



Eggar's School Christmas Newsletter



Headlines

I would like to start my headline autumn term review by discussing the most important people at Eggar's our students. Every time I tour the school with a visitor they comment on how good the students are. Their application, effort and focus have been superb this term. This year we have introduced a new rewards system using a software package called 'ePraise'. The amount of rewards achieved by the students this term has been fantastic and demonstrates the amount of hard work they put in.

Recently I had visits from two Head Teachers, one from a very successful state secondary school and the other from the private sector. Both were hugely impressed by our students, their manner, their uniform and their focus. Interestingly they were also 'blown away' by our school site. Visitors often remark on how well our lovely 38 acre site is maintained, and I would like to take this opportunity to mention the wonderful hard work and commitment of our site team Dave Webb and Ryan Heighes, as well as all the other staff and students who take pride in our school. In October we won the Alton in Bloom Silver Gilt for best community building Award sponsored by Alton Town Council.

This term we introduced the 'Eggar's Experience' and I am delighted with the impact it has made. We have held four Experience Club nights this term offering nearly 50 different clubs and activities. They have been attended by over 700 students and staff and they have enjoyed some brilliant activities together. This can only be good for fostering relationships, partnerships and engagement within the community.

Once again our PTA deserve a mention for their wonderful contribution to the school. We held our prom shop for the second year running. Year 11 students had the opportunity to purchase some lovely evening wear at a fraction of the cost, with over 300 dresses available as well as shoes, bags and dinner suits. A brilliant idea by the PTA and a big thank you, in particular, to Mrs Weston and Mrs Pratt.

Having had zero staff leaving at the end of the summer term, we say goodbye to Ms Debens our curriculum leader for Geography, who is relocating and has been promoted to Assistant Head teacher at a secondary school in Kent. We also say farewell and good luck to Ms Stevenson, English Teacher, who will be joining her local school, The Admiral Lord Nelson in January. I wish them both the very best of luck in their future careers. We have appointed Mr Chris Rowe as our new curriculum leader for Geography and he will commence with us after Easter 2016. We have also made a temporary appointment to cover the English position and hope to make a permanent appointment next term.

I am also delighted to inform you Hampshire County Council will be providing us with investment in our capital buildings to improve our specialised teaching and learning spaces even further. This is a really exciting opportunity for the school and I will give you more details at a later date.

Finally I would like to wish you all a very restful, enjoyable and family Christmas.

Patrick Sullivan
Head Teacher



Anstey Enclosure

Head Teacher Patrick Sullivan and Governor Jim McKell (pictured right) inspected the construction works taking place at the Anstey Park Enclosure, currently the home of Alton United Youth Football Club. When completed (by Christmas is the plan) Alton Town FC, who play at the 'Bass Ground' on the main road, will come together with Alton United Youth and play at the new Anstey Enclosure which will boast the latest 3G artificial pitch, floodlights and refurbished changing rooms. This coming together will see some 33 teams of both boys and girls from the youngest age groups through to senior non-league football competing in the Sydenhams Wessex League. Many Eggar's students are already members, players and/or supporters of both teams and will be looking forward to these enhanced sporting facilities and opportunities.



Health & Safety Compliance Award



We are pleased to advise Eggar's has achieved a 96% compliance score at its recent Health & Safety (H&S) Management Audit. The rigorous audit, conducted by H&S Consultant Ray West, measures the performance and effectiveness of the school's H&S systems. The school was marked on many areas including its H&S Policy, first aid provision, fire safety, H&S staff training and quality of its risk assessments.

We received top marks in the majority of areas, with 100% in our Welfare & Monitoring and Fire & Emergency arrangements. Ray West said "96% is a very impressive achievement, and the Head Teacher, Governors and staff who have contributed to such a result should be delighted with their

success. Health & Safety management at Eggar's School is very good and keeps continuously improving!"

GCSE Presentation Evening

We welcomed the class of 2015 to Eggar's on Wednesday 18 November to celebrate their GCSE success at presentation evening. The hall was full with proud parents, family, staff and governors. Following students receiving their GCSE certificates, special awards were presented for all subject areas. The Special Achievement Award was presented to Amy Cureton for successfully securing a scholarship through the Arkwright Scholarship Trust. The School Service Award was presented to Davis Clements for giving his own time volunteering at school events and assisting the site team. A vote of thanks was given by Head Girl, Holly Cove and Head Boy, Harry Cann with a bouquet of flowers presented to guest and former Eggar's Chair of Governors, Margaret Crowe. (Pictured right: GCSE results day)



Calling all former Eggar's students!

The Eggar's School Alumni Association (ESAA) is being launched for all our ex-students. It aims to keep everyone in touch, to share experiences, to inspire and motivate our current student body and to highlight how Eggar's shapes its students' future lives.

We hope to connect or reconnect our former students with news and regular events.

- What are you doing now?
- Do you keep in touch with your old school friends?
- What is your fondest memory of the school?
- Do you have any old photos of your time at Eggar's?

Become a part of ESAA

Simply register please visit www.eggars.net/About us/Alumni

www.eggars.net > [About us](#) > [Alumni](#)

Please spread the word and get as many of your former classmates to join.

We would love to hear from you.

Year 7 Update



What an amazing first term!

The adventure started in July when Year 6 students came to spend their first full day at Eggar's, full of enthusiasm and some nerves. At the beginning of the summer holidays most of the year group returned to Eggar's and spent two days enjoying the school in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere on our transition days where they had the opportunity to get to know each other as well as the staff. September approached and there were few butterflies but there was no need to be concerned as the year group settled in very quickly.

Year 7 are wonderful and very mature in their attitude to accepting new challenges with open minds and trying their best at everything they do. I have received many compliments from staff about the groups maturity and attitude, this bodes well for their time at Eggar's.

As you will see in this newsletter, we have had a few exciting events so far this year with fundraising for wear it pink day, charity representatives presenting an assembly to every year group and raising 159 shoeboxes to be sent to deserving children across Europe. There have also been cake sales galore raising money for charities.

This year we celebrated Eggar's Founders' Day with a service in the hall as there was too many of us to fit in Holybourne Church! The year group have also led the way in joining many of the Eggar's Experience Clubs and eight Year 7 students excelled at the Lego Mindstorms challenge. Rounding off the term we enjoyed a visit to a pantomime at the Princes Theatre, Aldershot which got everyone in the festive spirit and ready for a well deserved Christmas break.

We have lots of exciting events lined up for the year ahead. We have chosen two local charities to support so we will be looking for new ideas to raise money for them, whilst all taking part in the Eggar's Experience evenings. I will be launching the Legoland trip after the holidays which we hope to go ahead in March. In the meantime, have a great Christmas Year 7 and I look forward to seeing you in 2016!

Music for Youth Proms



On Monday 23 November 2015, a group of 58 Year 7 and 8 students performed at The Royal Albert Hall on the opening night of the Music for Youth Proms. They were joined by 25 Year 6 primary students from The Butts and Wootey's. Months of hard work and weekly rehearsals culminated in a stunning performance as part of the massed ensemble of a set of songs written by Martin Read. Sadly Martin Read passed away in 2012 at the age of just 53 whilst cycling. He was a fine composer and music educator. From 1981 he taught music in Alton, initially at Eggar's and from 1989 at Alton College. Alton College's Forum Hall has now been officially named as the Martin Read Hall.

Head of Music Services, Jill Larner, summed up the event perfectly by saying "Awesome, unforgettable, moving, superb, magical, brilliant, Martin would have loved it!"

Thank you so much to everyone involved including Mr Farris, Miss Riall and Mr Ellis who came with us on the day and all the family members who came to support us on the night.

We had wonderful feedback and wish to share this message from a Year 7 parent. "Wow!!! A massive thank you for your hard work over the last few months regarding the spectacular that was Monday night. I know how much our daughter enjoyed the experience but wanted to send our appreciation as her parents. To be able to say now and in the future that our daughter has performed at The Royal Albert Hall is priceless! It was an evening we will never forget. Thank you for giving our daughter such a special and unique experience." The students were a credit to the school with impeccable behaviour and positive energy.

Our talented musicians also wowed us on Wednesday 09 December at Eggar's Yuletide Concert with a sell out crowd of 250! We were treated to pieces performed at the Royal Albert Hall, Christmas songs, Eggar's Big Band and an awesome drumming performance by The Rhythmatists, to name a few.

Our thanks to Music Staff: Matt Farris, Olabisi Eni-Olotu, Simon Mellish, Dave Thomas, Fleur Riall, Mark Cumner and accompanist Stephen Lacey. We would also like to thank members of Eggar's PTA for providing refreshments during the interval.

To finish a busy term there was a final performance at Eggar's Advent Carol Service on Wednesday 15 December at Holybourne Church with the service taken by Reverend David Hinks.

Thank you for supporting our music events this term and we look forward to seeing you in 2016!





Senior Citizens' Christmas Party



A highlight in Eggar's School calendar at this time of year is our Senior Citizens' Christmas party. This year we were delighted to welcome 110 of Alton's Senior Citizens on Thursday 17 December to join us for an afternoon of festive activities.

The morning started with Years 7, 8 and 9 Charity Representatives decorating each of our guests tables. They had clearly taken a lot of time and trouble making decorations, placemats and crackers. Mr Sullivan judge the tables and the winners are 7CR, 8ARo and 9NL.



On arrival, our guests were greeted by our Year 10 CoPE students and served mulled wine by PTA members followed by a traditional Christmas turkey lunch with all the trimmings, compliments go to our catering department.

The afternoon continued with well known festive songs accompanied by Eggar's Music Teachers Mr Farris and Miss Eni-Olotu. Eggar's PTA kindly served afternoon tea and mince pies (donated by Iceland Foods Ltd) followed by a fantastic raffle with prizes donated by the Alton House Hotel, Marks & Spencer, Waterstones Books, Village Flowers of Four Marks, Garthowen Garden Centre, The Watercress Line and Eggar's Staff.

Our thanks also go to Ms Hey, Mrs Street, Mrs Mathieson, Mrs Cox for organising and helping with running the event. We also have to mention our fabulous site team and Top Marks for providing complementary travel. The afternoon was a huge success and we had many messages of praise for our young people from our guests. They clearly thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon at Eggar's.

Well done everyone and thank you for making it such a memorable and festive occasion.



Fun, fun, fundraising!

It has been a busy term for fundraising at Eggar's with students and staff supporting charities and eating lots of cake!

Brooke Howard 8ARo stayed after school to bake cakes for Anna's Challenges, a charity which is dedicated to raising funds and awareness for children with Cystic Fibrosis in Basingstoke and surrounding areas. Cystic Fibrosis is one of the UK's most common, life-threatening, inherited diseases, that affects more than 8,000 people in the UK. Each week five babies are born with Cystic Fibrosis and two young lives are lost. There were cakes galore on the day (pictured right) and lots of students and staff eager to buy a tasty treat. 8ARo tutor group managed to raise a whopping £94.50!

On 23 October Year 7 students (pictured below) supported **Wear it Pink Day** for Breast Cancer Care. A huge array of great costumes in pink were worn and we are delighted to announce raising £ 281.64 for this worthwhile charity.



The theme for this year's Children in Need was to dress up as your childhood hero. Students and staff had the opportunity to wear fancy dress or add something spotty. During the day there were cake sales, juke box requests and a staff netball match. As you can see from the pictures below there were many characters in school on the day from super heroes to Alice in Wonderland.



In all a whopping £1690.47 was raised. Well done everyone!



As part of the Year 11 CoPE course students completed a small enterprise project making Christmas cards. The hand made cards were on sale in the Library during December. They were very popular and sold out quickly!

Well done, Nathan Thomas, Luke Wickens, Ben Unwin, Olly Redmayne-Porter, Flo Southwell and Ben Norgate



On Thursday 26 November 13 Year 7 charity representatives loaded the school minibus and one staff car with 159 donated shoeboxes to deliver to the Samaritans Purse Warehouse in Peasmarsh near Guildford. On arrival students had the task of unloading the boxes and placing them in the sorting area. The charity reps were able to meet the volunteers who go through each box to make sure they are suitable and to monitor the contents are fairly distributed. Once this is completed they are boxed up and shipped in lorries to children who are very deprived.

Thank you for donating so many boxes this year, such a simple gift makes a huge difference.

Pictured above top with Mrs Tomkinson is William Blanchard, Rhona McKenzie, Noah Healy, Keir Wilson, Abi Phillips, Harriet Trotter, Charlie Christmas, Roan Devine, Will Lacey, Ellie Walters, Katie Handley.
By William Blanchard 7HA



Please visit ... easyfundraising.org.uk

Did you know that Easy Fundraising has raised nearly £500 for Eggar's School. Please remember to log into your favourite sites through easy fundraising this Christmas. It's very easy and you don't have to do anything other than click on the App then go to your shopping website through the site. It's completely free!

<http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/eggarschoolhollybourne>

Paris Visit

Year 10 and 11 Modern Foreign Language students had the opportunity to visit Paris in October over three nights and four days. We would like to share with you a brief account of our trip.

We were very fortunate to stay in a Chateau! Chateau de Grande Romaine. Our first day was spent visiting the Eiffel Tower. There were a few wobbly legs getting to second floor and there is now a scary glass floor on the first floor too. We enjoyed fantastic views from the top and then topped off the day with a picnic on a river boat cruising up the Seine.

Day two, Sunday, we visited the Louvre museum. We saw the very tiny, but so popular Mona Lisa. Some of the more memorable artifacts were the African Art gallery full of weird and wonderful creatures and of course the 'Venus de Milo' among many others. We had a picnic in the park, visited the Notre Dame and finally the Sacre Coeur, which was beautiful because it was Sunday Mass with nuns singing beautifully. There was time for souvenir shopping and one student had a caricature drawn by a street artist before we returned tired to the Chateau.

Monday morning was supermarket shopping for cheese and other tasty treats! We have to comment how good the food was and we even had snails served on the Saturday night for all to try. A few students had a 'snail off' and the bravest managed to eat 9 snails in total!

This is what Ffion Jenkins, Amy White and Ben Hudgell had to say about the trip.

"The four days we spent in Paris were the best; going on trips to the Eiffel Tower, the Louvre and having a boat trip on the River Seine. I hope I can do it again."

"Paris was great because everyone got on together and the accommodation and staff were great too but I would say the scenery we saw was excellent. Even though there were a lot of steps up to the top of the Eiffel Tower, it was amazing. In the Louvre I was shocked by how small the Mona Lisa was but it's such a beautiful painting. I would definitely recommend this trip."

"Paris was an excellent city, full of historic landmarks and many amazing places. In the Louvre the Mona Lisa is in fact smaller than I imagined, it even has an entire wall to itself."

Thank you to accompanying staff and students for a memorable trip

Mrs C Heslop, MFL Teacher



Lego League Bronze Award

In September Mrs Larkin, Design & Technology Teacher and Year 7 Progress Leader launched a new and exciting venture, to enter a team into the notoriously challenging Lego League Mindstorms Competition.

This year the challenge was called 'Trash Trek'. Having advertised for applicants, 30 students applied from which 10 were chosen. Team Squid Squad, consisting of Daniel Bates, James Brand, Thomas Rouse, Joe Tynan, Tom Stratton-Brown, Connor Hunnisett De'Aath, Thomas Metts, Andrew Robertson, Samuel Ayache-Walker and Zachary Rhodes set about working out all the many and complicated rules and challenges. There are projects to prepare as well as the robot programming to conquer. The team rose to the challenge valiantly ending up mid field on the day. The competition itself was held at Winchester Science Centre where 23 teams competed from primary and secondary schools. It was intense with 3 rounds, time in between to rebuild and re-programme the robots. The teams also had to present their project and were interviewed for their core values. As a bonus they got the opportunity to be interviewed for their Science Crest Award – they were successful and received a Bronze award. Although victory was not ours this year, they tripled their score through the day and also learnt a great deal. They returned to school brimming with enthusiasm for Lego Mindstorms programming and we look forward to the next challenge to be launched in August. 2016!

We would like to thank Veolia UK for their support with the students' project, the team visited their recycling plant near Alton and invited Darren Carling and Paul Marsh back to Eggars to see what the team had been working on, they were really inspired by their involvement. We would like to encourage local primary schools to get involved and we hope to support them with setting up their projects.



Next year we would welcome some extra help from parents. If you have an interest or knowledge in robotics/programming and have an hour or two spare once a week/fortnight/a month to come and work with our students, then please get in touch. We will be starting Mindstorms Club up again after Christmas so others can come along and have a go and get ready for next year's competition which will be launched in August.

Please contact Mrs Larkin via email elarkin@eggars.hants.sch.uk if you would like to get involved with this very exciting venture.

We Remember...



As part of Remembrance Day, Connor Russell 11JO and his family (pictured above) delivered poppies to Downing Street with the Royal British Legion. Thank you also to Harry Cann, Head Boy (pictured right) for playing the last post during Eggar's two minute silence on Wednesday 11 November.

Ypres Visit

On the morning of Tuesday 10 November Year 9 History students arrived at school at 07:00 in the morning to leave on our battlefield trip in the Somme and Ypres.

The majority of the first day was spent travelling, until reaching the first stop: the Somme. It was a rather plain and agricultural area, making it impossible for us to believe the amount of death and destruction that took place 100 years ago. We stopped at a few cemeteries before arriving at the battlefield which. We trudged up the muddy hill that was the Somme. There was also a cemetery on top, with stones laid flat. We questioned this, but were told this was placed over the German trenches.



We returned and set off for Theipval memorial which had the names of 72,000 plus unidentified bodies killed in the battle of the Somme. This was very shocking and certainly a big eye opener.



We left Theipval and headed for our hotel, where we would go for a nice meal and stay the night. We emerged from our rooms the next morning bright and early ready for the day ahead. This then brought the 2 hour coach journey to Belgium. When we arrived, we went straight to the Passchendaele museum which was very interesting and had trenches that resembled those on the Battlefield!



After Passchendaele, we headed to two other cemeteries: Langemark and Tyne Colt. Langemark is the only German First World War cemetery in the Flanders area. It contained over 44,000 buried soldiers, which we couldn't even try to comprehend. It was very plain, as all you could see were thousands of marble slabs laid neatly across the ground.



We then took a short drive to Tyne Colt, a British cemetery which was an incredible sight. There were just rows and rows of gravestones and a huge memorial. Although Tyne Colt was ten times as impressive as Langemark, it had just under a quarter of the soldiers buried there to Langemark. This really made us step back and think of what sort of massacre this war was. So many young lives wasted for absolutely no reason, no reason at all.

After all of us reflected, we drove to Ypres and dropped our bags off at the hotel. We went into Ypres, had our meal and then walked to the incredible Menin Gate, where the remembrance service was held. While the marching band echoed throughout the whole area, it really struck home as you could see people from all over the world, French, German, English, Belgians, and others gathering to one place, just to commemorate those who gave their tomorrow for our today. Atticus Broughton and Rachel Hannan, on the behalf of Eggar's, laid a wreath.



The following morning, after breakfast we left for the 'In Flanders's Field Museum'. After having the opportunity to explore we were able to see data base records of fallen soldiers and where they were buried. Joe Gladman managed to find out lots of information about his y great uncle, Herbert Blunson!



Following lunch we walked to the chocolatiers near the Menin Gate, which put a smile on everyone's face! After eating too many chocolates and sweets we wanted to have another good look around the Menin Gate. Lewis Burton had the goal of finding his great uncle, Private George Raymond Bezant of the Sussex Regiment, on the memorial. As you can see pictured right, Lewis was very proud to find his relative ion and laid a poppy in his memory.

It was nearing the end of our trip but we had one more stop before we left for the Eurotunnel: Essex Farm. This was a dressing station and cemetery where John McCrae wrote the famous poem, In Flanders Field. In the cemetery, there was one particular gravestone that stood out. This was of Valentine Joe Strudwick, a boy that died at the age of 15 on the battlefield.

After having a long look around we said our final goodbyes to Belgium
By Joe Gladman and Lewis Burton 9NL



TIMES TABLES ROCK STARS



Times Table Rock Stars was launched for Year 7 two weeks before half term. Students learn their tables and complete written tests four times a week both in Tutor time and Maths lessons. The aim is for all students to be able to answer any times table question in under three seconds. If they can do this they can be called a Times Table Rock Star. Students have created a Times Table

avatar and can go online to practice their tables at home. There are league tables for students who practice the most and also for the average speed they take when answering questions.

The first spot prizes were awarded in assembly. The 20 students who had practiced the most were awarded with Top Rocker badges. The top two students, Charlotte Buxton and William Egginton, were also presented with Rock Stars note books. As was Joshua Birch for topping the speed league table with an average time of 1.6 sec for each question in his last 10 visits.

The secret to learning your tables is the same for learning a musical instrument. Practice makes perfect. To be a Times Table Rock star go online and practice, practice and then practice a little more!



Drama update

On return from the summer break you may recall the rain storms we experienced in the area. Unfortunately during this bad weather the drama studio was flooded and the damage was very serious. For nearly six weeks there were dehumidifiers in the Drama Studio and a Portacabin installed as a temporary classroom.

Finally, after lots of hard work from everyone involved, Mrs Lambourne was able to cut the red ribbon and officially open the refurbished Drama Studio.

By Oli Morgan 9NW



The disruption to the Drama Studio did not deter Eggar's Upper School students' production of William Shakespeare's Twelfth Night for three nights this term. It was a fantastic production with lots of twists, turns and plenty of comedy.

The cast was a mixture of Year 9, 10 and 11 students and a number of them were making their debut on our stage. I was very proud of how they all took on the Shakespearean language with ease, committing to every aspect of the story and their characters. When deciding to perform Twelfth Night we knew we wanted to do something different so we added a Greek Chorus. The chorus did a superb job of telling the story and staying in time, moving and speaking as one.

However the show would not have been possible without the addition of our other volunteers and helpers. Well done to Sophie Spearing for being an excellent stage manager and Tom Synge, Josh Perignon, Oscar Eastman Dale, Josh Brindley, Oli Morgan, Hildie Bowden and Dylan Milner for their excellent work front and back of house and on all the technical elements.

We are looking forward to hosting another production very soon for you all to enjoy.



The Eggar's Experience

The Eggar's Experience Club afternoon was launched in September and has seen four sessions running. We have had all manner of clubs being offered from Amnesty International Youth Group to War Games. In fact, we have 45 different clubs on offer to students. Uptake has been especially pleasing, with over 700 students attending!



In the New Year, we will have a further seven opportunities, listed below, for students to take part in something new, so make a note of the dates in your diaries!

12th	January
2nd	February
15th	March
12th	April
3rd	May
14th	June
12th	July



Student achievements



At the end of Year 9, GCSE Textiles students were given the opportunity to enter a competition to win a sewing machine. The competition for students in Hampshire was to make and decorate a dress from a pillowcase. The aim is to bring dignity and pleasure to little girls in Africa as part of a worldwide project. The simple premise is that every girl deserves at least one dress.

'These dresses are so much more than just something to wear to be pretty. They are also a protection to show that they are cared for and loved. These dresses go as little Ambassadors to plant in the hearts of little girls that they are worthy.'

There were 160 entries from Hampshire secondary schools and on Monday 19 October there was a presentation evening at the Holiday Inn, Winchester. Prizes were presented by the Lady Mayor of Winchester to the winning school. We were thrilled when Emily Dowds 10MF (pictured left with Mr Sullivan) won a sewing machine. Before the dresses are taken to the Gambia they were showcased at an evening event arranged by Winchester College of Art.

Mrs L Glennie
Textiles Teacher

The Design & Technology department are currently displaying a range of incredible results of Year 7 students' Project Style Homework. Students were given the task of undertaking a 'Product Analysis' of any item of their choice. They researched existing products, analysed their specifications and presented their findings with a final choice of the best product. The results were outstanding. Well done Year 7!



On Wednesday 11 November nineteen Year 11 students were awarded their Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze Award at the regional DofE Awards Ceremony, held at The Petersfield School, Petersfield. The group had embarked on, and successfully completed, a journey that lasted 12 months and encouraged them to learn new skills, take up new sports, work with an organisation as a volunteer and complete two outdoor expeditions each lasting two days in duration. They attended weekly planning and skills training sessions and took part in a range of outdoor navigation exercises. The camaraderie and team work that they developed, helped each team (up to seven in a team) to excel when it came to the navigation and camping aspects of the expeditions. Both the expedition assessors remarked on how well the students had worked as a team and how their enjoyment and good humour, plus shared support for each other, was evident throughout the assessed expedition weekend.

Their individual and team determination to succeed and their willingness to work hard, shows that they have developed an attitude of mind that will help them to succeed in their lives post Eggar's. They now know what it is like to face a significant and prolonged challenge and overcome that challenge. There were a few mistakes along the way, but together they put right these mistakes and learnt from the experience. They all have a collection of memories that will stay with them forever, and perhaps these will help to guide them in whatever the future might have in store for them.

I would like to congratulate each and every one for what they have achieved, and I trust that this is just the start of their DofE adventure.

Pictured below receiving their Bronze DofE Award certificates at the DofE Awards Ceremony with the guest speaker, Andrew Kelsey, British Paralympic Cyclist. From left to right – back row – Neelesh Prasad, Jamie Kirkwood, James Bernhardt, Jack Ballard, George Robinson, Edward McKenzie, Adam Bannister, George Feeney (just in shot), Tim Hallett, Jack Siers; Front row – Beth Garrett, Isobel Morris, Joe Toff, Elliot Milner, Roman Shkunov, Katie Stokes, Darcy Cureton, Becca Brislen, Lucy Steadman.

Good luck and well done to them all, Mr Foley.

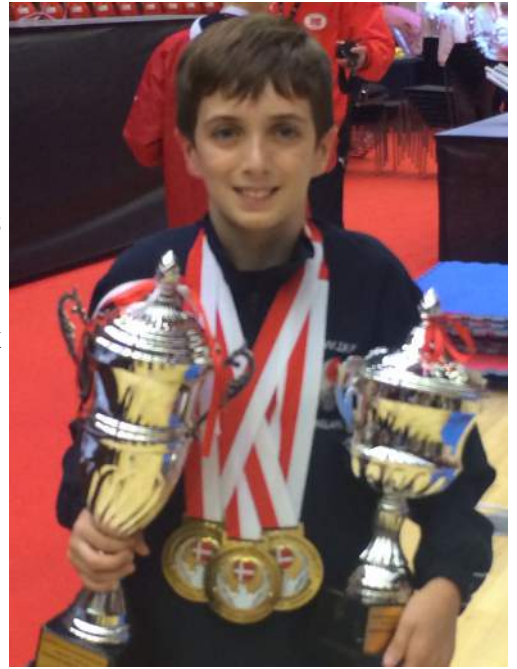


Well done to Eggar's talented Art students (current and 2015 leavers) who entered Alton Art Society's annual children's section competition. The prize giving ceremony took place at the Assembly Rooms on Saturday 10 October with prizes given in the following categories:

- Year 7 Abigail Ward 3rd
Douglas Ginn 2nd
- Year 9 Holly Cove 3rd
Isobel James 2nd
Leah Foulds 2nd
- Year 11 Amy Corlett 1st Papier mache sculpture
Alice Farrington 3rd Papier mache sculpture
Amy Cureton 1st Craftwork

Sporting Achievements

Jacob Fairhead 7LG (pictured right) is now a double gold European Karate Champion, and just 11 years old! Jacob's very proud parents said 'To watch whilst your child is on the podium being presented with gold medals and trophy, to have the National Anthem played with the whole stadium standing to acknowledge your child's achievement, words cannot explain.' Elder brother Charlie, an ex-Eggar's student, flew back from Dubai where he is now living and working as a Karate instructor, to also compete at the event. He also took double gold! A richly deserved congratulations to the whole family!



Jacob Roberts 10LD (pictured left) achieved his red belt in Tae-Kwon Do and had the opportunity to train with the England TKD team. Jacob is pictured being presented with his belt. Well done Jacob.

We would also like to congratulate sister and brother Holly Dowds 11CDa and Benjamin Dowds 8MG. Holly competed in Barcelona recently playing hockey for Great Britain and came second! Benjamin achieved his personal goal for this year in breaking into the top 10 in the UK British Gymnastics Championships. He finished 8th overall in the competition for his age category, that is up from 18th place the previous year!

Ryan Martin 7NE (pictured right) ran in the South of England Road relay championships. His team consisted of 4 under 13 year old boys and they came first winning gold! This was Ryan's first major championship and although he was nervous at the prospect he was cheered on by his grandad and appeared in the local press. Ryan's next competition was the Birmingham National Road Relay where he came 5th in his field of 72 teams. The teams were from all over the country including Cornwall, Kent, East Midlands and Yorkshire. On 10 October he competed individually in the Hampshire Cross Country Competition and came 1st in a field of 94 Year 7 and 8 runners. This was a particularly special day as not only was it Ryan's birthday but his grandparents from Cornwall were also there to watch him compete.





After excellent attendance at training sessions and huge commitment from the Year 7 boys throughout September and October, Eggar's Year 7 rugby team had their first fixture on 22 October. This is the first Year 7 rugby fixture that Eggar's has participated in for over 8 years!

Two mixed ability teams were assembled and played both Perins Community School and Amery Hill Secondary School in a triangular tournament, which was held at

Eggar's. The mini tournament involved nearly 60 pupils across the three schools respectively.

Game one saw Eggar's (1) beat Perins 20 – 0 with Luke Kerreti starring and scoring 3 out of the 4 tries.

Game two saw Eggar's (2) beat Amery Hill 15 – 0 with Matt Salisbury scoring 2 and George Kitchen scoring 1.

Game three saw Eggar's (1) also beat Amery Hill 15 – 0 with Nathan Lenox scoring 2 of the 3 tries.

Game four resulted in a draw between Eggar's (2) and Perins 5 – 5 and after going down by 1 try to 0 the boys showed excellent perseverance to come back. Matt Salisbury's try assured that Eggar's remained undefeated across both teams. A phenomenal performance by all of the boys involved, with great achievements surely to come for the rest of the season and for future years.

Many thanks to the Alton RFC coaches that provided assistance, which enabled the day to go ahead.

Karate Gold!

Former Eggar's student Terry Brigdale, recently represented England in the Wado Karate European Championships in Denmark and won two gold medals for his country. He has represented Wado International Karate-Do Federation at England level for six years and all-styles England squad for one year. Terry is a part of the SU-HA-RI school of Wado-Ryu Karate which trains at Alton Sports Centre and in many towns in the surrounding area. Terry gave us some insight into the competition and his success at the championships:

'I competed in the all-styles junior European championships in February in Switzerland which gave me good experience and I learnt a lot from competing at the highest level. I took this experience through to the championships in Denmark which was my first major senior competition (18+).'

He explained that there were over 600 entries from 17 countries across Europe which was one of the biggest events in the history of WIKF. Terry participated in four events in the competition and won gold in kata which is the detailed choreographed patterns of movements practised in martial arts. He also won a gold medal as part of the male team kumite (freestyle) fighting. The next WIKF European championships will be held in Rotterdam later in 2016 for which Terry hopes to be selected. He explained that 'soon I will be taking part in selection for the under 21 category for the junior Europeans next year, and participating in more selections to compete internationally on the senior squad.'

Terry is in his second year at Alton College and is studying A level Biology, PE and Psychology. He is currently in the process of applying to study to become a chiropractor at the McTimoney College of Chiropractic in Oxfordshire.



England Under 19s Captain



We are delighted to report former Eggar's School and Alton College student, Brad Taylor (pictured above), was recently named Captain of England Under 19s by the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) for their tour against Sri Lanka and India in Colombo.

In a recent interview Brad talked about college and his sporting future. 'I loved my time at Alton College and my tutors were always really helpful, giving me work to complete if I was away playing for England. I'm really grateful for their help as all my hard work has paid off and I'm ready for the challenge of leading the Under 19s squad!' he explained.

Brad said: 'Growing up I always had a cricket bat or ball in my hands. I started playing cricket locally at Holybourne Cricket Club and it went on from there. Having the chance to lead the team in Sri Lanka is fantastic, I'm looking forward to it.'

During Brad's time at College, he studied the BTEC Extended Diploma in Sport and achieved Distinction* Distinction* Distinction* alongside his England commitments.

A former teacher commented 'Brad showed confidence throughout his time at College and a high level of intelligence. He has passion for cricket and a determination to get to the top. He was a pleasure to teach.'

England Development Programme Chairman of Selectors, David Graveney, said: 'The tour to Sri Lanka before Christmas represents the last chance for the players to impress ahead of the final selection of the squad for the ICC Under-19 World Cup in Bangladesh in January and February next year. Adding: 'We have selected a strong squad based on performances against Australia Under-19s this summer, alongside giving opportunities to a couple of players who haven't featured at this level before'.

Find out more about studying Sport at Alton College by visiting www.altoncollege.ac.uk/sixth-form

The Odyssey Comes to an End



Sometimes you have to accept that a team is better than you on the day. After awesome wins against Warblington and Bohunt, the U16 Rugby squad found this out on Friday 11 December against an excellent Bishop Challenor team.

The squad has been forged from several different metals: steel, (quick) silver and that extremely rare, but immensely valuable metal, *nevergiveupium*. This unique alloy saw the team progress to the semi-final of a County competition. If you consider the lack of rugby experience (some of the squad had never played a competitive game before this year!) this achievement is to be highly commended. The pride they showed for the shirt was a joy to behold, and hopefully, this will inspire other year groups to follow their lead.

Well done boys, you did yourself (and the School) proud.

Mr Laycock, Assistant Head Teacher



HOLYBOURNE CRICKET CLUB

Indoor cricket coaching at Eggar's School every Monday in the Sports Hall

Come along for a try for £3 per session or £25 for all 10 sessions on:

11 January – 8 February

22 February – 21 March

Year 7 & below 18:00—19:30 / Year 7 & above 19:30—21:00

Run by 3 ECB Qualified Coaches

Our club motto translates as 'Play and Enjoy', and hopefully you will!

For further information contact:

Rob Milner : robmilner72@gmail.com 07752 887318

Steve Cann : steve.cann@bmwfin.com 07815 372968

Chairman Peter Robinson, 9 Downs View, Holybourne, Hampshire GU34 4HY

The PTA has already been busy this term supporting various events in school from fundraising, to supporting staff and providing hospitality for parents, students and visitors.

You will have seen us at Open Mornings, a 'Teacher Meet' event, GCSE Presentation Evening, Prom Shop, the Twelfth Night performances and of course the Yuletide Concert and Senior Citizens' Christmas Party.

For Year 11 students, the Prom Shop was hugely popular. As you can see from the photographs below, there were many beautiful dresses and accessories on sale. We look forward to seeing some the dresses worn at the Leavers' Prom in the summer.



During non-uniform day on Friday 11 December, raffle tickets were sold to students and staff to win 'Edgar' bear. We are pleased to announce the winner was Mrs Robertson. She may need another seat at the table for Christmas lunch this year!



We are also delighted to be able to give a cheque to the PE Department for £605, to help build on a very successful year of sport, meeting the cost of affiliations and competition entry fees across a wide range of sports. These funds are only a part of what the PTA has raised from successful fundraising efforts over the last year.

Please can you help Eggar's School with the following:

Prom Shop: we urgently need to restock with dresses in all sizes and also men's suits- donations of good quality used items are welcome. We also accept good used shoes, ties and accessories including jewellery (but not earrings). The Prom Shop will be re-run in the Spring.

Bags2 School: we will be taking donations of fabric and clothing. This will be on specific dates for each year group to coincide with Parents Evenings and the Year 8 Options Evening. Please watch out for the best date for you. The PTA will be on hand to take your donations. Many thanks!

Easyfundraising: Please don't forget this over the Christmas period if you shop online join the Eggar's easyfundraising effort. It's easy to do, won't cost you a penny and can help raise hundreds of pounds for the school. Simply visit the website at www.easyfundraising.org.uk and search for "Eggar's School".

Finally, if you are able to help out at an event or with the specific requests above, please contact the PTA via email into@eggarsschoolpta.co.uk or via the school office. We are able to collect any donations by arrangement, if required.

Many thanks for your continuing support and we all wish you a very Happy Christmas!

Helen Bristow

Chair (Elect), Eggar's School PTA

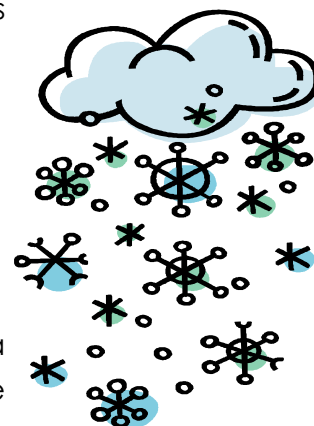


In the event of bad weather

In the event of bad weather please assume the school is open unless you gain information by:

- www.hants.gov.uk/education/schoolclosures
- Schoolcomms text/email message from Eggar's
- Eggar's website www.eggars.net
- Local radio stations

If the weather takes a turn for the worse during the school day and a decision is made to close the school early, you will be contacted by the school office, **NOT** via your child using their mobile telephone.



We look forward to seeing you for the start of the spring term on Monday 04 January 2016

The remaining Inset Days are on Monday 25 January and Friday 29 April

For a full calendar of events and school holidays please visit www.eggars.net