



# SOUNDWAVE

*Securing the future of deaf children & young people*



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## Acknowledgements

Editor: Debbie Jacobs

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Mary Hare  
Arlington Manor, Snelsmore Common, Newbury, Berkshire, RG14 3BQ.  
[www.maryhare.org.uk](http://www.maryhare.org.uk)



**I am so proud of the staff who have immediately made the switch to online learning and done it so well.**

I am writing this welcome on what should have been our Sports Day and as many of you know, it's an important day in the Mary Hare diary.

Instead, as the few people who have been in school drive off, the campus is deserted and silent. Beautiful as the grounds are, I know what I prefer - for this school to be busy and bustling with young deaf people in a setting they love and where they can thrive. I am so proud of the staff who have immediately made the switch to online learning and done it so well, but don't let anybody tell you that this is what schools will look like in the future. It's been a real reminder of what schools are - they are not just 'knowledge giving' machines. They are places where people are together, where they learn together, laugh and cry together, make mistakes and get things right together. And it's a place where adults and young people all want the same thing - happy confident deaf young people developing the skills to make a real success of adult life.

To do that in the best way, we need to be together and nothing sows that more than this wonderful record of our year - before this rotten pandemic confined us all to our homes.

I speak for the vast majority, I know, when I say that we want our pupils and staff back here, where they belong.

Do enjoy this lovely record of a busy year.

*Peter Gale*

Peter Gale  
Principal and CEO

# Another active, exciting and productive year at Mary Hare Secondary

2019-2020 has been as busy a year as ever. With our annual calendar of events such as Speech Day and Howard's Got Talent, our pupils and staff continue to wow audiences and maintain the momentum from one year to the next.

The year started with Junior Speech Day and our Year 9 activities trip which were then followed by Speech Day where we welcomed Tom Wilson as our Guest Speaker. Tom is currently Head of Collections at The Design Museum, London and told the audience about some of the fascinating projects he has worked on. Tom was inspirational in his speech, reiterating the importance of having goals and not being afraid to change direction in life.

Howard's Got Talent was, as ever, a huge success with acts including card tricks, dance routines, a mime sequence, joke telling and poetry recitals. The winner of the event was Sam Polack with his poem 'Chips'.

Youth speaks competition fielded teams in the intermediate and senior categories.

Trips have included a Year 9 trip to Bletchley Park for the top Maths set, Lacock Abbey for Year 10 and 12 Photography students, a Year 11 Geography trip to Rushall Farm, and a Year 7 Science trip to Winchester Science Museum.

We hope you enjoy the images of this academic year throughout the following pages.



Peter reading Roald Dahl



Year 11 work experience prizes



Year 8 STEM competition at Rutherford Appleton Laboratories



Confidence shines through on the Year 7 Winchester Science trip

CHRISTMAS 2019



6th Form entertainment team



Mr Askew spreads Christmas cheer



Mr Davies in the Christmas spirit



Carried away with the decorations



Animal Care get festive

LAURA FARRIS MP VISIT



Laura Farris tours the school with Mr Gale



Laura Farris visits a Year 8 Art class

MATHS COMPETITION



The Junior Speech Day teams with their certificates. Well done to you all!

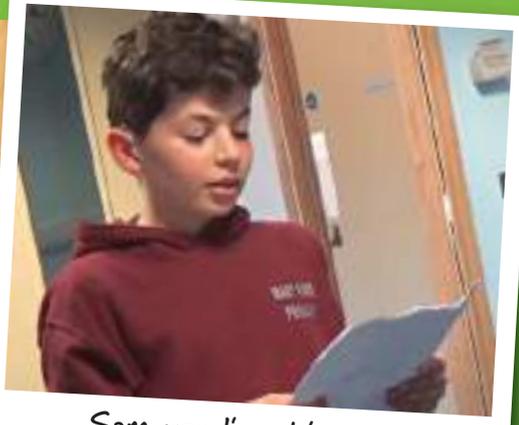


Year 10 Maths competition at Downe House

HOWARD'S  
GOT TALENT



Warming up for a drama lesson



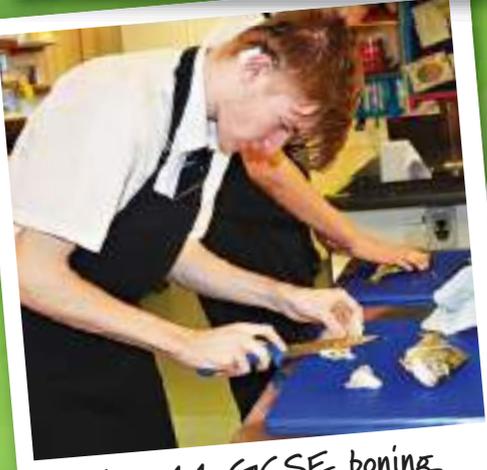
Sam reading his poem



Testing the French food we made!



A great dance performance



Year 11 GCSE boning  
and filleting fish



Fun in Science



Welcome to my world



Willoughby and Amelie making  
a cell mixture



The first duckling hatches

YEAR 7 WINCHESTER SCIENCE TRIP



I'm not sure about this experiment!



Science just got messy



Am I really that small



Waiting for the lock to fill up

YEAR 9 ACTIVITIES WEEK



Raft building. Good teamwork Rio and Rebecca



Mathew caving



Making hot chocolate with a Kelly Kettle



Ronan climbing high

WARREN FARM TRIP



Look at the new arrivals



Helping with feeding



Hungry lambs

BLETCHLEY PARK



Year 9 top set trip to Bletchley Park



What it was like to be a WREN



Isabella on VE Day with her father



Getting creative

LACOCK ABBEY



Lots of smiling faces

AWE SPOTLIGHT ON CAREERS DAY



AWE Spotlight on Careers Day

### YEAR 9 SCIENCE TRIP TO BRISTOL



Going global!



Hands on



Get me out of here



Mr Davies is happy



In a bubble

### PARIS TRIP

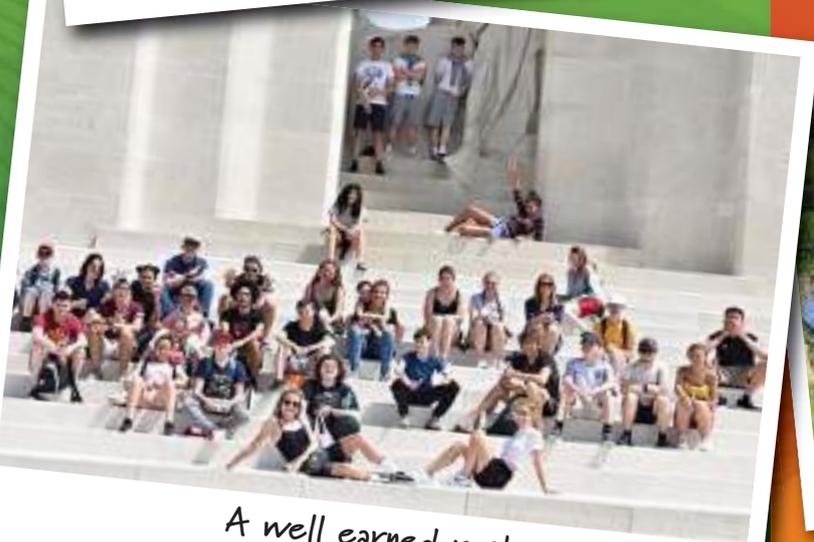


Sunshine in Paris

### YEAR 11 GEOGRAPHY TRIP



Wading in



A well earned rest



Year 11 on their River Study day



# A non-stop year at Mary Hare Primary

It has been another busy year at Mary Hare Primary, despite the school having to reluctantly close during the COVID-19 crisis. Our curriculum continues to develop and broaden, and our pupils continue to be fully engaged and make excellent progress.

We have been delighted to continue to welcome new pupils who have joined us throughout the year and who have all settled in really well and made great progress.

During the year, we have seen the children perform in various guises from the weekly Friday assemblies, to which parents are invited to attend, through to the wonderful Christmas production in which aliens visited planet Earth to learn all about how Earthlings celebrate Christmas in different countries.

We have had visits from many different people ranging from Father Christmas, book authors through to the Police who had come to arrest the Mary Hare Primary Chocolate thief (don't worry, this was all in line with our themed week of crime and punishment. It was only a lighthearted pretend arrest along with real handcuffs, a real police van along with flashing blue lights and a VERY loud siren!!).

It has been another fantastic year for sport at Mary Hare Primary! We won the interschools championships in both boccia and in swimming - we had better ask Colin, our resident caretaker, to build us an extra-large trophy cabinet. We have been so lucky to enjoy such a vast array of sporting activities each year that keeps on being added to, which includes yoga, swimming, horse riding, football, tag rugby, running, multi-skills, squash and many more.

We have started an eco-schools committee alongside our school council this year. This has been very successful with the school council presenting a case to the PTA which subsequently secured just under £200 of PTA funds to buy plants and recycling bins for the school. There have been so many amazing ideas from the committee members that have ranged from doing more to recycle our waste through to doing more to help the wider community,

for example, to help with a river clean up.

At Mary Hare Primary, we strongly believe that all deaf children are capable of achieving their very best through being in the right environment where they are truly able to participate. We have certainly seen each and every one of our children grow and achieve so much this year. We very much look forward to many more achievements in the next academic year.

We have had some lovely trips this year including, The Pitt Rivers Museum, Englefield Estate and Mill on the Brue. We have also been busy with other special events and activities which have supported areas of the curriculum. Once such event which was voted as fantastic by the children was when PSCOs (Police Support Community Officers) visited us. They talked to the children about crime and punishment. A crime scene was set up and the children had to solve who had stolen the chocolate. Using clues (a hair, fingerprints and footprints), the children worked out who the suspect was. The following week, local police officers came to school and 'arrested' the criminal who was Mrs Evans. She was cautioned, had her fingerprints taken and was then driven away in a police car!

Lots of language was learnt and the children really benefited from this first hand, concrete learning experience!



*Ben and Dillion enjoying yoga*



*Namaste*

**SPORTS**

**Football**

The girls' football team has gone from strength to strength this year. It has been fantastic to see them grow in confidence, build their resilience and work together as a team with an 'I can' attitude.

**Yoga**

At Mary Hare Primary we have been fortunate to have Yoga as part of our curriculum taught by Laura and Lisa from an external company. The children attend their class with a genuine desire to engage and relax, something that in this day and age does not happen as much as it should.

There is also a focus on mindfulness and wellbeing which is vitally important to each deaf child's mental health today.

The children have fun, they enjoy learning the unique programmes focused on yo-chi exercise, drama, mental well-being and nutrition which in turn gives them the tools to build confidence alongside physical and emotional strength.

**Swimming**

We were delighted to win the Panathlon National Deaf Swimming final this year. Only having competed in the Panathlon for a year, the pupils were delighted to take the gold medals home. The win really inspired the pupils to continue working hard with their swimming and to get ready for their next competitive challenge.

**SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL**

We are extremely lucky to have two ELSAs (Emotional Literacy and Support Assistants), at Mary Hare Primary. By being emotionally literate, children are better able to focus on their learning. Supporting the children to improve their own skills of finding strategies to cope with feelings means they can find it much easier to cope with any new problems they might face.

Helping the child to understand and cope with their feelings and those of others can help to develop improved self-esteem and positive interactions with others.

**CHRISTMAS 2019**



Donations for the soup kitchen



Father Christmas comes to visit



Tinksie and Ava with Father Christmas



Christmas turkey anyone?



Wreath making



Cheeky elf

**FOOTBALL MATCH AGAINST ARLINGTON LABS**

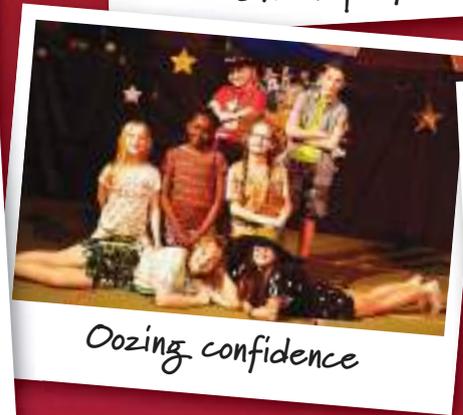


The winning team

**NATIVITY PLAY**



A wise man



Oozing confidence



Budding actors

MUSIC WORKSHOP



Learning about rhythm



Deep in concentration



A duet..?

BERKSHIRE COUNTY SHOW



Dylan flying down the helter skelter



At the funfair



That was so scary



Hot chocolate Maya style



Chocolate making workshop fun



Author Jarrard B Elson visits Mary Hare with his new book

POLICE VISIT



We will solve the mystery



Trying out the handcuffs



We've got the thief



Under arrest!



Afaan getting into character

### COMPETING CONFIDENTLY



Off to the Boccia Championships



The winning team at the Boccia Championships

### BOWLING



Getting into the competitive spirit



A fun day out at the bowling alley



Waiting our turn



Gold medal winners at Panathlon Swimming Finals

### WORLD BOOK DAY 2020



A glamorous Wilbur the Pig



Our very friendly spider



The girls' winning team

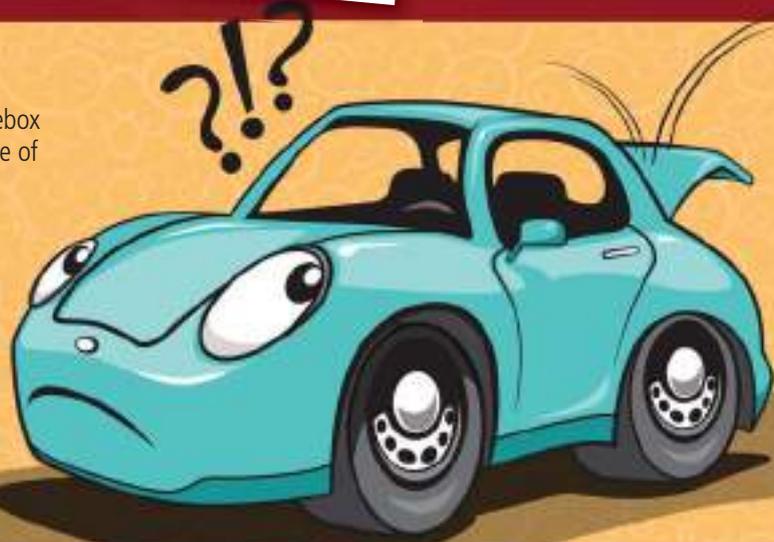
### SPEECH AND LANGUAGE

Every year our pupils enter the National Voicebox Competition which is run by the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists.

We were delighted that Afaan made it to the finals which was a fantastic achievement as an estimated 5000 pupils entered this year with 25 being shortlisted.

Afaan's joke was...

Why can't a car play football?  
Because it only has one boot!



# TRIPS

## PITT RIVERS MUSEUM



We are here



Looking forward to our day out

## ENGLEFIELD COUNTRYSIDE DAY



There is no milk coming out!

## TITANIC EXHIBITION, SEA CITY MUSEUM



Anna takes a step back in time



At the helm



Making a sand river



Watching the Blacksmith

## BUCKLEBURY FARM PARK



Kings of the castle



Any likeness to Rudolph?



Team break in the woods at Mill on the Brue

# MILL ON THE BRUE



Ready to go!



Some time with the animals



Beaming with confidence



I've worked up an appetite



Well done Roxy



'I can fly high'



Not an easy challenge



'I've set my sights high'



Afaan and Ben bonding



Annabel enjoying the climb



Time for bed but full of energy



Right on target Nuala



Perfecting archery skills



Hang on in there Ben



Sophie Cverden



Simron Gaurung



Setayesh Kamrani



Alexander Prizeman



Alexander Courtney Guy

# 'Have the confidence to change direction if your first plan in life does not work out.'

Our annual Speech Day took place on Friday 29th November. Our guest speaker this year was Tom Wilson who left Mary Hare in 1997. Tom spoke to the audience about his time at Mary Hare and what he has achieved since in his career, now holding the position of Head of Collections at the Design Museum. Tom talked about his leap of faith when he left the design firm he was working for and began an MA at the V&A Museum in London as a design historian. Giving some potted examples of projects he has worked on as well as sharing some impressive images of designs, Tom inspired the pupils to believe in themselves and not let their deafness define or limit them.

## LIST OF AWARDS:

### Naomi Whitely

Dickson Memorial Prize (Head Girl)

McLellan Prize for Art

Anne Maze Prize for English

Jasibr Kaur Johal Prize

Subject Prize for Psychology

### Pollyanna Begbie

Elizabeth Dyson Prize for Progress and Achievement

Margaret Caws Prize for Art

Subject Prize for Art and Design: Textile Design

### Alexander Courtney Guy

Chairman's prize for Academic Achievement at A Level

Subject Prize for English

Subject Prize for French

Subject Prize for Technology

### Ciaran O'Brien

Chairman's Prize for Academic Achievement at A Level

Duffell Prize for Effort and Progress (Advanced Level)

Amy Sale Memorial Prize for Drama

Subject Prize for Dance

Subject Prize for Photography

### Rebecca Dakin

Principal's Prize for Academic Achievement at GCSE

Annie Fogden Prize for GCSE English

Duke of Edinburgh Award Prize

Subject Prize for Business Studies

Subject Prize for Design Technology: Food

Subject Prize for History

Subject Prize for Religious Studies



India Rose Appleton



Mae Keenan



Luke Champney



Ellie Eagles



Ciaran O'Brien

**Rebecca Hegedus**  
 Principal's prize for Academic Achievement at GCSE  
 Subject Prize for Art and Design: Art  
 Subject Prize for Biology

**Benedict Morgan**  
 Principal's Prize for Academic Achievement at GCSE  
 Subject Prize for Chemistry

**Caitlin Greenfield**  
 Phyllis M Buckell Prize for Integration  
 Subject Prize for Child Care

**Savannah Day**  
 Rose Fenney Service Prize

**Imogen Gibbons**  
 Pope Music Prize

**Jessica Hungbeme**  
 Trevor Brooking Cup for Sport  
 Subject Prize for Landbased Studies

**Alexander Prizeman**  
 John Rowsell Sports' Endeavour Prize

**Nazgol Shakersepasgozar**  
 Jack Askew Prize for Science

**Jenny Sampson**  
 Jack Askew Prize for Science

**Ellie Eagles**  
 Lightmonger's Science Innovation Prize

**Thomas Keer**  
 Donnington Lodge Speech Endeavour Prize  
 Subject Prize for Maths  
 Subject Prize for Physics  
 Subject Prize for Sports' Studies

**India-Rose Appleton**  
 Donnington Lodge Speech Endeavour Prize

**Thomas Irish**  
 Hugh Ogus Award for Post Grad Success

**Ellis McLean**  
 Laurentia Tan Award

**Joanne Bayad**  
 Lesley White Challenge Cup

**Morgan Keane**  
 Lesley White Challenge Cup  
 Subject Prize for Drama

**Setayesh Kamrani**  
 Subject Prize for Art and Design:  
 Graphic Communications

**Luke Champney**  
 Subject Prize for Computing

**Joshua Austen**  
 Subject Prize for Design Technology:  
 Resistant Materials

**Simron Gurung**  
 Subject Prize for Home Economics:  
 Child Development

**Martha Ryan**  
 Subject Prize for Applied Science  
 Subject Prize for Psychology

**Freya Connelly Warne**  
 Subject Prize for Animal Care

**Ruby Bando**  
 Subject Prize for Beauty



Morgan Keane



Benedict Morgan



Imogen Gibbons



Katherine Robinson



Ruby Bando



Martha Ryan



Jeremy Weekes



Rebecca Dakin



Aman Hussain



Nazgol Shakersepasgozar



Annie Alexander



Thomas Irish



Thomas Keer

**LIST OF AWARDS (CONTINUED):**

Jayden Reid  
Subject Prize for Plumbing

Annie Alexander  
Work Placement Prize

Sophie Cuerden  
Tony Shaw Vocational Award

Charlie Hadley  
PTA prize

**EXAMINATION CERTIFICATES:**

Aman Hussain  
Mae Keenan  
Ivanka Pritchard  
Katherine Robinson  
Aaron Spear  
Ben Thomas Parry  
Jeramy Weekes

Mark Chandler  
25 Year's Service

Kevin Robinson  
25 Years' Service



Ellis McLean



Joanne Bayad



Rebecca Hegedus



Naomi Whitely



Ben Thomas Parry



Jessica Hungbeme



Pollyana Begbie



Joshua Avsten



Caitlin Greenfield



Jenny Sampson



Jayden Reid



Ivanka Pritchard



Freya Connelly Warne



Savannah Day

**People News**

During the year, we said goodbye to a few members of our team. Always sad to see someone leave, but as always, we wish them the very best for the future.

**KYLIE BARKER**

After 15 years, Kylie Barker left Mary Hare at Christmas. She grew the profile and excellence of the Dance department during her time at Mary Hare.



Deane Mason

**DEANE MASON**

Deane left Mary Hare in October after 20 years. He was given a send off by colleagues in Blount Hall.



Matt Shurey

**MATT SHUREY**

Matt leaves the Mary Hare Maintenance Team after being at the school for 5 years. He is moving to Servico as a Furniture Repair Technician. We wish Matt lots of luck and will miss his calm, friendly approach around the school.



# Our new Head Boy and Girl and their deputies

Each year we run a hustings evening for those pupils wanting to apply for Head Boy, Head Girl and Deputy. This year saw as much interest as previous years with some wonderful presentations.

We are delighted to announce that the following were selected:

Rebecca Hegedus	Head Girl
Lucas Boulet-Mpome	Head Boy
Rebecca Dakin	Deputy Head Girl
Cameron Dyer	Deputy Head Boy



Lucas Boulet-Mpome  
Head Boy



Rebecca Hegedus  
Head Girl

“ *It means a lot to me that I have managed to achieve this position. It would be a great experience to be working with the prefect and staffs around the school. Mary Hare has helped me with numerous things, without Mary Hare I wouldn't have achieved much. My quote for anyone reading this is, "Work hard, dream big, never give up"*

Lucas Boulet-Mpome - Head Boy

“

*As Head Girl, I am proud to represent Mary Hare. I am passionate about being inclusive, communicating with everyone and encouraging confidence. Mary Hare provides a high standard of education and I want to work alongside them in making this achievable for every student.'*

Rebecca Hegedus - Head Girl



Cameron Dyer  
Deputy Head Boy

“

*'I've been a member of Mary Hare for almost my whole life, including Mary Hare Primary, I am truly privileged to be appointed Deputy Head boy. I cannot make my days longer, so I strive to make them better.'*

Cameron Dyer - Deputy Head Boy



Rebecca Dakin  
Deputy Head Girl

“

*I wanted to apply to be Deputy Head Girl, as I am inspired to make a difference by supporting younger students to enjoy the numerous benefits Mary Hare has to offer. My years at Mary Hare having instilled confidence and independence. This includes the support and rehabilitation they gave through my decision to have successful sequential cochlear implants, later than most of my peers.'*

Rebecca Dakin - Deputy Head Girl

# Art & Design

A large exhibition was set up at The Chiltern Arts Festival of students' Art and Design work. The audience was over 140 people.

Students also took part in a postcard exhibition, 'Messages from our Environment', where their work was exhibited in The Arlington Arts Centre alongside that of other professional artists as part of a community project.

Our pupils also took part in a Rotary Club competition titled, 'Through my eyes.' There were amazing submissions from pupils including Rebecca Hegedus' focussing on body image; Chloe Martin's focussing on the environment and its beauty, and Aidan O'Gorman whose piece focussed on the distorted world he experiences without sound.

Although these pieces did not make it through to the next round, the students were praised by Kath Nurse of The Rotary Club for their participation.

## THE ROYAL ACADEMY YOUNG ARTISTS SUMMER EXHIBITION

Many of our students entered work for this exhibition including:

### Hannah Allen

'My project is based on Juxtaposition and I wanted to create a composition that did not make sense. The feather which is lighter sinks to the bottom whereas the heavier stone floats upwards. It makes you think about what is real and what is imagined.'

### Emily Sharpley

'This is a collection of five paintings that describe my experience of deafness through the five different senses. From left to right - sight, hearing, touch, taste and smell. It is the end result of a year long Personal Investigation, where I experimented with a wide range of media and techniques. My initial ideas were developed after looking at the work of Rembrandt.'

## MESSAGE FROM OUR ENVIRONMENT

This was a community project which was showcased in Arlington Arts Centre. It encouraged contributions from staff, pupils and local artists.



Amazing work from Mary Hare pupils at the Chiltern Arts Festival Exhibition



A trip to the V&A Museum



Andrew Hazelden teaching his skills at the Potter's Workshop



Budding potters



Chelle Benton's entry



Seb Allen's entry

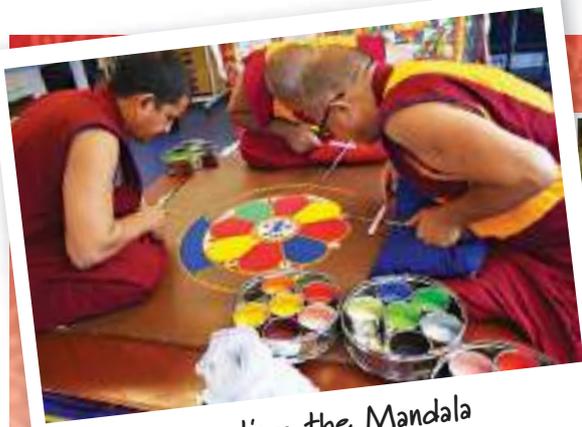


Throwing a pot



Message from our Environment Year 8 collage entries

## TASHA LHUNPO MONASTERY VISIT



Creating the Mandala



The Ceremony



Willoughby getting creative



Christmas Elf in the recording studio

## Music

On Sunday 1st March, students from Mary Hare joined over 100 other young performers for the Youth Arts Day in High Wycombe as part of the Chiltern Arts Festival. This year the festival celebrated 250 years since Beethoven's birth and the theme of the concert was overcoming adversity. A range of arts were seen including visual, performance and written.

The Mary Hare singers performed two songs, 'Million Dreams' from The Greatest Showman, and 'Famous' by Jamie Cullum. This group of seven singers (Sileas, Tilly, Chayanne, Olivia, Lili, Pearla and Charlotte) from across all year groups, were accompanied by Razzaq on the Vibraphone.

They performed confidently and professionally, and it was a wonderful opportunity for them to engage with music in a variety of genres and formats.

## Music Technology

Music Technology students had the opportunity to do a day of work experience at Studio 91, a professional Music Studio based in Newbury. The students worked with an engineer at the studio and learnt how a professional recording studio approaches Mixing and Mastering, how to implement Reverb, EQ and dynamic compression on various instruments like drums, guitar, bass, keyboards and vocals and had the opportunity to work as professionals to create a mix of a recorded piece of music which had been created by professional musicians.

The students had a great day and the engineer at the studio was impressed by their professionalism. The skills that they learned will support their studies on their Level 3 Btec course and one member of the group has been inspired to apply for a Music course once he leaves Mary Hare at the end of this year. We are delighted that Razzaq has been offered a place at a university in London to be able to take the next step towards his dream of a career in music.

## Instrumental lessons

The Music Department continues to offer a wider range of one to one lessons with our very experienced peripatetic teachers. We currently have students learning Piano, Drums, Guitar, Bass Guitar, Music Technology, Harp, Trombone and Singing, from across year 7 through to 13. Pupils have had the opportunity this year to perform in the Christmas production and we have performed in a whole school assembly, showcasing some of the talented musicians that we have. We run a number of successful music clubs, giving pupils the opportunity to work together and develop their ensemble skills and currently have a lower school band, a senior band and a singing group. If you would like your son or daughter to try an instrument, please contact us and we will arrange a trial lesson - we are even managing to keep them going through lockdown thanks to the dedication of our instrumental teachers and the wonders of modern technology! An instrument at home is not necessary - there have been some great drumming lessons taking place with pots and pans!

# Drama

In November students from Years 8, 9 & 10 took part in our third contribution to the annual Shakespeare School's Festival performing Richard III. The ensemble rose to the challenge, giving an unexpected performance. Peter Walker as Richard charmed his way to the top, Sophie Johnson was Anne, Chloe Burton as Old Margaret, Matilda Moutrie as Queen Elizabeth and Neve Massey as the Old Duchess. Other roles were played by Omar Sammour, Georgie Ellis, Miles Priestman, Jacob Tidcombe, Amelia Molyneux, Scarlett Thompson, Mayowa Bejide, Jasmine Wilkins and Emma Kirkaldy.

Samuel de la Torre, one of the festival's professional Directors praised the production, saying: "Your performance of Richard III was a truly powerful and exhilarating performance to say the least. One of the main roles of being a performer in live theatre is to convey a story to the audience; not only did you do this to a very high standard, you also managed to evoke true emotion and involvement from the audience and this is when a performance steps up to a professional level. As audience members we felt a true sense of anger and frustration towards the characters, and wanted to take sides; your show was a true and raw performance."

Such was the success of the production, that our company has been chosen as one of three out of over 700 schools to present an extract at The House of Lords as part of festival showcase. This was due to take place on Thursday 1st April but has been postponed to a future date.

## SHAKESPEARE SCHOOLS FESTIVAL



*A great cast*



*In character*



*Mayowa and Peter*



*Rehearsing for the Chiltern Arts Festival*



*A moving performance*

## Other news...

During 'lockdown', our A Level artists have been working hard and looking to their future. Emily Sharpley and Hannah Allan have both entered work in to the Royal Academy Young Artists' Summer Show. This will initially be held as an online exhibition and then work will be selected to go forward to an actual exhibition to be held at the Royal Academy of Arts after lockdown. Let's wish them luck.

Drama and Performing Arts students have been taking advantage of all the live recordings of theatre available, having watched Frankenstein, Jane Eyre and One Man, Two Guvnors from the National Theatre, Emma Rice's Wise Children and Gecko's The Institute.

Year 10 have continued rehearsals and discussion about their exam work and KS3 have been developing monologues based on the lives of iconic people from the 20th century.



*Defying Gravity by Hannah Allen*



*'The Five Senses' Acrylic on Canvas by Emily Sharpley*

# Dance

This year a small group of students from across the school were selected to take part in ManMade, an annual festival of dance for boys. Joining pupils from Kennet, Theale, Trinity, Enborne and Winchcombe Schools, our students were able to work with professional dancers and choreographers to create a new piece of repertoire which later featured in the Christmas Production. Aaron Bannister, Samuel Bradley, Alex Bouton, Reece Dowdican, Roman Eminowicz, Jasper Loten, Anthony Scruton, Kristopher Taylor and Thomas Weeks had a full day's workshop and benefited hugely from the skills they learnt.

In February, the dance department welcomed students from Year 9 to Year 13 to participate in a professional dance company workshop with 3Fall, held in Arlington Arts. The students experienced working with a hearing company and mixed with a range of year groups in the session learning repertoire and working on their dance performance techniques. The Mary Hare Dance Company started up, taking place on Monday after school with students from years 7, 8, 9, 11, 12 and 13 taking part. The students were working towards performing at Spring Equinox - a dance showcase hosted by Newbury's ACE Dance Company which was due to take place at the Newbury Corn Exchange on Tuesday 31st March 2020. Students were going to have the opportunity to interact with hearing students and have a platform to showcase their abilities!

Different classes have been experiencing virtual dance classes and some have been dancing in their homes with Miss Seigel through Microsoft Teams video calls. Year 10, 11 and 13 were set site specific dance choreography projects in which they created a dance specifically designed to be performed in their garden. They were also challenged with planning and having this dance filmed, exploring dance for camera and how different camera angles and shots have an effect on the dance. This project links with a professional work, *Within Her Eyes* - by James Cousins studied at GCSE Level.



An incredible lift



Rehearsing for Manmade



Thriller



Jayden meeting the cast of 'Kiss me Kate'

## Staff changes

Miss Kennett was delighted to return to work in October after a year of maternity leave and resumes position as Head of Department and we said goodbye to Mrs Barker at Christmas after many years of teaching Dance at Mary Hare. In January we welcomed Miss Seigel to the department. After a childhood of dance training which led to her graduating from the University of Chichester, Miss Seigel wanted to share her love and passion for dance and trained as a school dance teacher. She joins us from a school in Oxfordshire where she taught for 5 years, but with a keen interest in SEND provision she was thrilled to apply and be offered her dream job at Mary Hare. Miss Seigel has trained in a variety of dance styles, from contemporary to Irish dancing, from street to tap! Miss Seigel says, 'I love being part of the Mary Hare Family already and can't wait to develop dance, working with the pupils and wonderful staff team.'

## Performing Arts

The 2019 Christmas Production was an adaptation of a short story by Lilli Karahodza (Year 9), set in a future where humanity has used up Earth's resources. A group of teenagers find themselves in a deadly Biome, where they are used for environmental experiments. The evil doctors in question were Josh Buxton, Zak Njie and Chloe Burton, who were holding Kris Taylor, Marni Roff, Morgan Williams, Tilly Moutrie and Charlotte Tuck captive. However, Emily Burton and Mariah Grech mounted a daring rescue and the show ended with a glimmer of hope for the future.

Between all of this drama there were some excellent dance performances choreographed and supported by Year 11 and Sixth Form students, featuring solo and group performances from across the school. The band, comprising students and staff, played a mixture of Christmas and other pop classics, plus the growing singing group performed two excellent numbers.



## Another busy year at Coles Diner



*Sewing in Coles Diner*



*Wreath making workshop*



*Wreath making*

Coles Diner runs as a non-profit making club, it not only supports the young deaf teenagers at Mary Hare, but we reach out into the community too to support other young people. All the money made goes straight back into it to continue the work with young people.

I have now been running this for over 18 years and it has helped lots of charities along the way. Currently I am making scrubs, hats, bags and ear protectors for the NHS.

### SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER

It all started with cancellations of the fun run and the pamper evening and then the Africa trip was cancelled due to an Ebola risk causing a complete reschedule and plan for the next trip. However, the team still managed to donate £1400 to the deaf school in Africa as we already fund two children's education and I am hoping this will help go towards supporting more pupils. I am hoping the Romania trip will go ahead as planned next year when things have settled down.

### DECEMBER

The Christmas Market did go ahead! There were 30 stalls from all over the local community helping support local charities and causes. There was also a Christmas Wreath Making workshop in Coles Diner. Afternoon tea was available and it was lovely to see families, staff and pupils join in together to make some lovely wreaths.

The Christmas disco was also a lovely event and the young people enjoyed themselves here at Mary Hare.

At Christmas, Coles Diner donated food parcels to the local soup kitchen and the elderly in the community.

## WHAT DOES COLES DINER COST PER YEAR?

**£5,000** to train, and pay the lifeguards who themselves are Mary Hare pupils

**£3,000** to train, and employ the youth club staff who are all Mary Hare pupils

**£1,000** to run the life skills programme to help engage the young people at Mary Hare within the local community

**£1,000** to fund HD Gamers den a club for Mary Hare pupils and the wider community with deafness, ADHD and or ASC.

That is just £10,000 a year to keep us going

I am hoping we will all be back together soon. I miss our hot chocolate chats and catch ups after a busy shift with the workers!

**FEBRUARY**

A family Bingo event was also held for families and friends of Mary Hare. It was very busy with over 70 people joining in. There were lots of prizes to win and a mouthwatering range of cooked food on offer too!

**MARCH**

It was off to a glamping weekend for Years 11, 12 and 13 at Oakerwood. Activities included quad biking, shooting and a zip wire. It was a lovely atmosphere and the young people and staff enjoyed themselves so much. I think the highlight was playing sardines and singing around the campfire and eating marshmallows. Some lovely memories to share.

**LOCKDOWN**

Then COVID-19 and we were all thrown out of routine and Coles Diner closed its doors. This meant moving from a physical youth club to a virtual youth club, whilst still thinking of ways to support the young people.

Sadly, some events had to be cancelled during this period, but I am sure there will be an opportunity in the future. These included the Romania trip which was due to take place in July, the Coles Diner 18th birthday party and our annual Summer Fayre.

**LIFEGUARDS**

A new team completed their training and exam and managed to work from January until we all went home in March. The team consists of four 6th formers joining the older cohort. These lifeguards are invaluable to have. With lifeguarding such a life skill to have, two of them have secured additional work on top of their job here at Mary Hare, which is amazing.

Kirilynn Gardner



*Quad biking with Coles Diner*

**ONLINE ACTIVITIES**

**ONLINE LIFE SKILLS**

So, every Monday the life skills games club has been running. I have set food challenges each week and seen some amazing results! We also play games for an hour - catching up is fun. Games have varied from boogle, dice games, harvest dice, taskmaster, scavenger hunts and more.

**ONLINE YOUTH CLUB**

I have sent packs home with a variety of activities and games for young people to complete, as well as posting weekly games, quizzes and puzzles on the teams site and facebook. I have managed to get a small group playing games via the video call option on teams too just like the life skills games. It is just nice to be able to still connect with the youth club.



*Playing a game on Life Skills remotely*



*Luke Champney's Food Challenge Entry*



*Ellie Eagles' Food Challenge entry*



*Benedict Morgan's Food Challenge Entry*

**FOOD CHALLENGE 1**

Make a pasta dish using a secret ingredient- this can be anything from an unusual spice to an added vegetable or colouring! Your choice.

Take a photo and on Monday upload them onto here!

Remember! You must be able to eat it and one person from your family has to try it and give 3 words to describe it.

# Thank you!



## Thanks to all your efforts, we've beaten our target...



Didn't they do well



Pippa gets the auction started

The past twelve months has seen support for the Primary School grow even more. We are really grateful to our donors and fundraisers and at the time of writing this we have raised £3,220,000 towards the new Primary School. When we set out on this mammoth appeal, we set ourselves the target of raising £3 million. Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, we have now 'set our sights high' and we are aiming to raise £3,700,000.

The current situation has inevitably had some impact on our plans for the new school. We will see a delay to the start of the building work, which will now begin next spring instead of this summer, with the new school ready for pupils by autumn 2022. But rest assured we are still as determined as ever to build this world-class provision for deaf children of primary age.

On 2nd September we held a Charity Art Auction with the help of Dreweatts. It was a wonderful event, supported by a large number of artists. We are very grateful to all the artists and to Dreweatts, without whom this event would not have been possible. Our Ambassador Pippa Middleton got things started by taking up the auctioneer's gavel and selling the first lot. The event raised over £32,000 which was matched by the Greenham Trust via the Good Exchange website.

The Pheasant Inn, a great supporter of the Mary Hare Foundation, held its Christmas Fair in November where over £500 was collected in donations.



Great coverage in 'Hello!'



Interpreting a presentation



Quilters



Andrew Strivens

In February this year our team was joined by Cecilia Burdett-Ward. Cecilia is working part-time with responsibility for raising funds from trusts and foundations, for the benefit of the Burwood Centre, Mary Hare courses, Mary Hare Secondary and Primary Schools.

The Ridgeway Quilters exhibition of quilts was to be held on 28th March but had to be cancelled. Their raffle went ahead and proceeds will be donated to the Mary Hare School textiles department.

Other events that had to be cancelled include the Bluebell Woods opening, The Dance Competition in Arlington Arts and our Quiz in London. These will all be re-scheduled in the future so keep checking our website for news on future dates.

We are grateful to John Lewis in Newbury for their donation of £1000 towards the refurbishment of our Health & Well-being room in school.

Members of staff and pupils at the Primary School were especially enthusiastic in their support for Wear It Loud Day on Thursday 7th May.

Since March, the fundraising team has been working from home. We have carried on writing to potential funders and people have been very generous. We have also been looking for support for other areas of Mary Hare's work that will be affected by the Coronavirus pandemic. Arlington Arts Centre has had to close and like so many arts venues will need financial support to get through these difficult times.

Mary Hare's businesses, that usually contribute hundreds of thousands to the School each year have been severely affected by the virus. The next twelve months will see their profits drop and the School will be looking to plug the financial gap. We have had to cancel our fundraising events so we will be looking for other ways of raising even more funds to help with the running of the school. If you want to help, you can make a donation online at [www.maryhare.org.uk/fundraising](http://www.maryhare.org.uk/fundraising) and click on donate now.



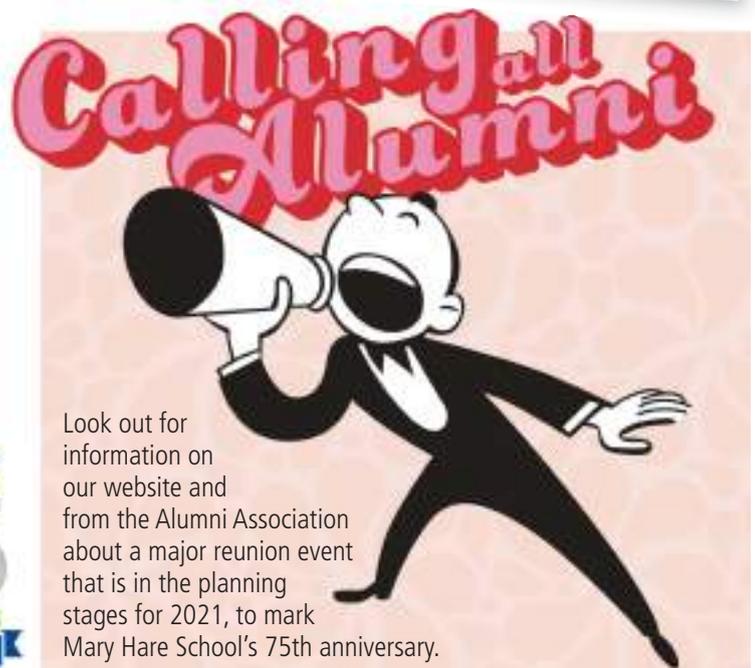
100k we made it!



Thank you Windsor Yacht Club

## FUTURE EVENTS

We hope that we will be able to organise another Carol Concert at St Mark's Church in Englefield on 10th December. The last one in 2018 was particularly uplifting and a lovely start to the Christmas season. Check our website for news on this and other events.



Look out for information on our website and from the Alumni Association about a major reunion event that is in the planning stages for 2021, to mark Mary Hare School's 75th anniversary.

# Deaf Awareness Week Wear it Loud



Mrs Allum Wearing it Loud



Mrs Gambles Wearing it Loud



Ed Wearing it Loud



Faye Wearing it Loud



Thomas Weeks Wearing it Loud



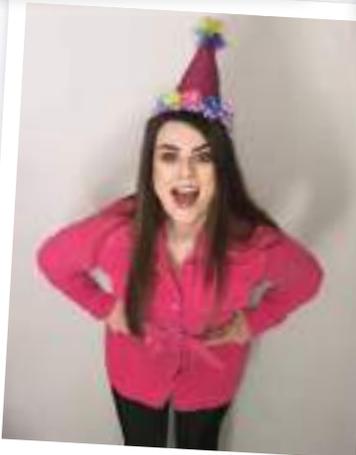
Rachel Solly Wearing it Loud



Claire Whittaker Wearing it Loud



The Development Team Wearing it Loud



Rosanna Wearing it Loud



Rachel Sheen Wearing it Loud



Mrs Duffield Wearing it Loud



Jenny Weeks  
Wearing it Loud



Judy Legate  
Wearing it Loud



Jenni Wearing it Loud



Alison Laidler  
Wearing it Loud



Nicola Van Der Zwalu  
Wearing it Loud



Stuart Huntley  
Wearing it Loud



Susan Tanner  
Wearing it Loud



Rosie Wearing it Loud



Mr & Mrs Trigwell  
Jones Wearing it Loud



Rufus  
Wearing it Loud



Pip the cat  
Wearing it Loud



Hector  
Wearing it Loud



The 'Set Your Sights High' award continues to inspire our pupils and is enthusiastically backed by teaching staff by recognising pupils who have excelled academically, socially and in many other ways.

Well done to all those who have received awards this year:

**DUNCAN MCGOWAN**

The turn around in his behaviour has been amazing and staff have so many positive things to say about him. The Speech & Language department commented that he has greatly improved his oral communication and he was also a fantastic buddy for a visiting Year 9 pupil.

**VALENTIN ROCI**

Valentin completed the Bronze Level of the iDEA (Duke of York Inspiring Digital Enterprise Award) and is now working towards Silver.

**MAYOWA BEJIDE**

For never complaining even when she lives miles away from home and cannot regularly see her family.

**WINSTON DUNKLEY**

For doing a great piece of work in English, achieving more than he thought he could and never giving up.

**ALFIE JOHNSON**

For being a remarkable buddy to visiting students making them feel happy, welcome and comfortable.

**SILEAS HESTER**

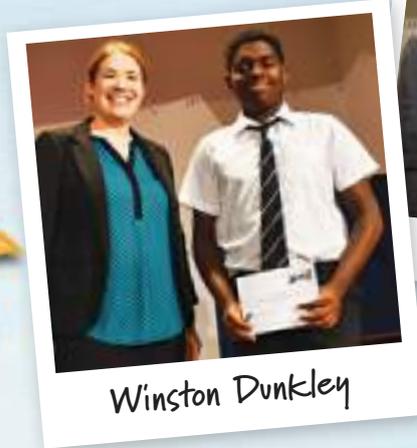
For doing really well in her drum lessons and for making great progress.

**JULIA WEJNAR**

For being kind and helpful with a visiting primary pupil during an audiology assessment.

**TOM GREEN**

For helping to organise PE lessons and making sure lessons ran smoothly.



Winston Dunkley

**RAZ AHMED**

For helping with the Year 10s and engaging with the younger students.

**GRACE THOMAS**

Being an outstanding leader in the basketball tournament and representing Birmingham Ladies' Deaf Football in Milan.

**GEORGIE ELLIS**

For her exceptional hard work and commitment in Art and for entering pieces of artwork for a competition and exhibition.

**ELLE JOHNSTONE**

For putting out her neighbours' rubbish each week during lockdown in bright fancy dress and keeping everyone smiling.

**MAX STILES**

For following his GCSE French lessons online and doing an extra 2 hours of French A Level preparation each week.

**SCARLETT BATTERTON**

For following her GCSE French lessons online and doing an extra 2 hours of French A Level preparation each week.

**ELOIDE BERNARD**

For continuing French lessons virtually from France during lockdown and for going the extra mile.



Sileas Hester



Mayowa Bejide



Tom Green



Valentin Roci



Elle Johnstone



Alfie Johnson



Duncan McGowan



Julia Wejnar



## Being kind not only makes others feel good, but it also boosts your own positive feelings.

This year has been a strange one for us all, with school going into lockdown due to Covid-19, events such as Wellbeing Week had to be cancelled. However, during the lockdown period it was important for students to be aware of and look after their wellbeing. We set up a Wellbeing Teams page with funny pictures and videos, inspirational quotes, tips on self-care and, the most popular, Pet of the Day. We were still able to offer support for pupils via messages or video calls and theming the Easter Activity Pack around the 5 Ways to Wellbeing.

On the run up to Christmas we had different activities promoting kindness. Activities included the Kindness Christmas Tree in the playground, students and staff making an act of kindness pledge. Pledges ranged from donating meals to the local food bank, helping care staff and messaging a friend. After staff donated unused Christmas cards, during a lunchtime, students could come and write a Christmas card to thank someone who had helped them during the year. Being kind not only makes others feel good, but it also boosts your own positive feelings.

To celebrate Children's Mental Health Week and Time to Talk Day we had a mobile climbing wall in the school's playground all day for the students to 'Find their Brave'. Check out the full write up in the 'Getting Active' section.

Within the Year 9 PSHE curriculum we cover Healthy Relationships. Every year we welcome SignHealth who deliver a series of four workshops with the students.



Mr Gale making his Kindness Pledge



Omar Sammour and Chloe Burton 'Finding their brave'

This year the workshops covered topics including healthy and unhealthy relationships, sexting, consent and domestic abuse. The pupils really enjoyed the interactive workshops and learning how to keep themselves safe.

Excitingly we have received news of a donation to decorate and furnish a small room in the school that will be dedicated to 1on1 meetings, including the school counsellor's sessions and DeafCAMHS interventions. Watch this space next year for before and after pictures.

Charlie Hadley



Healthy Relationships Workshop



Jachi and Amy writing Kindness Christmas cards

# A CHANGING LANDSCAPE DURING COVID19



**Christopher Lehfeldt, an alumnus of Mary Hare and a Dentist practicing in the US, tells us what it has been like in lockdown and how his day to day work situation has changed.**

Before the COVID-19 epidemic, I would sit in front of the patient, keeping his or her face in view to lip read my patient, to explain dental treatment plans, concepts, dental disease and diagnoses, for example. (I had hearing aids until I had a cochlear implant in 2005 - I did not realize until then how loud the dental drill was! How scared children were of the saliva ejector!)

I was very much involved in obtaining a patient's medical history, names of medications listed, dental pain symptoms myself, with the dental assistant in a passive role. Now with the pandemic going on, we have had to shift gears and 'suit up' with PPE and N95 masks, making it impossible for me to lipread my staff members. Now I have delegated information gathering to my dental assistant, I can then read their electronic medical record in advance on the laptop, before suiting up. I was concerned about being able to lipread any patients with their face mask on at first! Ironically, while I have the fortune of lipreading while I am examining their mouth, I have also the perverse bad luck of being exposed potentially to the coronavirus!

At this time of writing, we dentists can only treat dental emergencies, alleviate pain and discomfort and put off any elective dental treatment and dental cleanings until when it is safe to use the dental high speed drill or ultrasonic scaler that cause aerosolized viral droplets in the entire dental setting. Extractions, applications of sodium diamine fluoride, dentinal desensitizer, temporary glass ionomer restorative materials can be done at the present time.

Thanks to Mary Hare, leaving in 1979 with 16 O levels and 3 A levels, I had an extensive depth of understanding in physics, biology and chemistry, which prepared me well for university and dental school!



Before lockdown...



Chris in his PPE during lockdown



***Now with the pandemic going on, we have had to shift gears and 'suit up' with PPE and N95 masks, making it impossible for me to lipread my staff members.***



# KEEP CALM AND CARRY ON LEARNING

**Understandably, the COVID-19 crisis and the shutting of schools begged the question, 'How will children keep learning?'**

Mary Hare seized the challenge with both hands and made it happen.

The school shut on 20th March after the enormous task of managing the safe return of boarders back to their homes across the UK. But the work didn't stop there. The school and its teaching staff set up virtual classes ensuring that pupils' timetables continued 'as normal', albeit a new normal!

Teachers registered pupils as present at class; lessons were delivered via video link and a multitude of resources were put up online for pupils to access.

Of course, this unusual circumstance required creative ways of learning at times. A Year 10 Physics class required pupils to make their homemade model of the solar system. The pupils threw themselves into the task and got very creative, one pupil setting the model up in the garden using different sized rocks.

Our French Assistant continued to give French speaking lessons all the way from her home in France to our GCSE and potential A Level students.

Other lessons included a science experiment for the primary pupils and a culinary challenge set by Youth Club encouraging pupils to cook a meal for their family at home.

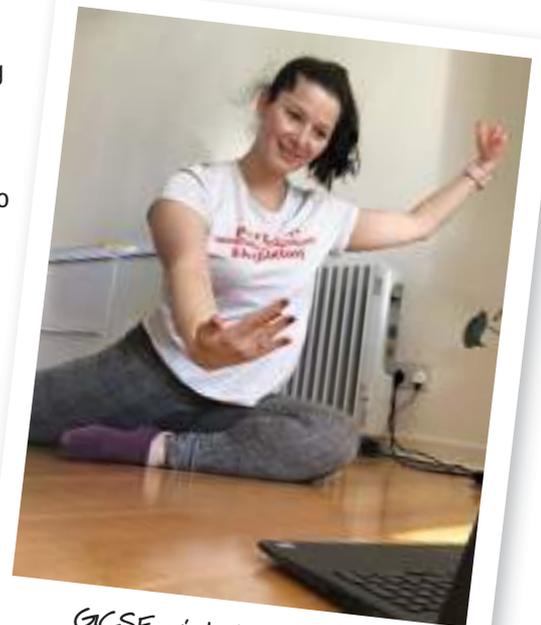
Following the Easter break, some slight changes were made to the timetable, so that pupils did not tire too easily and so that activities away from the computer were included. Year 11 and 13 continued with their lessons despite the exams being cancelled. It was felt that as students were given the option to sit their exams in the Autumn, their formal lessons should continue for the time being.

The feedback from students has been really encouraging. They are all really appreciative of the timetable continuing to run and have really enjoyed the optional activities that have been set during the afternoon sessions. We mustn't forget that the continued timetable has given them the opportunity to keep to a routine, to keep in contact with their teachers and to continue to take part in 'virtual' group learning. At a time when social distancing and isolation have become part of the nation's psyche, we must not under estimate the importance of daily contact and routine, especially for deaf children.

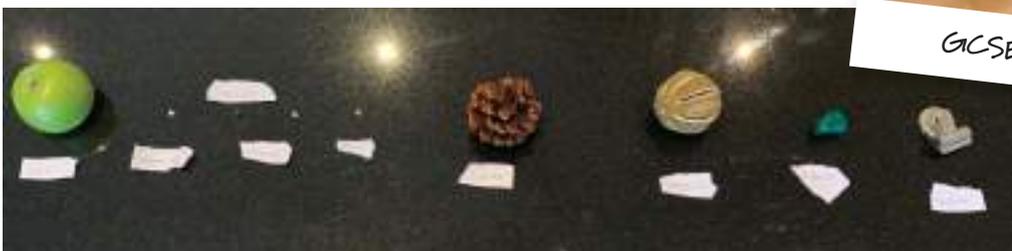
Peter Gale, Principal and CEO said 'I have been very proud of Mary Hare at this time. I do believe that we have worked very well together.'

There were also numerous comments from parents on social media which further emphasises the benefit that families have felt with the online timetable. One parent wrote, 'very impressed with this online learning.

My boy is doing well and sticking to a routine.' Another parent commented, 'We have seen so much dedication from the staff to deliver the curriculum and support the children during this difficult time.'



*GCSE virtual dance lesson*



*Getting creative... Pupils made their own models of the solar system*



Aaron Bannister winning his Breastroke race

# MAKING A SPLASH!

## SWIMMING GALA

The annual Mary Hare Swimming Gala took place in February 2020. This year saw some amazing races and bags of enthusiasm from the pupils who have put so much time into their swimming lessons and practices throughout the year.

We are so lucky to have a lovely indoor heated pool at Mary Hare. Swimming is an essential life skill and we allocate a good part of the PE curriculum to make sure all students can swim well. We also encourage learning to swim as a way of opening doors for pupils to other activities such as canoeing, surfing, kayaking and scuba diving.

Every pupil who took part in the swimming gala this year is a winner. It is not just about the fastest swimmers or those with the best technique. We are very proud of all the swimmers who took part, especially those who have taken the time to ask how they might improve their swimming, have followed the advice and have improved. So well done to everyone.



Peter. AKA Bob!

## MIXED MEDLEY RELAY JUNIORS

Arnold Peter Walker  
Naomi Postawa  
Julia Pizlo  
Mathew Mould

## SENIORS

Mary Hare Vernon Eminowicz  
Max Styles  
Julia Wejnar  
Robin Sparkes

## BACKSTROKE WINNERS

Julia Pizlo  
Eric Roche  
Sophie Johnson  
Seb Noah

## INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY WINNERS

Naomi Postawa  
Mathew Mould  
Grace Thomas  
William Ryan

## BREASTSTROKE WINNERS

Jasmine Wilkins  
Aaron Bannister  
Julia Wejnar  
Jasper Fitzgerald Woolfe

## BUTTERFLY WINNERS

Naomi Postawa  
Mathew Mould  
Grace Thomas  
Max Styles

## FREESTYLE WINNERS

Sophie Mernaghan  
Spencer Fitzgerald Woolfe  
Robyn Sparkes  
Ollie Rowley

## MIXED FREESTYLE RELAY WINNERS JUNIORS

Braidwood Spencer Fitzgerald Woolfe  
Jachima Akosa  
Tilly Moutrie  
Anthony Scruton

## SENIORS

Mary Hare Tom Green  
Julia Wejnar  
Caitlin Greenfield  
Daniel Bradley

## OVERALL GALA RESULTS

1st Mary Hare  
2nd Arnold  
3rd Braidwood  
4th Beverly



Grace Thomas powering her way to first place in the Butterfly

Hope Lambert tackles the wall



# A HEAD FOR HEIGHTS



Can they make it?

On an icy February morning a 28ft high climbing wall appeared on the school's playground! What was it doing there? The theme for this year's Children's Mental Health Week was 'Find Your Brave' and what a better way to be brave than scaling the heights of a climbing wall? It was also the national #TimeToTalkDay2020, both campaigns encourage people to think about looking after their mental health and wellbeing.

With the enormous help of Miss Colby and Outdoor Academy (who run our Year 9 Activity Week) students at Mary Hare were able to have a go at climbing.

Throughout the day pupils from year 7-10 attempted getting to the top of the wall. They had to try something new, be brave, have a go and ask for help when they needed, all things we need to be aware of when looking after our own wellbeing.

The first group, Year 10s, claimed they were ice climbing as they had to chip ice of the hand grips, despite the cold they loved

the experience, and all had a second, and third go. To make the climbing even more challenging the instructors provided the students with blind folds to wear or one boxing glove to climb with - but our pupils accepted the challenge and had great fun with laughter echoing around the playground.

Some students really had to find their brave, initially refusing to have a go, feeling nervous about getting onto the wall. We know that bravery comes in all shapes and sizes for different people. However, with the help of their friends and staff every pupil had a go and the sense of achievement afterwards was brilliant to watch. By the end of their session some of them were even getting to the very top. It shows that with resilience, support and a 'have a go attitude', doing things that we find scary can actually be really positive and uplifting.

Over break and lunchtime Year 11-13s could try it out. We were very impressed to see sixth formers climbing in their suits and smart dresses, best dressed climbers in Newbury. Even some staff making it to the top. Throughout the day over 160 students and staff donned a harness and scaled the wall.

At the end of the session one Year 7 pupil said, 'Can we do this every day please?' Could not wish for better feedback than that!



Joel, Neve & Naomi reached the top!





## A Nordic Experience

In February 2020 a group of 28 pupils from Years 12 & 13 and five staff embarked on a four day trip to Oslo. The trip was packed with cultural and active experiences, as well as a visit to Briskeby school for the deaf whose staff had visited Mary Hare on a study trip in November 2019.

Saturday began with a 2-hour cruise around Oslo's Fjords on a beautiful wooden yacht. The sun was shining, and the water was calm as the group sat wrapped in blankets, sipping hot chocolate and enjoying the beautiful views.

This was followed by a visit to the Viking ship museum which provided the chance to see original Viking ships and artefacts up close. It was then a short 50 minute walk to Vigeland park, home to 212 sculptures by artist Gustav Vigeland. Students and staff participated in a selfie scavenger hunt, and it wasn't long before groups of Mary Hare students and staff could be seen posing for selfies with statues all over the park and desperately trying to find all the statues on the list.

On Sunday the students made their way to the Winter Park, located just 40 minutes outside Oslo, for the much anticipated day of skiing. However, the Norwegian weather was not on their side as the coach climbed higher up the mountain the rain came down harder and the fog set in. Even the massive Holmenkollen ski jump was almost impossible to see in the thickening fog. Kitted out with equipment it was finally time to hit the deserted slopes. By the afternoon their perseverance was rewarded as the clouds parted and the afternoon was spent skiing in glorious sunshine. It had been a great day of skiing and everyone was proud of their new skills.

The pupils also enjoyed a visit to Oslo to sample some street food. They tucked into Greek, Italian, Indian, duck burgers and tacos and finished it all off with bubble waffles as big as their heads - filled with Nutella, ice-cream, marshmallows and even a whole kinder egg!!

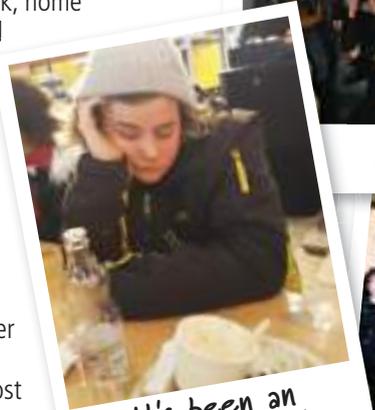
The final day began with a train ride out of Oslo into the countryside of Lier to visit Briskeby school for the deaf. The group were greeted with a warm welcome by the staff and students who had prepared a



*On the ski slopes*



*At the Viking Museum*



*It's been an exhausting trip*



*A happy group*

breakfast of traditional dishes of waffles and svele (a small round pancake).

The day included a tour of the school, sampling lessons and participating in different activities with the other students. In the afternoon Briskeby and Mary Hare students competed in a football match which ended in a draw. However, Mary Hare was not so lucky in the tug of war with Briskeby claiming victory.

The final evening was spent ice-skating on a frozen lake surrounded by trees twinkling with fairy lights. Even wet clothes after a few falls couldn't dampen spirits. Everyone had a fantastic time and took many memories home with them.



# ONE SMALL STEP FOR US, ONE GIANT LEAP FOR OUR STUDENTS...

Mary Hare has applied for a much sought after opportunity by schools throughout the UK. With the help of Newbury Amateur Radio Society the school is hoping to set up a link with the International Space Station, giving some of the students the chance to communicate with astronauts.

This is a very exciting opportunity that will be fantastic to get involved with. If the application is successful, a selection of students will be able to talk to the Astronauts whilst the ISS is overhead. The application process is tough. It is open to all schools in the UK and the lucky school must put a convincing argument as to why the busy Astronauts should take ten minutes out of their day to answer the students' questions.

It takes about ten minutes to pass over the UK and, as all are aware, this does not happen very often.

Contact with ARISS radio provides students with a great opportunity to be enthused about science and the technological achievements they could be a part of in the future if they choose a career in STEM. It is also a great opportunity for students who have struggled with communication to be involved in an extraordinary feat of communication, and see what possibilities using their voice and communication skills can give them.

Newbury And District Amateur Radio Society (NADARS) will primarily be supporting the contact, supplying the equipment and expertise to make the contact with the Astronauts. They will also be supporting with other educational activities leading up to the event.

Newbury Astronomical Society have already been working with students at the school creating an enthusiasm for space and astronomy. They will be running sessions on observing the space station as well as talks on other satellites.

Mr Ayling, Teacher of Science at Mary Hare Secondary School said 'this is a great opportunity for our students to get involved in something really special. We run an Astronomy club after school, and I have been amazed at the interest the students have shown in the topic.'

As part of a wider STEM curriculum, students will be involved with extra-curricular sessions discussing the following:

- Rocket designing and building
- Astronomy
- Insulating the space station
- Observing the space station
- Designing food for astronauts
- Talks from STEM ambassadors

If Mary Hare is successful then it is hoped that the event will take place in 2021 and will be streamed so that all staff and pupils can be involved.

# ZONES OF REGULATION

## How we help our pupils to regulate their emotions and behaviour.

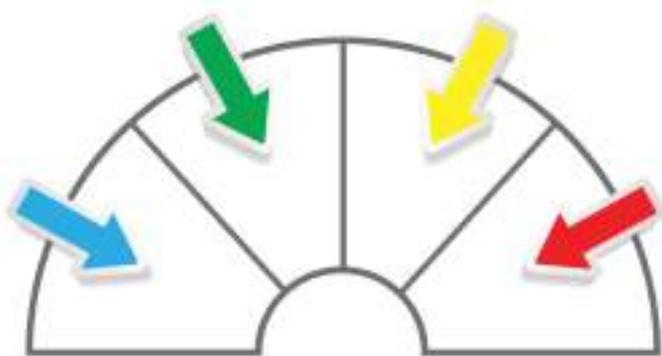
We have all been there... somebody says something irritating, we can't find the book we want, our coat catches on the door handle and we realise we are late for our meeting... we sigh with irritation and impatience and before we know it, we are in the 'red zone'.

This term, at Mary Hare Primary School, we have focused on the 'Zones of Regulation', a curriculum designed to foster self-regulation and emotional control. This system is written and created by Leah M. Kuypers. It is a curriculum geared towards helping students in consciously regulating their actions, which in turn leads to increased control and problem-solving abilities. Using a cognitive behaviour approach, the curriculum's learning activities are designed to help students recognise when they are in different states called 'zones', with each of the four zones represented by a different colour. In the activities, pupils also learn how to use strategies or tools to stay in a zone or move from one zone to another. Our pupils have explored calming techniques, cognitive strategies, and sensory supports so that they will have a toolbox of methods to use to move between zones.

We have a number of pupils who struggle with self-regulation and by using a specific system that visualises mood and emotion with colour, we have been able to see remarkable improvements.

This term, every week, in every class, a Speech and Language Therapist and a Teacher of the Deaf have introduced this topic to our pupils in our weekly 'speech group'.

Initially the children were asked to make their own zone dial. We talked about the four 'zones' and we used these 'zones' to highlight and illustrate to our pupils their different emotions.



*Involving the primary pupils*

The pupils were then shown different facial expressions and taught the vocabulary that goes with emotion. For the older pupils, we were able to teach words such as: 'afraid', 'lethargic' or 'furious'. We were not only able to extend their vocabulary but also to grade these emotions and to teach them appropriate word endings that support comparatives and superlatives ('calmer' or 'happiest' etc). For the younger children, we used just two zones (a red angry zone and a green calm and happy/focused zone).

### WHAT ARE THE ZONES?

BLUE ZONE	GREEN ZONE	YELLOW ZONE	RED ZONE
Sad, tired, bored, sick  Examples of times you felt this way:	The zone you want to be in for learning. Happy, calm, focused  Examples of times you felt this way:	Frustrated, worried, silly, excited  Examples of times you felt this way:	Mad, angry, afraid  Examples of times you felt this way:



Once the pupils were familiar with the different colours and the corresponding emotions, we then focused on identifying these behaviours. The pupils watched a number of video extracts and were asked to identify which zones the characters were in. We then examined which behaviours go with which emotion. For example, the children were able to recognise that different facial expressions correspond to the different zones (e.g a frown goes in the red zone whereas a yawn goes in the blue zone).

The next step involved helping the pupils to recognise their own emotions and their own 'dials'. What makes them happy? When do they feel cross? Different activities were carried out so these emotions could be examined and, most importantly, their own personal triggers could be realised.

The following lessons were perhaps the most exciting as, as teachers, we were able to see what a useful tool this topic was and how it could be used in the classroom and throughout the school. The focus was on teaching the pupils how to regulate their own behaviour and what to do when they started to feel anxious, how to re-focus and be calm, different strategies that each individual pupil could use in order to get themselves back into the 'green zone', the zone where they were ready to learn.

**WHAT COPING (HELPING) SKILLS DO WE NEED IF WE ARE IN EACH ZONE?**

**RED ZONE**  
 Count to ten  
 Talk to someone  
 Take a deep breath

**YELLOW ZONE**  
 Think helpful thoughts  
 Have some water  
 Talk to someone

**BLUE ZONE**  
 Have some fresh air  
 Have some water  
 Think happy thoughts

**GREEN ZONE**  
 Keep smiling  
 Help others  
 Say kind things to yourself

A large display was made in the school corridor which illustrated not just the coloured dial but also the vocabulary that went with each emotion. Photos of the pupils making different facial expressions were then also stuck on the board, so the dial became personalised to our school.

Now, if a pupil is feeling cross or is unfocused, we are able to verbalise with clear visual illustrations how to support and change the child's behaviour. Conversations around our display can involve discussions such as:

"Show me on the dial how you are feeling"

"Can you remember what your 'trigger' was that made you feel like this?"

"How can we now move into the green zone, so you are ready to learn again?"

As therapists, teachers and adults, we have also appreciated the importance of being able to regulate our own feelings and behaviours. Now, when I am late for that meeting, I can picture that red zone and stop, breathe, drop my shoulders and slowly bring my dial back to the centre and walk calmly into that classroom...

Claire Whittaker, Speech and Language Therapist

# COUNT on WORDS

In the Maths department at Mary Hare, we have been very busy developing students' vocabulary knowledge. Did you know Maths has the largest glossary of technical language? These words can be so confusing as they often have different meanings in other subjects e.g. translate, or a different meaning at home e.g. product. Our students need to be taught these words explicitly, including all the different word variations e.g. month, months, monthly. We track and assess vocabulary development by including a vocabulary section in each topic assessment.

This year we have teamed up with the Speech and Language therapy department to launch a new project, 'Count on Words'. This is a Maths vocabulary intervention for KS3 students, delivered jointly by their Maths teacher and a speech therapist, during a Maths lesson. The intervention is delivered 3 times a year, one lesson a week for 5 weeks. A different Maths topic is explored each time.



To play Bleep you need a list of words written down on paper. One person chooses a piece of paper and has to describe the word to the others. This can be done by drawing it, acting it out or describing it. Decide how you are going to play at the beginning. The person describing is not allowed to use the key word, they must bleep it out! We only allow one guess per person to encourage students to think carefully.



We try and have some fun in these sessions! Vocabulary instruction works best when it is explicit and engaging with frequent exposure over time. Activities should use visuals and games, make connections and capture the student's interest. Students are invited to guess the punchline for a Maths themed joke (queue lots of moans!). We look at how Maths may be used in other subjects or possible careers during a discussion task.

Every session ends with a familiar game adapted for vocabulary e.g. hangman, Pictionary or concentration. The more students can be exposed to vocabulary in different situations the more likely they are to retain it. Here are some games you can try playing at home. Choose a theme for the words and then have some fun!



'I went to the market' is a test of memory. If the topic was shapes, one person starts by saying, 'I went to the market and I bought... a square.' The next person has to remember what was said before and then add their own shape. 'I went to the market and I bought a square and... a parallelogram.' See how many items you can remember, you may be surprised!

Rachael Lethbridge, Numeracy Coordinator

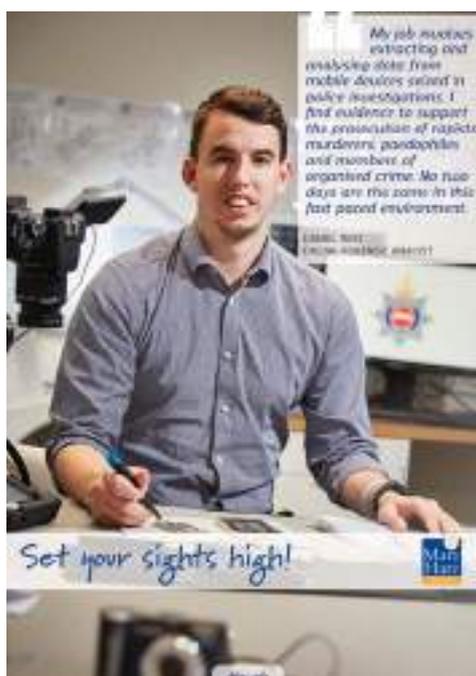


**SET YOUR SIGHTS HIGH**

Our popular 'Set Your Sights High' poster campaign is still going strong.

Here are just a few of the many inspiring Mary Hare alumni who have been involved with our most recent campaign posters.

We catch up with our alumni who tell us in their own words how deafness is no barrier to achieving your goals.

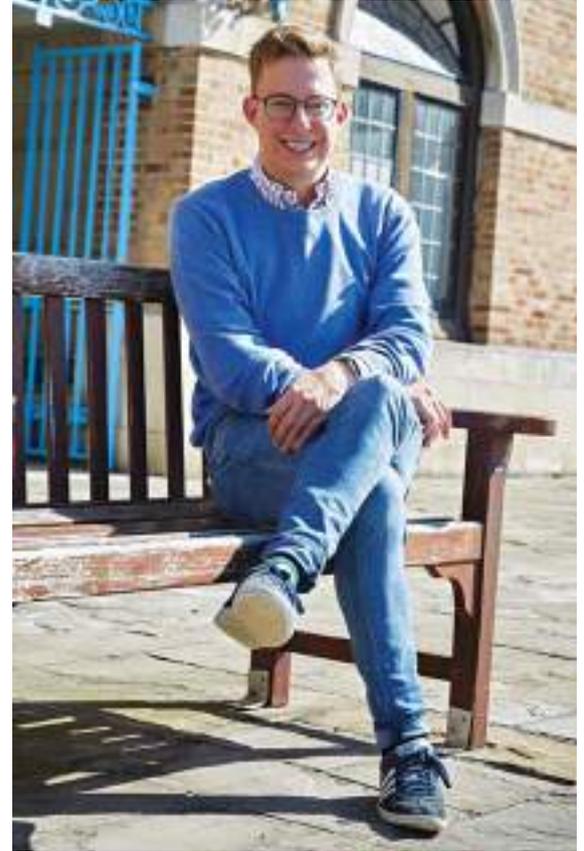


# LIFE AFTER MARY HARE. THE INSPIRING STORIES OF SOME OF OUR FORMER STUDENTS

## EDDIE CLEERE

After leaving Mary Hare, Eddie went to Exeter University to study Law and French Law which involves completing two degrees in the UK and France. Eddie says that his love of French came from his time at Mary Hare and of feeling he could engage fully with the language, therefore fulfilling his potential.

In the summer, Eddie undertook work experience as an intern at a law firm, based in its commercial law department. He was one of 20 successful candidates out of 400 applicants! After completing his degree Eddie hopes to practise as a Barrister or enter the Foreign Office to promote British interests abroad. For someone who joined Mary Hare late and hating French, Eddie developed his love of French and has achieved marvellous things!



## APRIL PLATT

April Platt, who left Mary Hare in 2017, had great success as a rugby player and has now joined the England Deaf Women's Rugby squad where she is currently training for a tour of South Africa in 2020. April had not played rugby until she joined Mary Hare and, encouraged by the PE department at the school, she developed her natural ability in the game. Playing second row for England, April is one of the youngest players in the squad. She hopes to win her first cap abroad during the South Africa tour. April's motto is 'if you want to achieve something GO FOR IT!'

Part of the selection criteria was that April had to have an audiogram of over 40dcb. We wish April lots of luck and will continue to follow her journey.



*Claudia on an archaeological dig*

## CLAUDIA DAVIES

Claudia left Mary Hare to study Archaeology at University and has been keeping very busy since then. She spent three weeks in June excavating at Auckland Castle in Bishop Auckland as part of her course and a week in Norfolk with the SHARP organisation on a metal working course where she built a furnace and practised smelting.

More recently, Claudia visited the British School at Athens where she spent two weeks travelling the Peloponnese visiting sites such as Olympia, the Acropolis, the Parthenon, Delphi and Sparta.

**WILLIAM GRINT**

William joined Mary Hare when he was seven and left at 18. He studied GCSE Drama and during his time at the school, got his first acting job in a short film called 'Chasing Cotton Clouds'.

William started acting professionally in 2016 when he was 19. His first role was at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre. This is when his love of Shakespeare began. This year William has been cast in two roles, one in A Winter's Tale which runs from March to October at Stratford, the other in A Comedy of Errors running from April to October at Stratford. After Stratford, both plays will move to The Barbican in London and will run until January 2021. William told us a bit more about his audition for the role in A Winter's Tale. He had one week's notice before the audition date. William admits he needed time to translate the more 'flowery' language of Shakespeare, translating it into BSL without losing the beauty of the language. William has also held the lead role in Tommy the musical, took a show to Edinburgh Fringe in 2019 and more recently held roles in Sirens and The Process as well as a smaller role in BBC 1's Casualty.



William rehearsing for 'The Process'



**REMEMBRANCE AND REUNIONS**

Many of our alumni come back to Mary Hare for reunions throughout the year to share their memories of their time at the school. This year we have had a number of reunions taking place, many of which have planted a tree in memory of someone they went to school with. In November a group of pupils who left between 1998 and 2000 visited the school and were shown around by Mr Rocca and Mr Chandler. They planted a tree in memory of Daniel Webster whose son also attended on the day.

We also remember Naomi Woodcock who attended Mary Hare from the age of two at the time when Miss Mary Hare was the Head Teacher. Naomi's daughter Penny has set up a Just Giving page to raise money for The Mary Hare Foundation. Penny remembers her mother reminiscing about 'trips out for tea with Miss Hare and rides around the school in a cart pulled by a donkey.' The target of £500 has been exceeded. Thank you to Naomi's family for helping to raise much needed funds for the Mary Hare Foundation.



Naomi Woodcock



If you are an alumnus of Mary Hare and would like to be featured in our next magazine and poster campaigns, please get in touch with us. We'd love to hear how you've got on and what you've been getting up to in your life since you left us. Send an email to: [d.jacobs@maryhare.org.uk](mailto:d.jacobs@maryhare.org.uk)

# At Mary Hare Primary you will *love*...

Following  
lessons easily



Having friends just like you

Growing in  
confidence



Why not book a visit to come and have a chat and see what you will love about Mary Hare Primary School.

For more information, please contact  
Debbie Jacobs: [d.jacobs@maryhare.org.uk](mailto:d.jacobs@maryhare.org.uk)  
call 01635 244215 or visit our website [www.maryhare.org.uk](http://www.maryhare.org.uk)



*Securing the future of deaf children and young people*