



A National Leader

Upper Sixth Student Maddy Pickering is very excited about being appointed the Co-leader of the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain. Maddy has played in the orchestra as first violin for just a year and enjoys the huge symphonic sounds. The orchestra, made up of 160 of the best young musicians in the country, changes its membership every year to bring new energy and life to classical music. They play in some of the most prestigious venues in the country including the Barbican and the Albert Hall.

The National Youth Orchestra have much respected Alumni who now lead some of the best orchestras in the world such as the Halle Orchestra and the Berlin Philharmonic. The development of orchestral leaders has often been a side effect of the NYO activity in the past but is now seen as one of the most valuable functions of bringing young people together to make a positive impact. To be chosen as a Co-leader of the National Youth Orchestra is an honour indeed and is testament to Maddy's talent and commitment; as is the offer of scholarships to study as an undergraduate at the Royal Academy of Music and the Northern College of Music from September 2015.

NEWS

Pitching to Parliament



November 2014

Four students made their way to Westminster to pitch their ideas on how to use technology and social media to engage young people in politics.

The group made the College and their Politics teacher very proud as they impressed the teams from schools and colleges with their well prepared presentation.

[Read more](#)

ClassAction Sensation



Second half of the Autumn Season

As always, ClassAction have had a busy and exciting season. The highlight was Shakespeare's tragedy Romeo and Juliet, which not only sold out for three nights at Studio 816 but also toured the Waverley Federation Schools, providing workshops for years 10 and 11. imagiNation provided an eclectic mix of dance, performance and song, Head of Drama, Andrew Pullen said 'it was a wonderful to see our students exploring classic texts and taking that into their performance practice.' The season has ended on a high with 80 year 9 students from the Waverley Federation joining College students for an Acting Up day of Mime, Mask Work, Voice Work, Devising and Physical Theatre - followed by a visit from Waterloo Road's Justin Fitzgerald (ex-student Max Bowden) to provide inspiration for young practitioners. ClassAction have now stated their pre-production work of the contemporary feel-good musical 'Sunshine on Leith'.

[Read more](#)

Dan and Friends

21st January 2014



Dan Eley, an ex-student of Godalming College works tirelessly to raise funds for children in some of the most dangerous and impoverished areas of Latin America, despite being paralysed from the shoulders down. A group of current students known as the Friends of Dan are currently supporting the work of the Dan Eley Foundation and helping at fundraising events throughout the community. The commitment of the students, led by upper sixth student Tessa Duncan, has contributed to the enormous success of the project this year.

[Read more](#)

A Musical Christmas



10th December 2014

Over 100 students performed brilliantly at the 2014 Christmas Concert and gave the 200 plus audience a night they will remember. "We don't believe in giving our students easy music to perform and yet they always rise to the challenge with enthusiasm and energy"

[Read more](#)

Working in Armentières



December 2014

At the end of November, eighteen A2 students packed their bags and left for a week of work experience in the town of Armentières in North East France. Everyone was incredibly nervous waiting at the station to meet our individual *familles d'accueil*, with whom we would be spending the next week.

Depending on their work placement, students either visited Lille on Monday or Wednesday. When they met up everyone found it very strange to be speaking in English again, but it was reassuring to be able to compare experiences. We all sampled some of the *chocolat chaud* in a *café* – made by mixing melted chocolate and hot milk! Lille is also host to a Christmas Market during November and December, and so everyone went to have a look, and to try some of the delicacies available! We all met up in the evening for a meal at a *crêperie*, which was delicious!

Thursday and Friday everyone went back to work. On Friday evening, the last night in France, the group all went bowling together with some of the host families and even one student's teacher from their placement! Overall the week was a huge success, and everyone who took part would definitely agree.

What an Achievement



November 2014

In November a group of students ran a Quiz Night at the College as part of their Travel and Tourism course. A very successful evening raised £928 for the charity, Victoria's Promise, which supports young women who are undergoing cancer treatment.

[Read more](#)

HAVE YOUR SAY



Surrey's Transport Consultation

Closing date 2nd February 2015

If you live in Surrey and have a view on bus travel - including your route to College - please fill in the consultation questionnaire from Surrey County Council. It is important to ensure that in the coming review of local transport that all the needs of the community are met.

[Read more](#)



Drop the Learning Tax

Closing date 3rd March 2015

Unlike schools and academies the Government does not refund VAT costs of Sixth Form College, leaving them with less money to

spend on the education of students. They are also being hit by a 15% cut in student funding - the ability to claim back VAT would help. Sign the e-petition if you agree.

[Read more](#)

NEWS OF EX- STUDENTS

Top in the Country

Dec 2014



Congratulations to Haruka Kobayashi who was the highest scoring student in the whole of England and Wales taking the WJEC A level Biology exam in the summer of 2014. Haruka celebrated with other top achieving students at an awards ceremony in Cardiff this month, which was organised by the Welsh examining board.

Photograph shows Haruka studying in the social study area before her A level exams.

Birdsong tour involves ex-student Max Bowden

At the Yvonne Arnaud 16th - 21st March 2015



Max Bowden's debut series of Waterloo Road is almost coming to an end but you will have the chance of visiting the theatre to see him in his next venture as one of the cast members of Sebastian Faulk's Songbird. The critically acclaimed stage show is touring the country to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the First World War and will be visiting the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre in March.

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