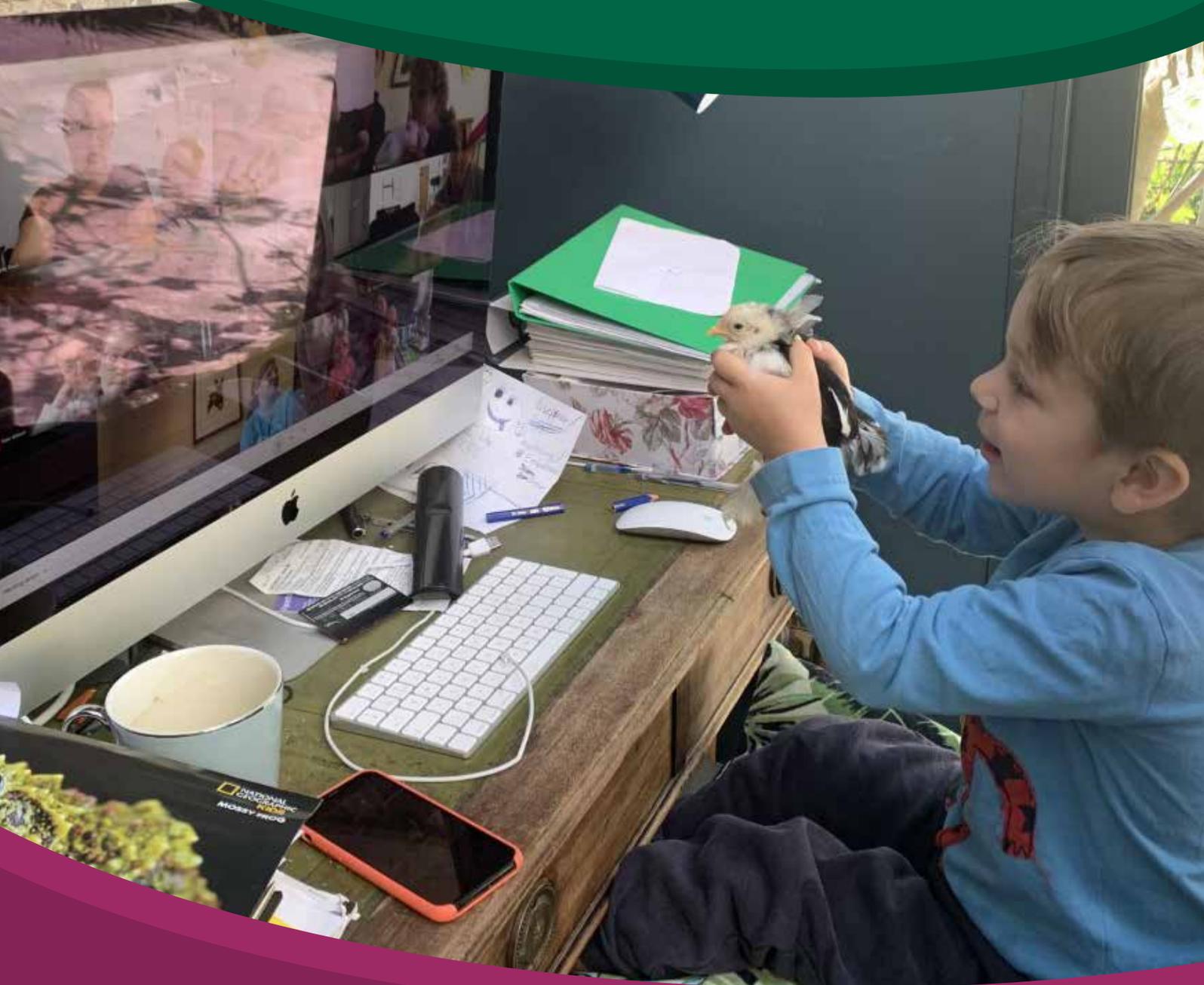




DITCHAM PARK SCHOOL

Where every child is known and valued



SUMMER TERM REVIEW

- 2020 -

www.ditchampark.com

Headmaster's Welcome



I have been searching for a phrase or metaphor to describe the Coronavirus experience and the Head of Drama provided it in an email so I am going to repeat it.

'I feel like suddenly one day, someone strapped us all into a high-speed roller coaster that we weren't even queuing up for, pressed go and said 'hang on for the ride!' and what a ride it's been. One we'll never forget I'm sure.'

No one saw the Coronavirus crisis coming. It hit us like a train at the end of the Spring Term when we were forced to close the school as part of a national 'lockdown' to contain the spread of the virus. Teachers, pupils and parents rose to the challenge of home learning and thanks to our investment in Chromebooks and digital learning, our pupils received a rich and meaningful educational home learning experience during the Summer Term.

Graham Spawforth



All pupils in Seniors were issued with a Chromebook before the school closed.

Highlights



Home learning



Isolation choirs



Celebrating GCSE success



Enrichment Days



Outstanding efforts to make visors for NHS



Our Key Worker Heroes



Nursery graduations

Dragonflies virtual show and tell

Home Learning

"Online schooling-Ditcham has well and truly nailed it. We are so impressed. What Ditcham has achieved is exceptional"

Parent of pupil in Juniors



Joe Garner, UJA, pictured with his VE Day scarecrow



Following the instructions of the Government, the School closed its doors on Friday 20th March as part of a national lockdown strategy to stop the spread of COVID-19. Many pupils did not return to school until the start of the Autumn Term on 3rd September. All teachers delivered live and recorded lessons using Google classroom as a digital learning platform. Senior pupils used their Chromebooks at home to receive lessons and to complete work online and all teachers employed a variety of remote teaching methods.



Laurence Ellett
Year 8 Science



Toby Field promoting the English Speaking Union



Molly Burke with her dogs



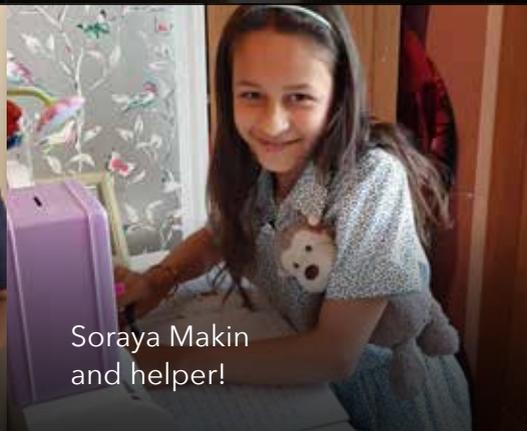
Transition's light and dark



Prep's bridge STEAM challenge



Book Reviews by William MacDonal-Robinson (left) and Henry Brown (right)



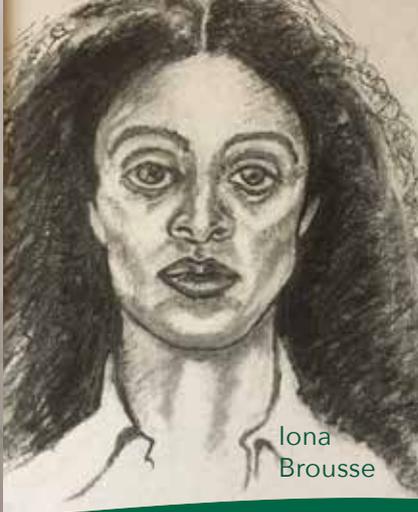
Soraya Makin and helper!



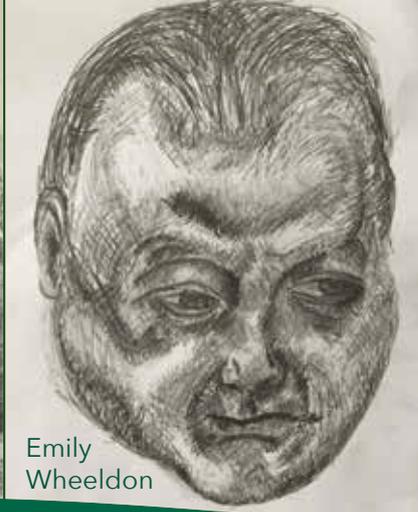
Biscuit day



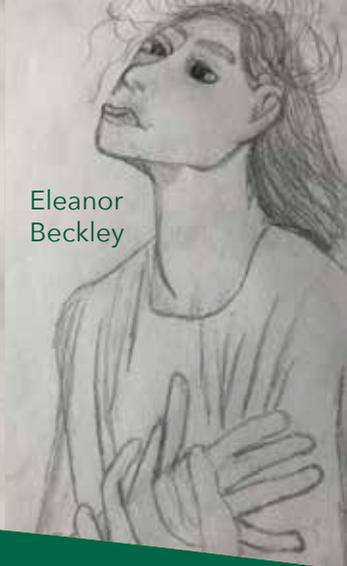
Jasmine Fuller



Iona Brousse



Emily Wheeldon



Eleanor Beckley

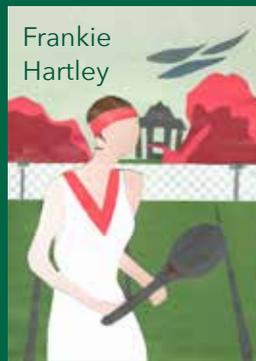


Form 4 GCSE Artwork

ISA Poster Competition Forms 1 & 2



Forms 1 and 2 were set the challenge of reading Edgar Allen-Poe's, 'The Raven' - and then composing a poetic stanza of their own, mirroring Poe's style.



Frankie Hartley



Imogen Barber



Joshua Bailey

The Kraken

*Sails, oars and ropes a-plenty! Crew and Captain, less than twenty!
Battling winds and waves gigantic on the unforgiving sea.
Kraken rises from the swell, evil eyes and limbs of hell,
Terror snaps at sailors' souls, tentacles wrap 'round the ship.
Tearing, cracking, wood is breaking, it's the ending of the trip.
Down we go, down, down with ship.*

By Anna Styles, Form 1



An excerpt from Serena Thompson's (F2) powerful poem, 'Freedom', inspired by Rosa Parks



*BUT we are not one type .
We are not just to be placed in sections.
We are all unique - we are special - we are bright and intelligent.
We have lives.
We should have freedom.*

Return to School 1st June

On 1st June Nursery, Reception, Pre-Prep and Uppers returned to school and operated in their own safety 'bubble.'



Dragonflies fun in the sunshine



One pupil declared *"going back to school was as exciting as Christmas Eve"*



Reception Wizards



Temperature checks Mrs Tanner style



Pre-Prep Sports Day



Upper's outdoor lesson

Key Worker Heroes
enjoying the sunshine



Prep glad
to be back



Prep post PE queue
for hand sanitiser



Middles enjoy PE
outside in the
sunshine



Lowers swapped
genders for the day



Form 4 Science

Enrichment Activities

Speaker's Corner

The Headmaster's Gulf War Talk started a series of Enrichment Activities including a Modern Languages Day, Virtual Sports Day, STEAM Challenge, Chef for the Day, Environment Awareness Day and Creative Arts Day.



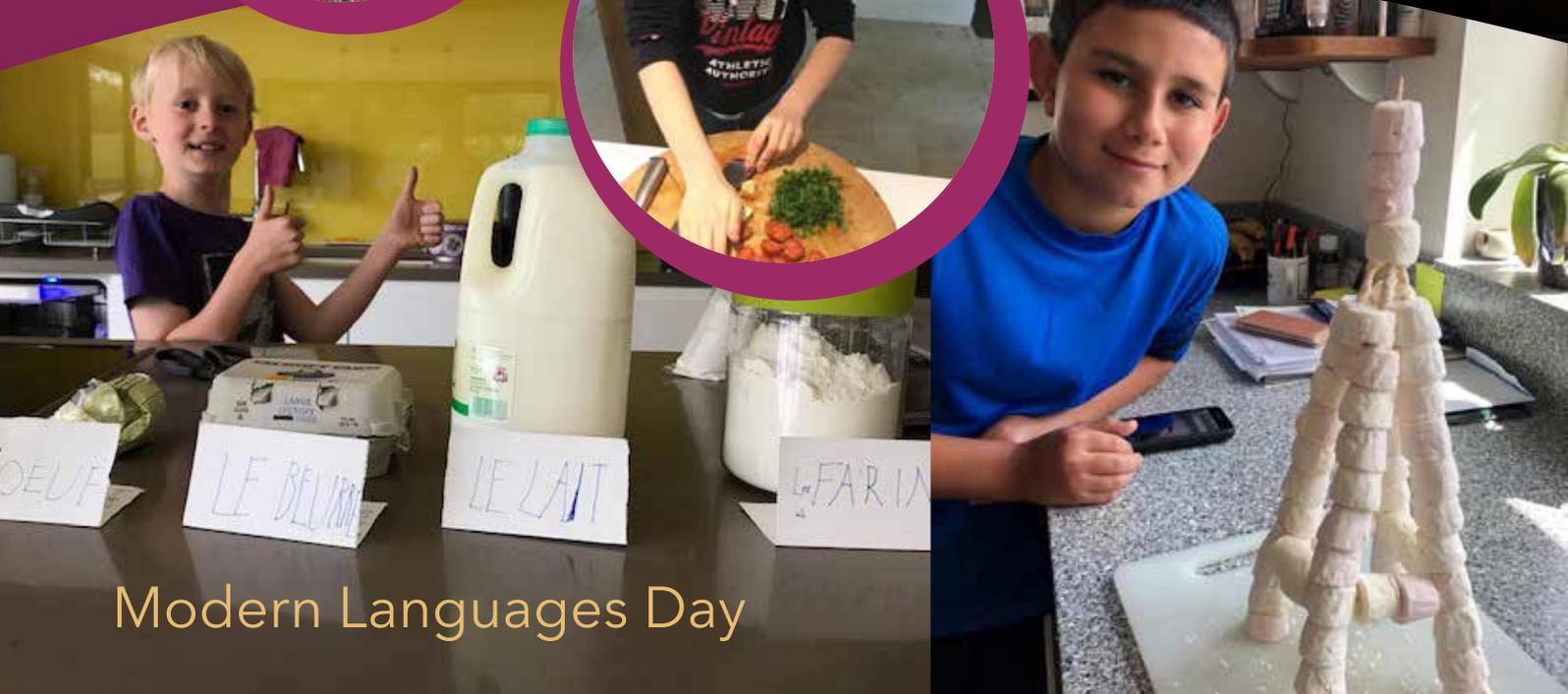
STEAM Challenge Day



Environment Awareness Day



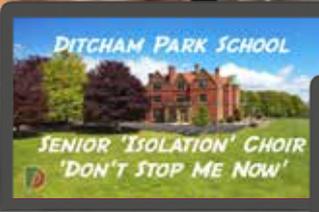
Chef for the Day results



Modern Languages Day

LE DEUF
LE BEURRE
LE LAIT
LE FARIN

Isolation Choirs



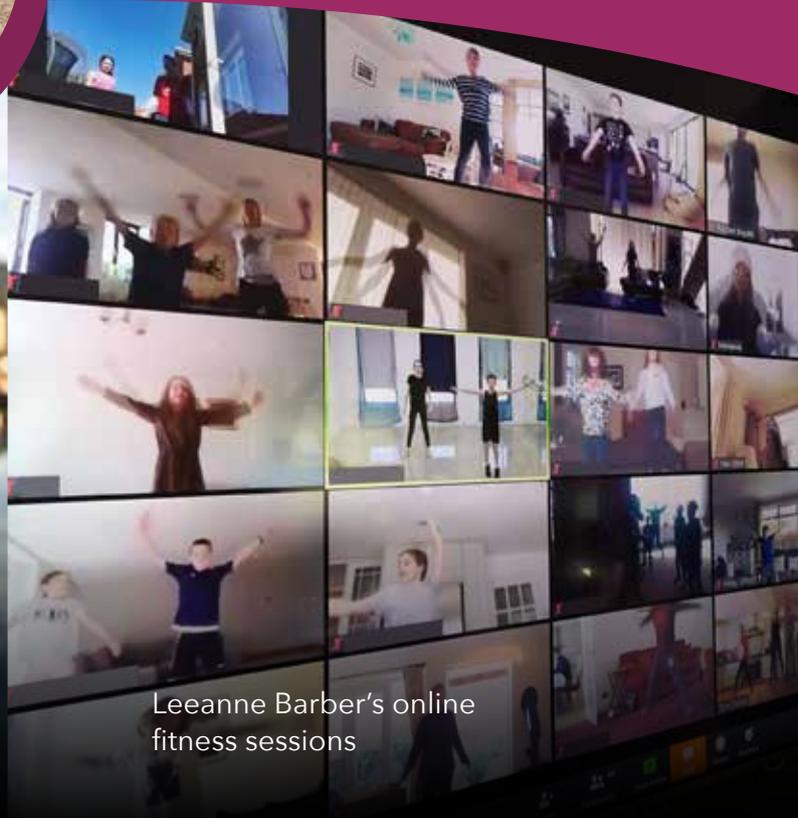
Virtual Sports Day



Emilie Pearce jumping over toilet rolls in her garden



Team Ditcham's walkers, cyclists and runners supported our Around the World in 40 Days and we landed in our final destination which was Vancouver.



Leeanne Barber's online fitness sessions

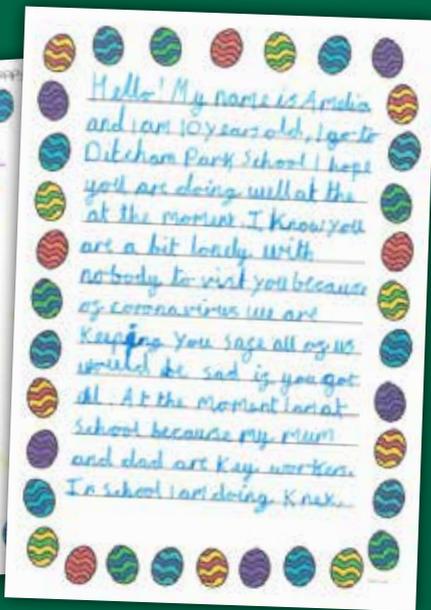
Connecting with the Community



Visor production team led by Alan Richards with pupils Laurence Ellett and Oliver Sims made 1000+ visors.



Nursing home letters



Nursery inspired by Petersfield Community Garden



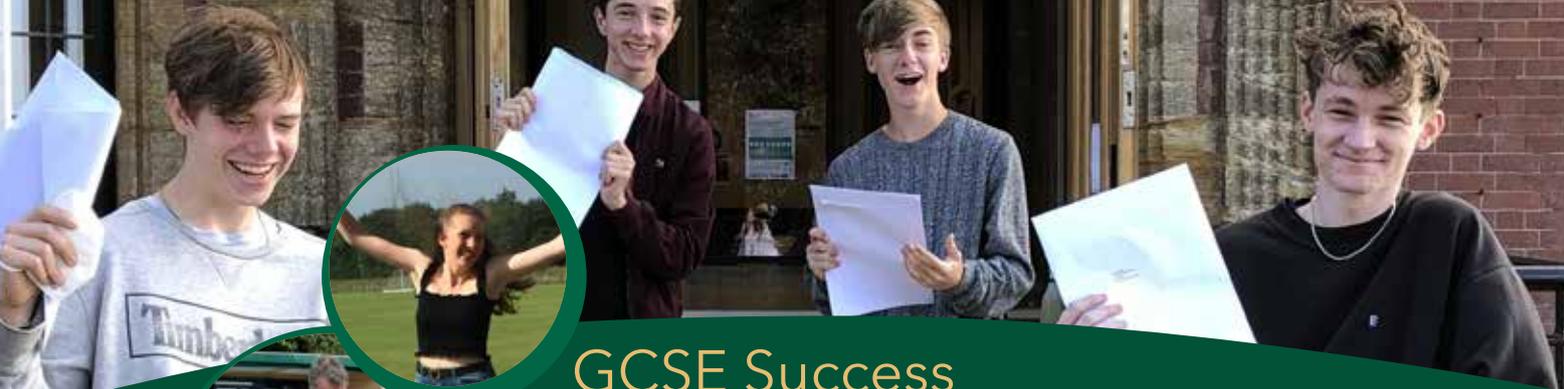
VE Day



Our Key Worker Heroes enjoyed an egg hunt and made Captain Tom a 100th birthday card

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Achievements



GCSE Success

"Congratulations to our students and staff for their efforts in achieving excellent GCSE results which are fully deserved. It is pleasing that our students have obtained grades which reflect their hard work and talents despite the pandemic's impact on the exam process which has been stressful for students and teachers alike. As a cohort their well-deserved results have built on successes in previous years, and they can celebrate the best set of results achieved at Ditcham Park School since the introduction of the new 9-1 GCSE's grade system. 42% of results were 9-7 and 99% of results were 9-4. Two students, Cydney and Beth achieved an outstanding set of grades each achieving 8 grade 9s."



A level Success

We congratulate our 2018 leavers who received their A level results this summer.



Matt Bryan is studying Engineering at Magdalene College, Cambridge



Sophie Fifield is studying Music at Cardiff University



Ellie Farrow is studying Physiotherapy at Birmingham University



Alec O'Loughlin is studying Naval Engineering at University of Southampton



Rubie Edwards-Johnson twirling competition success



Jake Bailey - Britain's Got Talent success



Seb Hopkins - Ginetta Junior Driving competition success

Farewells and Welcomes

Farewell to:



Jane Langdon-Shreeve retires as an outstanding Head of Early Years after 21 years at Ditcham Park School.



Julia Richardson retires as an outstanding Juniors Teacher after 12 years service to the School.



Alan Richards leaves very big shoes to fill as Head of Design & Technology and as a valued science teacher.

We also say goodbye and thank you to **Gemma Dunning** (Juniors) who leaves after 18 months as a teacher in Transition and to **Louise Atkinson** (Juniors) and **Paul Johnson** (Seniors) who have provided maternity cover; to **Laura Warren** our part time Languages teacher who moves to Cambridgeshire with her family and to **Linda Prestidge** who retires after just one year with us but after more than 40 years in the teaching profession.

Finally, we say 'au revoir' to Head of Languages, **Heather Bond** who is taking up a teaching post in Kenya. We hope Heather will return for September 2021.



Thank you to the Friends of Ditcham Park School Committee and team of fundraising volunteers for their continued support.

Welcome to:



Lydia Stevenson who joins us as a Reception Teacher.



Anna Somerville our new Pre-Prep (Yr 1) Teacher.



Matt Livingston and **Kate Newton** who join us as new Transition teachers.



Louise Bowen our new Deputy Bursar.



In Seniors, we welcome **James Hoad** as Head of D&T and as a Science Teacher.



James Walton joins the Sport & PE Department and as a Science Teacher.



Kevin Wild, part time MFL teacher.

Welcome back to **Eleanor Woodhead**, lead teacher in Nursery

Kylie Harding will return to the science department after maternity leave.