching science in September. She is Head of Science at Eaton Square Senior School Piccadilly London.

Awards

Cottesmore was nominated for "Independent Prep School of the Year" at the 'Oscars of the Education World'. We hope that you will join us in applauding the whole Cottesmore community – girls, boys, the teaching team, parents and support team – for its wonderful nomination at the national Times Educational Supplement Awards 2023. Cottesmore is the only boarding prep school chosen for a nomination for "Independent Prep School of the Year 2023" – one of the four biggest awards of the ceremony. The event was held on Park Lane in London at The Grosvenor and included both state schools and independent schools – there was a huge buzz and a tangible frisson of national-level excitement on the night. A school in central Birmingham won the award in the end but we are still hugely honoured to have been chosen as nominees.



Gold! Cottesmore has won a gold medal at the City Kids – Green Awards 2023. Awards Judge, Melanie Sanderson, The Good Schools Guide Managing Editor, said, "Getting sustainability on the curriculum is something all schools should be considering – well done Cottesmore!" Judge Victoria Evans, City Kids Magazine Editor added, "We can't love the idea of a sustainable school farm more! What a wonderful way to learn about welfare, nature, sustainability and hard work! The fact that sustainability is now a curriculum subject is something all schools should look at.



Winners! The Cottesmore girls, boys, parents, academic team and support team have won 'Happiest Boarding School' – a wonderful, sparkly award in the boarding school category at the "Best Schools Awards 2023" run by Muddy Stilettos.

The Final Day of Term

Set matches, the tennis competition, Set music and the Leavers' play are all much-enjoyed end of term events for our pupils. One long-standing tradition is Old Cottesmorian's Day, which is held on the final Sunday of the summer term. It's always a pleasure to see recent and not-so recent leavers return for a day of friendly sporting rivalry with cricket and golf, lunch and reminiscences.

DIARY DATES – WINTER TERM

6th September	Term begins	17.30
7th September	New children arrive	11.00
15th September	Weekend Exeat begins	16.00
17th September	Weekend Exeat ends	18.30
29th September	Weekend Exeat begins	16.00
1st October	Weekend Exeat ends	18.30
13th October	Half Term begins	16.00
29th October	Half Term ends	19.00 (No Chapel)
10th November	Weekend Exeat begins	16.00
12th November	Weekend Exeat ends	18.30
25th November	Plays Weekend Exeat begins	14.00 16.30
27th November	Weekend Exeat ends	19.00 (No Chapel)
10th December	Carol Service	18.00
13th December	End of Term	11.00



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