



*Learning to be Extraordinary*

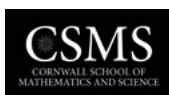


**CAMBORNE SCIENCE & INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY**

One of Cornwall's Most Consistently High Performing State Secondary Schools

# COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Late Summer Edition 2020 | Issue 73



**AN INDEPENDENT STATE ACADEMY**

## Students thrive in exceptional times

We are delighted to share with you our latest Community news. On the 23rd March, schools were ordered to close to students, and whilst this was the case, our mission was to ensure that we delivered on our pledge to all students, parents and our local community: "We are closed but we are here for you." The past few months have been extraordinary but we are incredibly proud of each of our students and our staff, and we are grateful and humbled by their extraordinary contributions to our society. During the 'lockdown' period, students, staff, parents and carers have embodied and displayed the exceptional character values that make our school such a wonderful, vibrant community.

Students have not only excelled in their home learning through the Google Classroom provision, but they have been fantastic in their participation of various House competitions, Staff challenges, Virtual Sports challenges, Extraordinary Me Qualifications, Virtual VE Day celebrations, Year book collections, Quizzes, and so much more! The engagement and commitment from our students and their families has enabled us to uphold our promise to you all.

To celebrate some of the incredible achievements of our students, we have collated our most recent community news. Whilst this edition is slightly more modest than our traditional editions, we remain incredibly proud of each and every student who has demonstrated incredible resilience, integrity and altruism throughout these extraordinary times. To explore these events and achievements even further, please visit the Camborne Science & International Academy Facebook Page.

Our celebrations will continue during the break when we invite our Year 11 and 13 students into school to celebrate their fantastic achievements at GCSE and A-level. For more details, please follow our Facebook page and keep an eye out in the local press!

We thank our staff, our students, parents and carers for their engagement, energy and enthusiasm, and I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very safe and relaxing summer break. We are excited to welcome everyone back in September.

Rachel Trevarthen

Vice Principal





# Hannah's Lockdown Charity Fundraiser

In July Hannah, a year 11 student at CSIA 'braved the shave' to raise more than £1500 for Cancer Research.

Hannah explained, "In 2016 I lost my Uncle Simon to cancer, and in 2019 I lost my Grandpa and one of my closest friends lost her gorgeous Mum. Shaving my head for Cancer Research is something I have wanted to do for quite a long time. I have donated my hair to the Little Princess Charity and given all the sponsorship money to Cancer Research. This disease has had such an impact on myself, my family, and my friends, I wanted to do something to help."



Mrs Trevarthen, Assistant Principal said "Hannah has gone above and beyond to make a difference in what are challenging and unsettling times for us all at the moment. She exemplifies our school character values and everyone at CSIA would like to congratulate her on her display of altruism, resilience and integrity."

Hannah has also planned another fundraiser and will be taking part in the Nello 2020 cycle later this year. We wish her all the luck on her next quest!



# Celebrating Student Achievement Throughout the Pandemic

The CSIA motto 'Learning to be Extraordinary' is about the whole child not just the qualifications.

Extraordinary Me is a whole school programme that encourages students to focus on the strands that make them an extraordinary candidate for university and employment, through their qualifications, experiences and skills and qualities.

"Our students rightfully deserve to be celebrated for their display of values and their development of skills and qualities during this time period at home, and for some, remaining in school, where extraordinary times call for extraordinary awards," said Mr Fenlon. "There will be that inevitable question in the future "What did you do during the Covid-19 pandemic?" and students should have the confidence to recognise how they developed as an extraordinary person over this time period."

Honey L-B, Year 10, has developed her skills in using an over locker and industrial sewing machine to make face masks. Honey has helped make over 100 masks so far, which have been distributed to friends, family and care providers all across the UK. Caitlin T, Year 8, has made origami rainbow flowers and distributed these to neighbours. James S, Year 7, has helped elderly neighbours, worked on his fitness and organised family quizzes and Nicholas G, Year 10 has



participated in online courses in addition to his home learning.

Other examples of extraordinary actions our young people have taken include mindfulness strategies, learning Makaton to teach younger siblings, organising VE Day celebrations, baking for family members, completing gardening for elderly family members, collecting medicines for neighbours, growing fruit and vegetables, cooking

family meals, completing fitness challenges (including the couch to 5k), and learning to touch type amongst many, many others.

"The reception from students for these awards has been fantastic with many commenting on how they hadn't realised how much they had achieved, and how they may apply that to their futures," said Mr Fenlon.



## CSIA Celebrate “Extraordinary” Students

**“Extraordinary” students from Camborne Science and International Academy have achieved all five ‘Extraordinary Me’ Gold Awards, which are given to students to commend their efforts during the coronavirus crisis.**

One of those students, Georgiana B, reached the accolade first, swiftly followed by Lily H.

“Both girls are aspiring doctors and

their altruistic approach to life has been put into action during their time at home,” commented Mrs Susan Gellatly, Assistant Principal at CSIA. “Our Extraordinary Me programme focuses on developing well-rounded individuals who have the skills and qualities, qualifications and experiences to be that extraordinary candidate for university and the workplace. During their ‘stay at home’ period, Georgiana and Lily have showcased an array of qualities including integrity, ambition, resilience and altruism, and worked hard to contribute to their communities.”

Students are awarded with certificates that document what their achievements have been, so in the future they are able to articulate those to future course leaders and employers.

Georgiana, Year 10, has had her accomplishments over the lockdown period recognised by the school, which include teaching her mum calligraphy, making face masks and playing an active role as a volunteer in her village for those who are shielding or self-isolating during the pandemic.

“Georgiana is an exemplary individual and we’re so proud of what she has achieved during her time at home. Not only has she accomplished all five Awards at the Gold standard, she has excelled in remote learning and been a shining example of an extraordinary individual,” commented Mrs Gellatly. “She has shown such selflessness and compassion, dedicating what time she had around studying to help others and embracing additional activities that have filled us with pride.”

Despite the unprecedented period of challenges, CSIA students have been widely praised for their resilience and work ethic during this time.

“Georgiana aspires to be a doctor and has utilised the time to expand her knowledge and understanding of the medical field including participating in online courses such as undertaking brain surgery whilst the patient is awake,” commented Mrs Gellatly. “Her other achievements include discovering more about the values of the school and reflecting on how she may apply them to life. Georgiana has organised a weekly family quiz, encouraged her family to improve their environmental habits built her cooking skills, used sewing and art to build her manual dexterity skills for a future as a

surgeon, and thoroughly investigating opportunities here and overseas in universities.”

Georgiana’s accomplishment was swiftly followed by Lily Hawkins, Year 10, who has excelled in her achievements. Lily has volunteered at Camborne Food Bank, supported friends and family, including creating a digital guide for elderly family members so they are able to stay in contact and maintained a part-time job on top of her studies. “In addition to this, Lily has planned weekly menus, played an active role as the leader for Aztec House actively encouraging over 300 students to engage in activities to maintain that sense of school community. Lily’s extensive reading around a medical career and how to support others whilst maintaining personal well-being have strengthened her character and firmed her medical ambitions.”

“Living through a pandemic is a life-changing experience and the way our students have responded has been remarkable. They have adapted, overcome and embraced new challenges and activities, not only for their own development, but to support those around them and in their local communities. Georgiana and Lily’s success in achieving all five awards is magnificent” continued Mr Mark Fenlon, Vice Principal at CSIA.

The reception from students for these awards has been “fantastic” with many commenting on how they hadn’t realised how much they had achieved, and how they may apply that to their futures.

Mr Fenlon added, “We have seen so many wonderful gestures of kindness from our school community and Georgiana and Lily’s achievements are just two examples of why CSIA students are to be commended for their conduct over the last three

months - they have been creative, innovative and inspirational. We have always felt honoured to be part of this incredible school community, and never more so than in the last few months.”





## Celebrating Year 11 Students with Mini Ceremonies

**CSIA has been celebrating the Class of 2020 with a Yearbook and dedications from teachers.**

The celebrations were launched with a personalised, compilation video shared on the school's Facebook page, spreading pride, joy and community spirit for the Class of 2020.

"This year, staff were invited to produce a personal and individual video to make us smile and showcase our wonderful

community spirit. We can all learn a lesson from lockdown – when people are apart, it can bring us all closer together," said Mrs Hawke, Director of KS4.

To further mark and celebrate Year 11's transition on to the next stage of their lives, CSIA also created a special 2020 Yearbook for all students and held tutor group visits, inviting students into school in small groups for mini socially distanced celebrations.

"It was fantastic to see our students

again collecting their books, to celebrate the incredible collection of memories," commented Mrs Hawke. "Their achievements have been brilliant; they are bright, funny and every single student holds so much potential. We wanted to do something for the class of 2020, with our usual celebrations falling victim to the nationwide Covid-19 emergency."

Rachel Trevarthen, Assistant Principal said, "Our students worked incredibly hard to prepare for their final GCSE Examinations. They have truly



incredible ambitions and we have been so impressed by their ability to overcome the challenges they face, and their continued focus as they prepare for their VI Form Academy courses!"

"Each of our students have embodied our school character values at this challenging time, demonstrating ambition, resilience and integrity in the highest regard. We encourage our students to take this time as an opportunity and achieve even greater things. We know that so many of them have already signed up to the VI Form portal, demonstrating their ambition as they prepare for the next phase of their academic career," Mr Fenlon said. "We are incredibly proud of the CSIA school community, especially over these last few months."



## Innovative Measures to keep Students Active at Home

**CSIA students are taking their fitness prowess to a new, virtual level.**

While the coronavirus crisis may have prevented lessons at school, CSIA's PE department created a Fitness Challenge to inspire students to exercise at home and to prepare them for the Virtual Cornwall School Games.



"The PE Fitness challenge was something that was created by Phoebe Williams and Lucy Sage - they wanted to create an inspirational video that showed the CSIA PE Department getting active, whilst also setting an online challenge for students" commented Tamsin Hosking, Head of PE at CSIA. "Each staff member recorded themselves at home completing exercises and Lucy put all of this together into a video for students to enjoy - it's our very own 'Joe Wicks' style workout!"

As well as the workout videos helping to keep the CSIA community fit and healthy at home, the challenge allowed students to document their achievements and be recognised by CSIA's 'Extraordinary Me Awards'. The Awards invite all Year 7-10 students to enter via Google Classrooms,



with certificates being given to every student who entered.

"The challenge was all about staying active during those times we were all spending much more time in the house. Our online Fitness Challenge was posted on our Facebook page, and the whole family was able to take part!" commented Mrs Hosking. "Through proactive and innovative work, we found new ways to ensure our students engaged with physical activity despite the challenges of lockdown."

"All students who took part in the online Fitness Challenge and Virtual School Games put their efforts towards their Extraordinary Me Awards as part of their personal wellbeing plans, so it's a win-win all round," commented Su Gellatly, Assistant Principal at CSIA. "We encourage all our students to get involved to try something new, to connect with friends again, get physically active, to gain points for our school and contribute to their Extraordinary Me portfolios."

"We were determined to ensure our students and their families stayed active, exercised and had fun whilst being at home," commented Mrs Gellatly. We have been so inspired by our students in these unforeseen times. They continue to show us how they have challenged themselves at home.

## Tom Appointed as Youth Speaks Judge

**One of our students, Tom Robbins, was recognised by The Rotary Club for his expertise in The Youth Speaks Competition when he was appointed as a judge, the youngest ever to be given this recognition.**

Following on from his success as South West Youth Speaks Champion in 2016, Tom was keen to share his experience and expertise in the competition by coaching the teams at Camborne Science and International Academy. Tom was able to offer his advice and top tips to our students, working in his own time with teams across Years 7 and 8. Tom's enthusiasm for public speaking was palpable and he was able to support students with their presentation skills and gear them towards success in the schools competition.

The Rotary Club have acknowledged Tom's commitment and skills in the competition. Last year he was appointed as a judge at the primary school competition. Since then he has gone on to judge primary and senior competitions all over Cornwall. In March 2020, he judged the Senior South West Competition at Bodmin College. It is a testament to Tom's enthusiasm and skills that he is an ambassador for the Youth Speaks Competition and has been praised and recognised both by Rotary Members and teachers across the schools he has judged.

"Tom is to be commended for recognising the valued place of Youth Speaks within our school as well as cherishing what young people have to say about important and pressing issues in our society across the county," commented Dr Cate McGovern, Leading Practitioner in English



## VI Form Academy Students Win National Economics Competition

**Despite lockdown, students from The VI Form Academy have shown "outstanding dedication" in winning the national Up Learn 2020 Schools Competition.**

Eight economics students in Years 12 and 13 have been using the online resource 'Up Learn' to support their studies both before the pandemic and since being at home.

Stephanie Ormerod, head of economics at CSIA said: "This is a fantastic achievement by our economics students, especially as the latter part of their study has been during such challenging times when they're not at the academy.

"The Up Learn course covers all topics in the A Level economics syllabus, with our students studying through online video lessons that they can take independently, any time. They started the course in September and their commitment since being at home has been unwavering."

Between eight students, they have completed 641 hours of independent learning, that's nearly a whole month! Notably, Josh H in Year 13, has completed 153 hours on his own and Naomi J in Year 12 has worked up to nearly 100 hours, despite only starting four months ago!

An outstanding amount of dedication has been shown by all and to come first place is an amazing achievement.



Josh completing his 153 hours





A student's home made celebration bunting

who did so much to secure our freedoms," commented Assistant Principal, Mrs Trevarthen. "In his speech on VE Day, King George VI called upon people to remember those who died and to: 'make the world such a world as they would have desired for their children and for ours.' Our students looked at our core value of altruism and how they could carry that vision forward, and I look forward to seeing their future acts of kindness."

"VE Day was such a poignant event in our history and I know that many people were very disappointed that the planned events had to be postponed due to COVID-19", added Mrs Emma Haase, Vice Principal at CSIA. "We may have had to stay at home, but that didn't mean the CSIA school community couldn't still mark this momentous occasion. 75 years ago, people across Europe came together to celebrate and that community spirit can be seen today, as we support one another during coronavirus."



Mrs Trevarthen in 1940s dress

## CSIA Students mark VE Day 75th Anniversary

### Students at CSIA celebrated VE Day, despite being on lockdown at home.

The coronavirus lockdown may have meant that all events planned for VE Day on Friday 7th May were cancelled or postponed, but some CSIA students went the extra mile with their families, organising tea parties at home, making bunting and wearing 1940s dress to celebrate the day.

"We're very proud of our students for recognising the importance of

remembrance," said Kelen Jones, Head of History. "We believe that it is very important for our students to be aware of the sacrifices made by the many, for their futures. In their home learning, students looked at their family histories and made commemorative bunting involving their ancestors, but also significant figures from the Second World War."

Charlotte Landers, History teacher, said, "The completed bunting was put up in homes all over Cornwall by CSIA students, which was a great way of linking communities in celebrating VE Day. It was fabulous to see the

students creativity and resourcefulness in celebrating their ancestors and their efforts in the war."

Students who were in attendance at the academy also conducted similar research focusing on local veterans, baking using ration recipes, looking at WW2 music, dances, and celebrated with a lunchtime socially distanced street party and dance.

"We were very proud of our students thoroughly embracing our VE Day commemorations. They conducted the occasion with the reverence that it deserved whilst celebrating the people



Sketching the hero Captain Tom Moore



# Virtual Video Challenges Keep Students and Staff Connected During Lockdown

Video challenges to keep students and staff connected during the coronavirus crisis proved to be a “fantastic” success.

House-bound students and teachers joined the nationwide ‘craze’ via social media with various challenges set by the school during lockdown.

“It was all about keeping our community engaged and in-touch in a fun and inspiring way,” commented Assistant Principal, Mrs Rachel Trevarthen. “Along with other schools across the country and around the world, we set video challenges to our students and staff as a way of uniting our school community. Department Subject Leaders set challenges every fortnight, with each one being very different! It was a brilliant way to connect the CSIA community during lockdown and allowed us to remember that we all belonged to a school network even though we were not in the same building.”

“CSIA acted to overcome the challenges that lockdown brought, such as students feeling isolated and lonely without their friends. Over the Easter holidays, students responded so well to the House challenges that we wanted to be even more creative,” commented Mrs Trevarthen. “The video challenges were a stimulating way to encourage the CSIA community to come together and have some fun – at a time when everyone needed some light-hearted entertainment!”

During lockdown, CSIA students and staff were involved in the global Toilet Roll challenge, in which they had to think of creative ways to ‘catch’ and ‘pass’ a toilet roll. This challenge was initially set by the Science department but the Humanities department were quick to create their version of the challenge to encourage and inspire students, The English and Media Department then set the ‘Blinding



Vicky Holland Lloyd, head of science, preparing for the toilet roll challenge

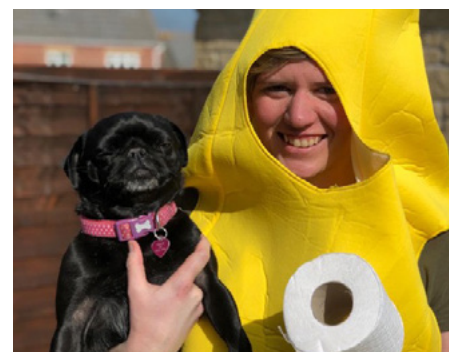
lights’ challenge where students and teachers create short dance montages.

“Feedback from parents has been brilliant with many of them saying it had given their children real anticipation for the weekly challenges so there was always something to look forward to,” continued Mrs Trevarthen. “Each challenge was posted to our school Facebook page, and students submitted their entries to our shared Google classroom.”

“Even though our students haven’t been coming into school, we’re all still part of a very special CSIA community. We have tried to make learning at home as exciting as we can and our online challenges ensured that

everyone kept smiling and stayed connected – it helped us to keep the school community together,” added Mrs Haase, Vice Principal at CSIA.

CSIA teachers also hosted virtual House quizzes via Google classrooms to unite the school community during the pandemic.



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