

THE HARROVIAN


Educational Excellence *for* Life and Leadership



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MESSAGE FROM OUR HEAD MASTER



Dear Harrow Appi Community,

Each edition of 'The Harrovian' is an enjoyable opportunity for us to reflect on the term that is drawing to a close. The content of this second edition demonstrates two points; firstly the range and value of the many educational opportunities being provided by the school and secondly, the engagement and involvement of our students. In several areas of this issue, our students provide the summaries you read, and really focus on the unique learning environment we are blessed to have at Harrow Appi.

The first White Season has proven to be a great success, with our Alpine Academy allowing the instructors utilising a snow sports curriculum to support their progress in their alpine skills. The progress made by our students has been amazing, as demonstrated by the recent House Gate Racing Event, and the Japan Cup against other schools at the weekend. It's also wonderful to see the bonds that have formed between students, beaks and our alpine instructors.

I cannot fail to mention our inaugural White Long Ducker which was a wonderful morning on Batting and around the golf course on snowshoes; a first for the Harrow Family! Masamune House just took the overall victory in this fundraising event. All proceeds will be donated to the 'Make a Wish Foundation' of Japan. As you will read, although we are up in the mountains, this has not hindered the broader education of our young Harrovians. We have welcomed a range of guest speakers to our school, from Harrow UK alumni (Old Harrovians) to well-known chefs and authors, which has sparked the interest of many of our students, in unexpected ways. And we mustn't overlook our incredible beaks who have been hosting

weekly 'Thursday Talks' discussing topics that they are particularly passionate about. The art of educating young minds involves teasing out new interests to keep our students engaged and eager to learn.

The Houses are central to life in Harrow Appi, with our dedicated HMs providing a home from home for each student. The HMs are so fortunate to have the fantastic support network of our parents, who trust them and have provided the school with invaluable feedback during this term of consolidation. Related, we are grateful to all parents who completed the Parent Survey this term; a further source of invaluable feedback.

Finally, I would like to say a huge 'thank you' for the hard work of our students/your children this term; they are really starting to become young Harrovians. A Harrow student exemplifies the Harrovian values of Courage, Honour, Humility and Fellowship. When I walk around campus, I can see students pushing their comfort zones, representing their school with pride, capping beaks when passing, helping each other and generally becoming well mannered, happy members of the learning community which is our school. I could not ask for more!

Best wishes

Mick Farley
Founding Head Master

CELEBRATING DIVERSITY



KAKIZOME: THE FIRST WRITING OF THE YEAR

On 14 January, the Languages Department celebrated 'Kakizome', meaning 'The First Writing of the Year' in recognition of the Japanese tradition of writing kanji to welcome in the New Year. The event was held in Speech Hall for Year 9 Japanese students who produced some wonderful and original calligraphy known as 'shodo', the art of writing decorative handwriting or lettering with a pen or brush.

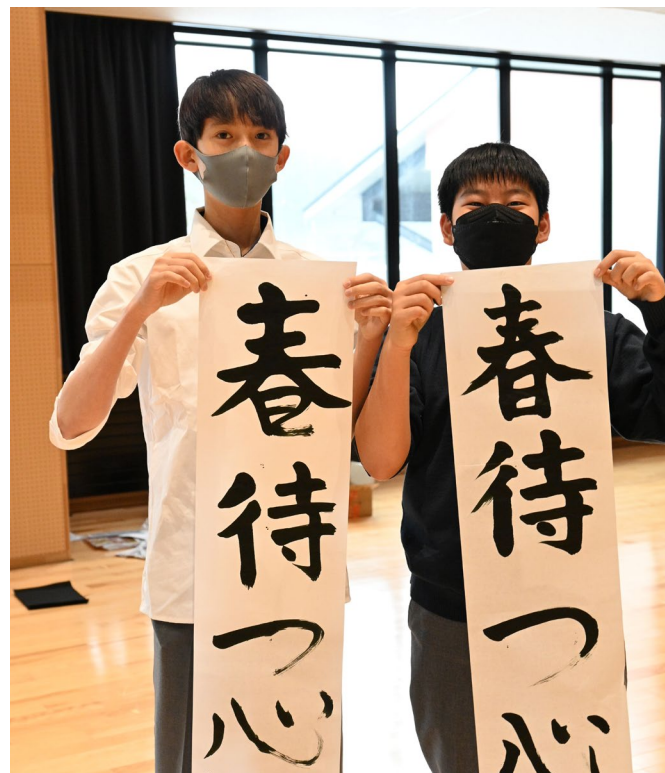
Kakizome was, and still is, a special Japanese ritual where people clear their mind and focus on expressing their determination for the year using a combination of kanji characters. The Year 9 students thoughtfully identified their own wishes and resolutions for the year ahead and then conveyed these using appropriate kanji. They were taught how to hold the fude (calligraphy brush pen) correctly; dip the tip into a pool of ink (sumi-e); make steady controlled strokes; and consider every detail so that the ritual took the form of a spiritual meditation. After much discussion amongst the students, the most popular kakizome kanji was judged to be: 有言実行 (ゆうげんじっこう- yuugenjikko which translates literally as 'perform what you have said' or more naturally as 'definitely do what you say you are going to do (this year)'.

Students' calligraphy writing skills improved markedly with each piece of work and by the end they were writing excellent kanji, demonstrating impressive balance, control and technique.

Hana said, "There are many celebrations going on during the New Year's holiday and I think it is a perfect time during the beginning of the year to decide what I want to accomplish this year so I really enjoyed writing kanji to best capture my ideas."

Fumino added, "I wanted to write down my New Year's resolution on paper as I think I am more likely to achieve my goals if I focus my mind on written kanji."

All the students voiced their appreciation to Sakai sensei and Ikeda sensei for their careful preparation and for giving them ideas, support and guidance throughout the whole morning in what proved to be a hugely enjoyable and rewarding experiences for the students.



THE YEAR OF THE RABBIT

Chinese New Year fell on 22 January and the Chinese Department led many celebratory events to mark this important festival in recognition of the many customs which express best wishes for the year ahead.

Our Chinese students enjoyed decorating their Houses with red lanterns, red spring couplets, paper cuttings and beautiful Chinese characters depicting their hopes and dreams. As 2023 is the Year of the Rabbit, rabbit images drawn on these decorations is seen as a way of praying for longevity, health and peace. The HMs helped students embrace the festive spirit further with additional activities such as making Chinese dumplings, much to the delight of the students.

Throughout the week, students hosted games stalls in the Curie Building Chopstick Marble Picking and Ping Pong, which were immensely popular. These games were part of the overall interhouse competition, making the challenge even more fierce.

Students also took part in the interhouse Red Pocket Hunting Game whereby 30 red pockets were hidden around the Curie Building. In addition, Ms Cheng and Ms Du held the teapot making and Chinese tea tasting in the Chinese classrooms and students were able to dress up in bright Chinese costumes.

The variety of activities that were organised on campus were not only to celebrate the festive spirit, but also to raise funds for the Iwate Learning Hope Fund. We hosted a red pocket delivery allowing all members of the school community to send gratitude to their friends and favourite Beaks. During this activity, students and staff raised over 50,000 JPY to support Iwate students in need, enabling them to buy teaching materials and uniforms, as well as participating on school trips.

Finally, during our Chinese New Year themed assembly, students were able to showcase their talents. Amy played the piano and Helena played the guzheng. This was followed by traditional Chinese dancing and some entertaining acting by Lower and Upper Prep students, playing several roles, which highlighted the main Chinese New Year traditions of cleaning the house to prepare for the New Year; shopping in New Year's Street markets and spending generously; family reunion dinners with family photos; and New Year greetings. Lily, Mola, David and William did a wonderful job as MCs with William explaining the six luckiest Chinese zodiac signs and the personality traits of those people born in the Year of the Rabbit.

The staging of such a fabulous event involving so many students in a spirit of fun was due to the tireless efforts of Ms Cheng and Ms Du with deep appreciation to Mr Corrigan and Ms Azumi who devoted their time and energy to ensuring that the assembly was such a success.





ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

MATHS OLYMPIAD



the core values is Courage. I am encouraged to try to not be afraid to make mistakes. I really enjoy Maths lessons with Mr Early, I listen well and follow his instructions, as well as completing my homework on time. He also offered many useful maths learning skills such as note-taking and revision.

After the Maths Olympiad Competition, I now feel inspired that maths is one of my favourite subjects, because it is logical and maths reasoning gives a clear answer; either correct or incorrect. Maths is important because it is applied in everyday life. For example, in Science, we need maths formula to express the law of nature. It plays a great role in IT, programming, and architecture, even in everyday shopping and money spending."

In November we had numerous students enter the International Maths Olympiad Challenge (IMOC). This competition requires self-registration and therefore organisation and commitment and focus to carry out and then compete in the competition.

Nanatsu, Ogata House, was awarded the title of 'Champion' and reflected on her participation during assembly: "It is my pleasure to celebrate the Champion title I received in the International Maths Olympiad Challenge. Some people believe that girls are usually not good at maths. But I don't think so.

My experience of studying maths has been about overcoming challenges. When I first started studying maths everyone, except me, was very fast in solving the problems and I made lots of careless mistakes. I was not the best one in class, however I was determined to improve.

Coming to Harrow Appi, one of

STRETCH AND CHALLENGE



How do we stretch and challenge students to ensure our academic excellence?

In the English Department at Harrow Appi, we believe that all students should be given the opportunities to explore a range of texts that challenge and inspire them.

We seek to develop their creative writing, their ability to analyse fiction, non-fiction, drama and poetry texts. In addition, they get the opportunity to develop their confidence in talking and listening through discussions, public speaking, role play and debating.

To enable the development of these skills, students study a range of different texts that are suited to their level of English. For our most talented students we seek to challenge them by studying more complex literature such as George Orwell's *Animal Farm*, Shakespeare's *Macbeth* and *Romeo and Juliet*, Steinbeck's novel *Of Mice and Men* and Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*.

Independent Readers

Ultimately, we would like all our students to become confident and independent readers who explore a range of different genres. To enable them to achieve this we have introduced the Accelerated Reader programme. Students are expected to read on average 15-20 minutes every day. They have a reading lesson every week in class or in the well-resourced Harrow Appi school library. Using the Accelerated Reader programme enables us to recommend exactly the correct level of books to challenge each student. They then take a quiz after finishing each book to enable us to track their reading attainment and progression. Teachers also share their own passion for reading and have discussions with individual students to recommend books that may appeal to them or bring new challenges in a genre they are yet to discover.

INSPIRING WRITING

Everything had Changed

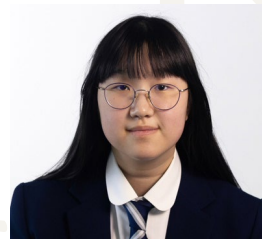
He had done it. He had achieved his dreams. He had never been this satisfied with his career as a scientist. He was the happiest person in the world at that moment. Finally, he could provide for his daughter, and she could live peacefully and comfortably.

Gerald Grey was an unsuccessful scientist on the verge of going bankrupt until he and his colleagues discovered a new species of animal that lived on an uninhabited island near the edge of the Darien Gap. The species had a very adorable appearance with an affable personality, when you look at the animal there is a majestic feeling to the animal that could almost suck in anyone interested in the creature. Its engrossing and fascinating beauty captured the world of zoology and the human population. Gerald became famous for his discovery of the animal and got the honor of naming it; he had decided to name the creature Marnie after his adorable and beautiful daughter. The images of the newly discovered creature had exploded on the internet causing many to become fascinated with the adorable nature of Marnie. At the same time Gerald's daughter had begun to gain attention due to her beauty and physical similarity to the newly discovered animal.

In a few months' time both the human Marnie and the creature Marnie had become the center of attention in social media and in the scientific world due to a new discovery on the organism. Marnie had an astonishing way to create better oxygen around its body for its surroundings. It was like a miracle. With Marnie, even planet Earth could remain with the human population for longer. Marnie was like a gift of God to the Grey family. They were the happiest they had ever been in their lives. Gerald had seen a valuable opportunity to market his daughter for more income, this ended up causing her to get into acting and modeling contracts due to her extraordinary beauty and her pleasant personality. She had soon become an internet phenomenon. The whole family had gotten more attention and money than they could have ever imagined. But Gerald had not thought of the side effects of revealing his discovery and daughter to the harsh population.

The nature of human beings had caused curiosity to take over their minds. The human populace started to poach the Marnie species. Due to their limited reproduction abilities, they became one of the top endangered species on the planet. Citizens had discovered its breathtaking appearance and talent to produce oxygen. So, they started to capture them and put them into cages to keep in their homes. The Marnie species was not used to living in a domestic household and couldn't adapt to the cages that were the opposites of their freedom inhabiting the forest. The Marnie species were quickly dying, and the rest of the human population still craved the air and the hallucinating beauty of Marnie. Their delusional minds quickly spread toward the closest thing they could get their hands on other than the animal. The stunning and beautiful Marnie Grey. They became completely insane and neurotic for Marnie, their minds had told them that Marnie Grey could have the same effect as the creature they craved and desired. The scrambled brains of humans intoxicated by Marnie's 'powers' ended up capturing and abducting Marnie Grey when she was shooting a new commercial. They each wanted Marnie for themselves, so as she was tortured by the delusional minds of humans, they pulled and cut her body apart. Her organs and blood piled over the lunatic crowd of fans as they screamed over the tortured body of Marnie Grey. The scene played out like a petrifying nightmare.

In a matter of seconds, the Grey family had broken apart like a smashed portrait, Gerald had fallen into a melancholic and rageful state. His life had fallen apart, and his daughter was brutally murdered all because of his discovery. He blamed himself for the entire situation and he was filled with an incurable penitence. He was the most miserable and despondent person in the world. Everything had changed.



Leanne, Ogata House

It Was an Unusual Gift by Mola, Ogata House

It was an unusual gift. One day when I went to visit my parents in my childhood home in the USA an unusual package had arrived at the doorstep. A small box with yellow spotted wrapping paper and a big red bow. It lay there on the old wooden poche. I picked up the gift and it had a smell I vividly remember; it smelled old like a library or vintage book; it was the smell my grandfather always had. He was not from the USA but from the countryside of east Asia. He moved here all those years ago to give my parents a better opportunity in life. I'd say he was an odd man as he spent much of his time alone as my grandmother passed away when I was young. As I looked around the box, I noticed a tag and it said that the gift was from my grandfather to me. This is odd as he passed away a few years ago, when I got a job offer and moved to Canada. I took the little box into the house and after some contemplation I decided to open this unusual gift. Inside was a weathered piece of paper and a vintage watch that had belonged to my grandfather. As I carefully open the piece of paper I saw beautiful cursive letters written in black ink it read, "If you have received this gift this means I must have left this world now let's go on one last adventure even if I am not with you, the first place you must find is a place that has been in both past and future, it had brought us all around the world." I knew right away where I needed to go.

I walked and walked to the place I know best, A little tree house in the woods behind the house. It was an old tree house built before I was even born. I reminisced about the times I would be in the tree house with my grandfather. He would always bring books with him and read them to me. So many different books from alien stories, stories about history, or stories about different cultures. I would always imagine myself in those places it felt magical at the time. But as time passed, I would not climb up the tree house as often, spending my time with friends instead. As I climbed up, I saw in the dusty corner a small rectangular box with the same warping paper and bow as the first. When I opened it once again another piece of paper but this time there was a paper flower instead of a watch. The petals were a pastel pink soft like velvet. The stem was a soft green like the leaves in spring. This time the note read, "When you were bullied and came back sad to me, I always took you to this special place that made you smile again, of course I would make sure they never mess with you after that." I knew the feeling well as I was different from the other children at school, they would bully me and call me different names every time I would go to my grandfather for comfort.

When I was sad, he would bring me to the park and we would walk silently together, we knew the path as we walked this path often. A small dirt path that leads off the main paved road, in the thick of the greenery was a little secret garden. Grandfather had made that garden before the park was fully finished and he kept it a secret, although through the years some people have discovered it. When I arrived, everything was still as I remembered it, the same flowers in the same spots as if time had stopped and I never left. At the corner of the garden was a little shed full of gardening tools and different flower seeds one wall was two metal hooks one hung a big grey coat that grandfather had always worn, the other hung a small yellow coat. Seeing the coat almost brought me to tears as it was made for me as a gift from my grandmother before she passed, during autumn time she did not want me to get cold and stitched this coat for my birthday. I long outgrown the coat but seeing it again brought back vague memories of her. In the coat pocket was another box, this time smaller than the first, only containing two folded up pieces of paper. One was a rough sketch of a beautiful mountain view. Written on the other, "this final one might be hard, but I know you will be able to find this place, I believe in you - from grandfather :)." Once I read the note, I realized which place was drawn on the other piece of paper.

As I hiked up the mountain the sun started to set giving off an alluring golden glow. Once I had reached the top, I saw the view in the sketch, and a red x mark like on the pirate's map. After giggling a little I found a very simple looking, hand carved wooden box. It may have been roughly made but it had its own charm. As I opened it, I saw a navy velvet box and a letter stamped with my grandfather's signature in maroon wax. As I opened the velvet box the sun hit the shining jewel giving it a glow as lovely as the sun set. I closed the box and took out the letter to read.

Dear beloved granddaughter,

This may not be what you were expecting but I hope you like it. This is the ring that I proposed to your grandmother with. I used all my savings to buy it and now I will give it to you. Your parents might be surprised when they see this ring as I never told them where I put it after you grew up. Although this little treasure hunt may be very short as it is the only thing my old bones are able to do, I hope it brought a few memories back. Although I may not be in this world anymore, I will always be with you in your heart. Even after you've grown up and left the house to live your own life and go on with your own adventures. I hope you will be happy and spend more time with your parents after you have finished your adventures as they miss you dearly. Maybe if you find someone you love and want to spend the rest of your life with as I have you will wear this ring too like how your grandmother once did.

Love,
Grandfather

As I was reading the letter tears started to drip down my face onto the piece of paper, I realized how much I had missed being with my grandfather spending my childhood carefree. As I slowly walked home with puffy eyes. It took me a while to open the door of the house. As I opened the door - I smelt a familiar home cooked meal - an alluring scent - as my parents came to greet me, I hugged them. That night I shared a warm meal with them reminiscing about my childhood. This small adventure helped me realize how much I missed home and my parents.



Mola, Ogata House

How does Steinbeck explore the theme of dreams in the novel “Of Mice and Men”?

In the novella, ‘Of Mice and Men,’ John Steinbeck explores the theme of dreams. The story itself is set around 1930s America; the time of the Great Depression. During this time, there were many people unemployed, homeless, or in poverty. Some people still clung on to their dreams despite the conditions they were living in as it was the last hope they had. Other people gave up on them and accepted fate. The influence of the Great Depression led to the destruction of many dreams. During this period of social prejudice, Steinbeck challenged economic inequality, gender inequality, and racism with his characters who represent different groups in society. At the beginning of the novel, the reader is introduced to two travelling workers; George Milton, and Lennie Small. The two are confident in working towards the American Dream, securing a future for themselves where they could reach their goals. “We got a future.” Lennie’s goal is to tend to some rabbits while George’s is just to freely live in a place which he could call home. They had been travelling together for a long time as Lennie kept on making mistakes. Readers are informed that Lennie and George were fired from their last job because Lennie touched a woman’s dress, causing her to take offense. Their relationship is like that of a child and a guardian. Whenever Lennie makes a mistake, George would scold him, threatening to not let him tend to the rabbits that he always wanted. “I can still tend the rabbits, George?” Their dream was unrealistic until they met Candy, the old man at their new workplace, who told them that if they worked together to earn enough money, their dream could come true. It was then that they had more hope than ever before. Workers in the 1930s were remarkably like the people on the ranch. Most of them had a dream but ended up not reaching it because of economic problems. Steinbeck incorporated the concept of dreams into his protagonists, representing itinerant workers, to give them a slight sense of hope in these trying times.

Not only did Steinbeck write about how unfair it was for itinerant workers during the Great Depression, but he also showed the readers a window into gender inequality. Curley’s wife is introduced early in the novella by the men on the ranch as a “rattrap” and “jailbait” since she was fooling around with other men instead of obediently staying in the house. George strictly told Lennie to not interact with her because he knew she was going to be trouble. Curley saw her as his object and not a living human being. “Any of you seen a girl around here?” She does not even have a name and is only regarded as ‘Curley’s wife’ further making it seem like she is his object. During this period, women were often regarded as domestic objects to men and the novella made that obvious. It was only until near the end of the novella that her dream of becoming a movie-star was revealed. She also said she was lonely in the house and explained she does not like Curley at all. The only reason she married him was so that she could trigger her mother who prevented her from reaching her dream when she could. This turns the whole story around since in the beginning, it was implied that she was a dangerous person because of the descriptions labeled on her. Unfortunately, she was unable to reach her dream as she was accidentally killed by Lennie. “Curley’s wife lay with a half-covering of yellow hay. And the meanness and the plannings and the discontent and the ache for attention were all gone from her face.” Women in the 1930s often do not reach their dreams just like the many itinerant workers. They were seen as domestic objects and had to do as the men told them to just because it was the ‘common view.’ It was like women had no rights. Steinbeck does an excellent job here twisting the plot around to bring to light the hardships of women and how they also have dreams.

Just like gender inequality, racism was also a significant issue during the 1930s. The character Crooks was the only African American man on the ranch; he was given the least rights because of his racial identity. His dream was just to be treated equally by others. The only part of the ranch where he had rights was his room so he would try to give himself some authority over others in his room. “You got no rights to come in my room. This here’s my room. Nobody’s got any right in here but me.” Crooks wanted to join in with Lennie, George, and Candy on their plan, but later declined after realizing how unrealistic it was. African Americans were mistreated during this era of discrimination. They were often harassed just because they were a distinct color. Even if a person is of a different race, it does not mean that they should be stripped of basic human rights. Most lost hope of their dreams as they knew that they would not achieve them due to their ethnicity. Curley’s wife implied that women are over colored people when she stated how easily she could get Crooks hanged. “I can get you strung up on a tree so easy it ain’t even funny.” Racism heavily affected African Americans in everyday life it was as if they could not live like ordinary people. Some had nobody to rely on; in Crooks’ case, he was unable to differentiate between what was real and what was fiction since he was alone and had nobody. Using Crooks, Steinbeck gives readers a sense of what being African American means in these times and how it is hard to follow an unrealistic dream.

The story revolves around the concept that everybody has a dream. Most people were unable to achieve their dreams; they either gave up or were never given the opportunity to even try. Everybody had a dream at some point in their life. As the story was set in the Great Depression, the characters depicted have a miserable life. There was racism, gender inequality and not even a fair share of pay because of the wrecked economy; yet there were people, still clinging to their dreams, who hoped that things would take a turn for the better. Steinbeck does a fantastic job showing readers how hard life was like during the 1930s. The issues Steinbeck writes about are still happening today.



David, Masamune

Persuasive Writing on Plastic Pollution

Two years ago, I went to Katakai beach with my parents. We went there on a Sunday and the beach was crowded. The beach was a little dirty and there was a group of people doing a beach cleanup. I asked my mom if I could go swimming since I brought my swimsuit. My mom said “yes” so I put on my swimsuit and dived into the ocean. While I was in the sea, I encountered lots of marine species but also a lot of manufactured waste. Every 10 meters I swam I saw increasingly more manufactured waste appearing. It was depressing to watch all the waste float past me. That is when I realized plastic was becoming a big problem in our world. After our time at the beach, we went to a nearby restaurant. As we sat down, I pulled my phone out of my pockets, I searched about plastics, and I found some interesting websites. One particular website said” A million plastic bottles are bought around the world every minute, that’s 20,000 a second! And demand is increasing every year.’ One earth we have a big plastic problem. Plastic is an incredibly useful material, but the way we just throw it away and it could possibly stay there for more than 600 years just seems wrong. When you consider that a plastic fork might last for several centuries, it seems ridiculous to just use it for only a few minutes and then throw it in the bin!

Now back to our plastic problems on our beaches and in our oceans. Did you know that up to 12.7 million tons of plastic are ending up in our oceans? This is a very serious problem, Last year a study produced by the Ellen MacArthur Foundation produced some truly disturbing conclusions: the equivalent of one entire truck of plastic (8 tons) is dumped in the sea every minute and if nothing changes by 2050 there will be more plastic by weight in the ocean than fish! Plastic pollution is having devastating effects on our marine environment killing over a hundred million fishes and marine wildlife each year. This could also damage our health because we might eat fish with plastic on them.

People around the world are trying to reduce the amount of plastic from entering our oceans, here are some things the people of our world are trying to do. First, we have a sculpture named Lidia the seal, Seals are commonly found near populated coastlines around the world, and often encounter plastic pollution. Whether they directly ingest bits of plastic, consume fish that have eaten small plastic fragments, or become entangled in packing straps or nets, the harm is real and can be deadly. Entanglement in plastic rope, rubber rings and strapping are a common threat for these curious creatures. Lidia the Seal is made from: a variety of lids (hence the name Lidia), buoys, netting, shoes, flip flops, beach toys, wheels, toothbrushes, plastic lattice. Lidia the Seal sits on top of a pile of netting, rope and buoy. The sculpture itself is colorful and playful—but opens the conversation to how discarded plastics and trash can harm marine life like seals. Secondly, people are doing more and more beach cleanups in order to stop the plastic and trash from entering the ocean. The most frequently found items in beach cleanups are Plastic films and wrappers It may keep your lunch fresh but pollutes the planet. The next offenders are plastic beverage bottles. Did you know that around 20,000 plastic bottles are sold every second? Finally we have Boyan Slat, he is a Dutch inventor and entrepreneur. A former aerospace engineering student, and he is the CEO of The Ocean Cleanup. The ocean cleanup is a 600-meter long, three-meter-deep floating skirt. It moves slightly faster than plastic, so after a few months it collects a lot of plastic waste, which can be collected by ship. Because the skirt is solid, sea creatures cannot get entangled in it, making it safe for wildlife.

I also would like to give some suggestions. Firstly I suggest that we do more beach cleanups in form of a house competition in order to give students motivation. Secondly, we could stop using so much plastic every day, like buying lots of drinks or using plastic cutlery. Thirdly I would suggest that we do some ocean cleanups, like going into oceans and cleaning it near the shores. To wrap things up, I basically got motivated and aware of this problem by doing something fun and enjoyable. This shows that even when you are doing something fun you can always do something good to our planet. Finally I suggest that you do some beach cleanups and something good for our planet. Could you imagine a world entirely covered by smoke because we didn’t fix our plastic problem fast enough?



Vernon, Masamune

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN IN SCIENCE DAY



At Harrow Appi we educate our students about the importance of women in science and remind them of female accomplishments in scientific careers. We continue to develop young minds to aspire to be like the Roslyn Franklins and Marie Curies of the future.

Mola, Ogata House, comments: "When I'm older, I definitely want to have a job in Science. I think chemistry is interesting, with all the experiments and that it is very logical, which I like very much. At a very young age, women are steered away from Science and I think it's very important that we steer everyone into science. This is particularly important for women and girls as we've rarely been given the chance to be in the field of science or have jobs that involve science."

Scan the QR code to view of video from International Day of Women and Girls in Science



DEBATING CAN DETERMINE YOUR DESTINY

Should pineapple be on pizza? This has been a controversial topic that we still have not found the answer to. So, how do we settle this? Well, we set up two teams, we research the topics, and have a civilized argument about which is right. In other words, this is a job for the Harrow Appi Debating Club.

Debating is utilised in our day-to-day life, for example, meetings, court houses, and everyday conversations. Debate is a discussion, especially one in which several people with different opinions about something discuss them seriously. Last term we discussed a wide range of topics such as gun control in the USA, abortion rights and fossil fuels. Here are some quotes from our talented speakers:

Debate is a fun activity where we get to trade information and compassionate speech
Liwei, Masamune House

Debate is a way for me to vent my frustrations in a positive and civilized manner and talk about topics that need to be talked about, and learn about them
Benjamin, Churchill House



Debating helps us in many ways. For example, debate has helped our speaking skills. When you debate, in some parts it provides to research the information but the main part is speaking. If you simply read articles, even if you have great information, it is not enough to make a convincing speech. However, if we use repetition, rhetorical questions, emotive language, and imagery in our speech, it will considerably improve the speech. It will also increase the possibility of taking home the win.

Debate can also help us in the future when we are adults and are working. If you learn how to convince and persuade someone well, it will be beneficial and advantageous for careers such as business, law, politics and journalism.

Debating is important because if you debate you can develop a skill of understanding what other people are thinking. In debate, we must anticipate what the opposing side will say. This nurtures our empathy which leads to a better comprehension of the thoughts of others. It is also significant as it improves our overall general knowledge of the world. In debate, we research about our topics to gain a further understanding of it and to find powerful evidence to support our case. This further deepens our knowledge of the world. We can also build confidence through debate.



ALPINE CURRICULUM

IGLOO BUILDING COMPETITION

How many Schools can host an inter-house igloo House competition?

“Our first session of the Igloo Building Competition consisted of a lecture in Chiu Hall by two university teachers from Aomori; Professor Toyoshi Sasaki and Kimiharu To.

We went to the Batting Field and started making snow blocks. Our first step was to stamp down the snow enough to create a firm surface for cutting. Each House got a specific area for snow block cutting and everyone tried their best to create the perfect rectangular snow block,” commented Leanne, Ogata House. The following weekend, students started to create their House igloos using the techniques learnt the weekend before.

Luke, Churchill House noted: “We were all very excited but a little afraid in case we couldn’t finish the task of building an igloo. However, we found that working together and being led by our very good teachers, our speed was very fast. In almost two days of working hard, we had built two igloos with a table and a sofa inside. Inside the igloo was surprisingly warm!

We were all very proud of ourselves and the outcome considering it was the first time any of us had built an igloo. We displayed lots of teamwork and fellowship and learnt the power of working together. With teamwork, we can overcome any problems. This activity brought us a lot of happiness and we really enjoyed it!” Eventually, the igloos were judged on structure, interior and exterior design as well as considering those students who exemplified the Harrow values during the building process by sleeping in them. Mr Fitzgerald, Mr Matthews, Mr Wilson and Mr Hogan also tested their respective House igloos out overnight. Congratulations to Ogata House who won the overall Igloo Building Competition.

You can scan the QR code to watch the House Igloo Building Competition video.



HARROW BEAKS BECOME ALPINE INSTRUCTORS

Congratulations to Mrs FJ and Mr Caine for passing the ski instructor course and to Mr Budnick and Mr Graham for becoming our newest snowboarding instructors! Mr Fitzgerald, Head of Enrichment, comments "At Harrow Appi, we prioritise the continued professional development of our teaching faculty to ensure that students receive a first class world leading education. Exceptional teachers provide exceptional learning."

"The CSIA Level 1 ski instructing course not only developed my understanding of the processes involved in teaching skiing to beginners but also developed my own level of skiing. Many aspects were addressed such as balance and rotation and the fundamentals were really emphasised in how to support people to learn to ski the correct way, whilst also eradicating bad habits of those who may have already experienced some skiing before. A great few days and a great opportunity," says Mrs FJ.



TRIPS



SWIMMING IN TOKYO

Mountain People Go to the Big City

The Harrow Appi Swim Team travelled to Tokyo to compete at both the Mustang Invitational Swim meet held at American School in Japan and the Winter Kanto plains Championship hosted by St Marys School.

The Mustang Invitational was a Middle School swim meet which meant that we competed against swimmers between the ages of 10 and 13 from various schools within Tokyo. This was the first time that all swimmers got an opportunity to represent Harrow Appi and it was also the first time for some students to ever compete in a swim meet.

We kicked off the day with the 200m Medley relay. The team consisted of Jason, Jake, Eita and Cindy and we placed first in this event, beating five other schools by quite a fair distance. We were off to a good start and the day continued to be a success. All swimmers swam their hearts out and we placed 5th overall, despite being the smallest team there.

After lunch, we headed to the Olympic Museum and we had a chance to explore and learn about the History of the Olympics as well as the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. Did you know that the 5 Olympic rings represent the 5 continents which first competed in the modern-day Olympic Games? We also had the chance to jump as high as we could and try and reach the height LeBron James jumps when he slam dunks.

We then went on a tour of the Tokyo National Stadium. We walked around the stadium and found signatures of all the athletes who had competed in the 2020 Olympics and even had a chance to sit in the changing room. My highlight was having a run on the 100m track and walking out into the stadium, I just can't imagine the feeling of doing it when the stadium is full with 68 thousand people.

On Sunday, we competed at the Winter Kanto Plains Championship. DJ Benajmin got us off to a great start as we drove to the pool to the soundtracks of Kanye. When we arrived, it was rather overwhelming as there were so many swimmers in the pool. This meet had over 300 swimmers from ages 8 to 18, but that didn't stop us from doing our best. All the other schools were very interested in who we were and where we came from, and it was awesome to be able to swim against them. A big congratulations to Jason who was tie third place overall in the 11-12 year age group.

We would like to thank Mrs Long and Mr Fitzgerald for their efforts in making this tour possible. Mr FG, thank you for making sure we were always well fed and had a few onigiri spare just in case. Thank you for getting us to and from the pool safely. Mrs Long, thank you for supporting us and making sure we were prepared for every race. I am determined to keep working hard in the swimming pool and look forward to many more fun and successful swim tours.

Cindy, Jason, Jake, Benjamin and Eita



KAMAISHI SEAWAVES

On Sunday 12 March, 24 Shell and Remove students along with 15 members of staff and their families took a trip to the Kamaishi Recovery Memorial Stadium for the inaugural Harrow Appi rugby trip. This stadium was built after the 2011 Tohoku earthquake and tsunami. The site of the stadium used to be a primary school and secondary school complex before the tsunami struck. The stadium itself contains lots of wood and is designed to blend in with the woodland landscape which surrounds it. Lots of the wood we could see was re-used from the debris and damage caused by the tsunami. The game itself also fell one day after the anniversary of this awful event and the stadium held a minute's silence to mark the occasion.

Featured were the Kamaishi Sea Waves vs the Urayasu D-Rocks. Not all of us knew the laws of the game but we soon picked up the basics and enjoyed cheering on our local team, the Seawaves. The traditional Japanese drums really helped to generate an atmosphere in the build up to kick off.

Unfortunately, despite our cheering, The D-Rocks romped home to victory with an astonishing 92-19 score. Even though the game was very one-sided, there was lots going on and the speed of the game was impressive to see. It was also fun to watch so many tries being scored in such a short time, and the Seawaves did not give up until the final whistle, scoring a try with the last play of the game.

We then had an opportunity to take part in a short rugby clinic and to meet some of the players. Even though Kevin Deng was wearing sliders, we all enjoyed practising kicking a rugby ball and working on our passing. Lots of us also tried jumping in a line out, with Sera doing a great job not to land on her head. Although he was playing for the D-Rocks, Greig Laidlaw, a Scottish rugby legend, came to say hello. Shogo also did a great job representing the school and presented a Harrow Lion to Kamaishi Seawaves winger and captain, Kodai Ono. Apart from the rugby, we had the chance to enjoy a wide range of different foods produced using ingredients from Iwate prefecture, including scallops, sausages and pizza! The combination of good food, good company, good weather and rugby is very hard to beat, and we all enjoyed the matchday experience.

We are hopeful that the Seawaves players will come and visit us during Green Season B and share their rugby skills with us on Batting.

Veryan and Ray, Churchill House



IWATE TSUNAMI MEMORIAL MUSEUM

On Wednesday 15 March, all Shell students and the IGCSE Geography students from Remove visited the Iwate Tsunami Memorial Museum in Rikuzentakata city. In Geography, students have been studying the topic of tectonics and the topics of earthquakes and the associated hazards of Tsunamis. It was a poignant time to visit the museum, three days after the anniversary of the disaster and it was an opportunity for the students to understand and empathise with the size of the impact on the local area. Students were given a tour of the museum and then were tasked with sketching the responses to reduce the impacts if a Tsunami occurred again. Students then spent time reflecting back in the classroom on the event and showed a mature level of empathy by writing to friends and family members to demonstrate what they took away from the day.



BUILDING OUR COMMUNITY

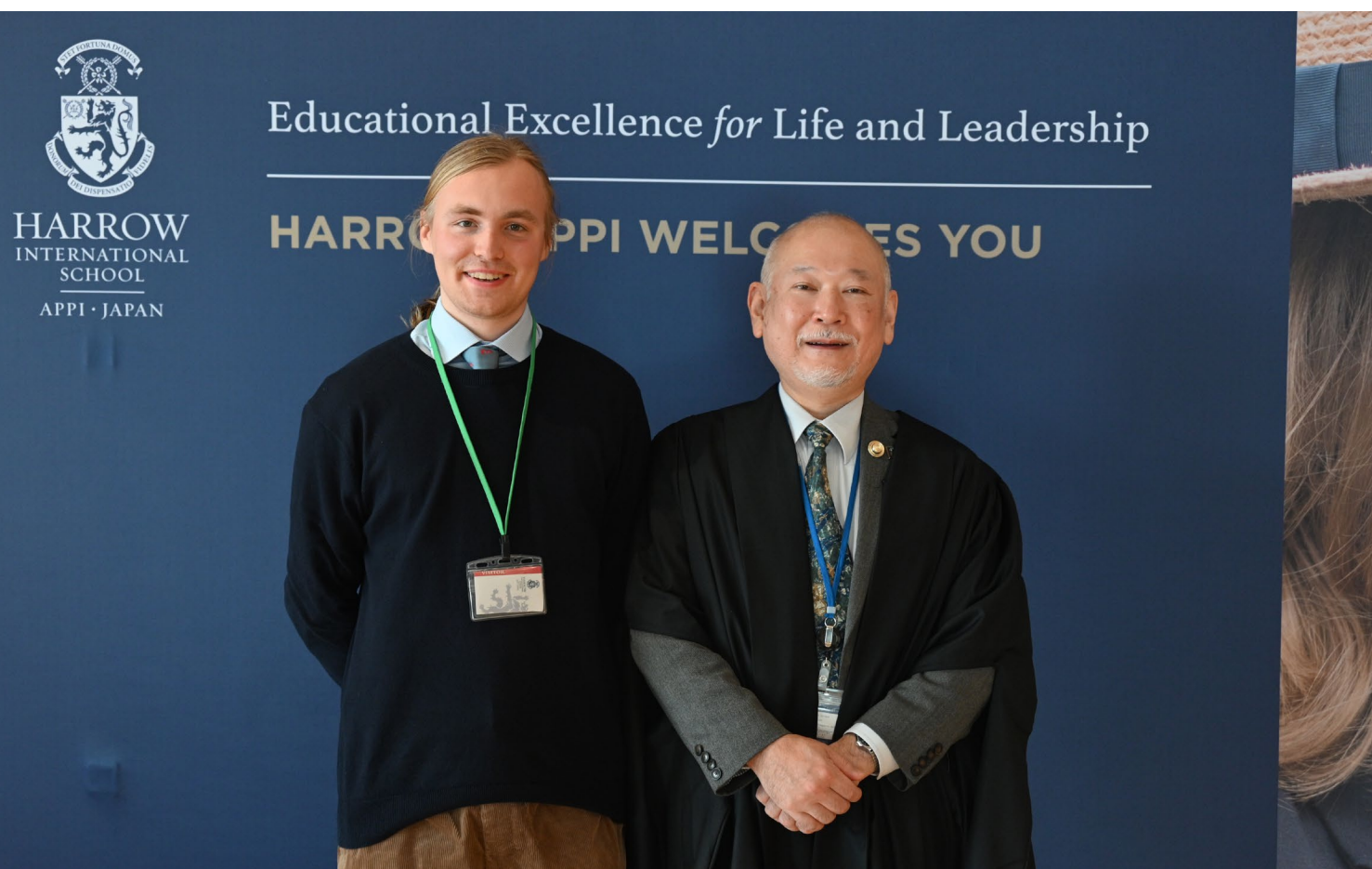


GUEST SPEAKERS IN SCHOOL

At Harrow we are keen for students to develop a love of learning, through both our exciting curricular offering and our super-curricular programme.

This term we have been lucky to host guest speakers from the Iwate Collider School, currently taking place in the Appi resort and involving leading particle physicists from around the world. In a lively talk delivered by Professor Benjamin Fuks, Vice-Dean in Physics at the Sorbonne University in Paris and Assistant Professor Daniel Jeans of the Institute of Nuclear and Particle Studies at KEK in Tsukuba, Japan, older students learned about the exciting project to build the world's next large particle collider in Iwate Prefecture, and, as wider context, the role of particle physics in unpicking the creation and growth of the universe. Thank you to the speakers and also to Kentarou Matawari of Iwate University and Conference Chair for helping facilitate such a stimulating event. We also welcomed Alex Ballingal, Harrow UK alumni, to speak at Assembly this term. He shared his experience of his time at Harrow UK and how the opportunities he was given at school aided his path now. Alex comments: "I had a fantastic overall experience at Harrow and looking back I am incredibly grateful for all the wonderful opportunities the school provided me with to pursue the area that I was and still am most passionate about. However, perhaps one of the greatest opportunities I received through the school was to be a recipient of the Crawley Scholarship." The Crawley Scholarship led Alex to Japan, where he walked the length of the Tokaido, a three-hundred-mile road which runs along the Pacific coastline between Tokyo and Kyoto, the current and former capital.

Finally, we were excited to be joined virtually by author and filmmaker Cheuk Kwan whose recently published book 'Have You Eaten Yet?' (a study of the Chinese diaspora through the lens of Chinese restaurants in different countries) recently received a glowing review in the Economist. We are keen to continue to develop this rich aspect of our offering – the Second Master Mr Newham would always be keen to hear from parents or others in our community who would like to suggest guest speakers or topics, so please do get in touch if you have any ideas (fnewham@harrowappi.jp).



Cheuk Kwan Guest Speaker Talk to all of Year 8 in the Chiu Hall on Monday 6th March 2023

The Languages department was delighted to welcome Cheuk Kwan, the renowned film-maker and author of the recently acclaimed book 'Have You Eaten Yet?' as guest speaker, via Zoom, to the whole of Year 8 in the Chiu Hall. Cheuk talked about his childhood growing up as a Han Chinese in Hong Kong and Singapore before moving to Yokohama and then settling in Toronto where he lives now. Cheuk gave a vivid account of stories from Chinese restaurants around the world relating how the Chinese diaspora share a myriad of personal experiences as chefs, entrepreneurs, laborers who work in Chinese kitchens worldwide. He illustrated how the family-run Chinese restaurants provide economic survival as well as a sense of belonging and brought to life what it means to be a Chinese immigrant navigating life in different cities.

Cheuk answered numerous questions from students including Caskade, Flora, Seiyu, Jason, Koyo and Michael highlighting the strong sense of identity that so many Chinese immigrants possess, consciously or unconsciously, connecting them to their Chinese heritage, through food, so that no matter how disconnected or displaced they feel, whether in Cuba, Norway, Madagascar or Brazil, they can draw from the delicious variety of Chinese food, be nourished by it and share it with local communities.

Cheuk said how much he enjoyed talking to Harrow Appi students finding out where they come from and which Chinese food they enjoyed the most. He was also impressed by the amount of preparation the students had devoted to watching clips of his film as reading chapters of his book.

The event proved to be very informative and engaging with excellent interaction throughout and the Year 8 students took great interest in this Chinese culinary travel documentary.

Yesterday evening some of the year 8 students were keen to give their views about how much they enjoyed the Cheuk Kwan talk on Monday:

Talking to Cheuk Kwan was a lifetime experience! When Cheuk started to talk inspiration filled the room, students' eyes were glued to the screen. I enjoyed the talk very much. I learned about Chinese culture, division between race and different cultures. Cheuk inspired many students wanting to be involved in film making or becoming an author. He used interesting and catchy words and phrases to teach and talk. Talking to Cheuk was like talking to your best friend who knows more than you. Thank you so much Cheuk!!
Caskade

I felt enlightened by Cheuk Kwan's book Have You Eaten Yet? and his talk taught me about my own culture as well as those of other countries. I also learned a lot about Chinese history, and I really liked the fact that I could relate to him as I'm also from Hong Kong and lived in Japan, so we have had shared experiences.
Lily

The talk has definitely inspired me and other upper prep students to maybe also become writers, journalists or film directors in the future.
Cindy

I could find out so much about Chinese communities around the world listening to Mr Kwan's presentation. I had no idea that Chinese dishes are so varied in the different countries and that the tastes are different too. I now know that there a lot of Chinese communities in other countries who use their restaurants to look after the Chinese people as well as places for the local communities to come together.
Seiyu

I really enjoyed reading Cheuk Kwan's book and it was wonderful to meet him and speak to him in person.
Flora

I loved listening to Cheuk Kwan talk about Chinese food, family friends and culture using his travel stories and experiences. I was happy to ask Cheuk a question.
Jason

SUPPORTING IN FUNDRAISING

On Monday 6 February a huge earthquake struck parts of Turkey and Syria, bringing death and destruction. There were no warning signs so communities were not prepared for this devastation.

Over 35 thousand people have been killed and thousands more have been injured. Search and rescue tried to reach people under the rubble, but the death toll continued to rise.

Survivors have lost their homes. People are on the streets in freezing winter weather conditions. They need food, medical supplies, clean water and shelter.

To help raise money we decided to have a non-uniform day on the final day of the half term in February. Each student donated 500 yen to wear non-uniform for the day and as a school, we raised 100,000 JPY which was presented to the Disaster Emergency Committee (DEC).

Another fundraising initiative this term was our most recent whole school event. On Thursday 23 March we held the inaugural White Long Ducker, which involved a 4km snowshoe along the Ryugamori course, beginning and ending at school. The event was certainly adventurous and included students, parents and staff, who all came together to celebrate our Harrow Appi community. We have been raising funds for Make a Wish Foundation, Japan and would be delighted if anyone would like to contribute to our fundraising efforts which will be donated to this worthy cause.

Elena and Yui, Lyons House



THURSDAY TALKS

The purpose of the Thursday Talks is to expand our students' horizons and knowledge and to study something that is out of classroom. We have listened to talks relating to Geography, History and Science. For example, we discussed the Russia-Ukraine War, conflict of capitalism and future of AI technology. These are all interesting topics and great experience for every student. The Thursday Talks is operated by our Second Master, Mr. Newham, but also other Beaks join the talks and give us some good arguments on these topics so we as students can exchange our points of view and discuss further. All in all, the Thursday Talks should be a new Harrovian tradition for us to keep develop.

Richard, Churchill House



GAKU GAMES

GAKU Ptd. Ltd. (GAKU) collaborated with us in March to host a new initiative called the “GAKU Games”. The programme has been tailored by GAKU to support the values and culture of Harrow Appi. It educates and empowers young students in the world of future technologies and esports as it incorporates nutritional, mental and physical health classes to support students to create a balanced and active lifestyle, even with the increased use of technology in our current lives. The Japan Esports Union, Swatch, and Montblanc kindly agreed to support the games and they provided us with technical support, watches, pens and stamps.



CELEBRATE 450 YEARS OF HARROW

The Churchill Formal Dinner was a celebration of 450 years of Harrow and a chance for us, as a newly founded school, to celebrate the heritage, history and traditions of the Harrow Schools. Founded in 1572, Harrow School in the UK is one of the world's most respected private educational institutions and all of us here tonight are incredibly privileged to be associated with the very best in the world.

As most of us already know; some of the Harrow schools alumni have gone on to become some of the most influential figures in world history including Lord Byron, Winston Churchill, Lord Rayleigh and numerous influencers, inventors, artists and Nobel prize winners.

Drawing on the legacy of Harrow on the Hill, the 1990s saw the successful opening of Harrow International Schools in Asia. With seven Harrow Schools based in China, Harrow Bangkok in Thailand and now, the newest and most unique school of its kind, Harrow Appi. What a privilege it is for us to walk the corridors of the 10th Harrow International School and to be members of the founding family of students.

The strange looking ball which you see here, is a hybrid mix of a rugby ball and a football which has been sent around to all The Harrow schools to mark the 450-year celebration. After dinner, in the Speech Hall, we had an opportunity to sign the accompanying book which was then sent back to Harrow on the Hill where it will be combined to make a 450-year celebratory book.

Whilst just by being here, we have all already made history and made a mark in the creation and development of not only Harrow Appi, but also all Harrow schools, by signing this book, we were able to truly leave our stamp. We are a vital part in the history of Harrow and will continue to be as we reach new potentials in the future.

Yoshi and Eddie, Churchill House

