

HAILEYBURY NEWS

24 April 2026



From the Master

What a difference sunshine and blue skies make to the start of term. It is wonderful to see our pupils returning to school with a spring in their step and we look forward to supporting them as they make the most of the many opportunities on offer.

The summer term brings with it challenges we are all familiar with. Internal assessments are an important component of ongoing learning and our GCSE, IB and A level pupils will soon be taking their public examinations. I said in Lists on Monday morning that a degree of stress during this period is inevitable; courage, resilience

and organisation are essential during the coming months. I also emphasised, however, that help is never far away and that teachers and House staff are always on hand to offer support and guidance as needed.

Angela and I hope you can join us for 'Lunch in the Lodge' and I look forward to seeing you at various events and fixtures in the months ahead.

With my best wishes,

Shortlisted for Tes Schools Awards 2026

We are delighted to share that Haileybury has been shortlisted for Best Use of Technology in the TES Schools Awards 2026.

This recognition reflects our commitment to ensuring that our pupils are confident about technological change and able to use technology effectively to support their learning. We are thrilled that our digital strategy has helped establish Haileybury as a pathfinding school, where digital fluency is seen as a critical component of our pupils' future success.



Master, Eugene du Toit said: "We are proud to be shortlisted for this award; it is a testament to the dedication of our staff and the curiosity and capability of our pupils. At Haileybury, we aim not only to keep pace with technological developments, but to empower our community to use technology with confidence, creativity and purpose."

Westminster Abbey Evensong: A Proud Schola Cantorum Moment

Last week, the Haileybury Schola Cantorum sang Choral Evensong at Westminster Abbey.

Singing in the magnificent surroundings of the Abbey, the choir also took some time to absorb the history and significance of the building, where monarchs have been crowned for over a thousand years and many national figures are commemorated. At the core of the choir's programme was Tertius Noble's (1867–1953) setting of the *Magnificat* and *Nunc Dimittis* and the anthem *Let All The World In Every Corner Sing* by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958).

Mr Brain, Director of Music, was incredibly proud of what the Schola Cantorum achieved and said all the pupils "sang their best, conducted themselves professionally and remained cheerful throughout the day. The service was beautiful and they sang the music with feeling."

Amongst the 550 people in the congregation were over 200 OHs, as well as current parents and staff.



Lower School's Sicilian Adventure

Our Lower School pupils enjoyed an action-packed Easter adventure in Sicily, filled with exploration, challenge and plenty of fun.

From the outset, the trip was full of unforgettable moments. Pupils climbed the mighty Mount Etna, travelling by coach, 4x4 and snowcat before trekking on foot to an incredible 2,900 metres, with plenty of snow, wind and breathtaking views along the way. They also hiked across dramatic lava fields, discovering the fascinating science behind volcanic landscapes.

There was no shortage of excitement, from river trekking through the Alcantara Gorge, jumping, sliding and splashing through canyons, to snorkelling in the clear waters of a volcanic marine reserve. A visit to the island of Vulcano brought pupils close to steaming sulphur vents and powerful reminders of past eruptions.

Cultural highlights included exploring the historic town of Taormina and its stunning ancient theatre, as well as learning the art of pizza-making with local experts. With time for beaches, cafés, ice cream and delicious Sicilian food, it was a truly memorable trip, full of adventure, laughter and new experiences.

Easter Trips

Over the Easter break, our pupils embraced adventure and discovery on a series of unforgettable trips that blended challenge, cultural exploration and plenty of fun!

History in Vietnam

The History tour of Vietnam was an incredibly insightful and poignant experience for pupils, offering them the opportunity to learn about the Vietnam War and the experiences of both combatants and civilians.

The pupils visited significant sites including the War Remnants Museum, Hỏa Lò Prison, the Cu Chi tunnels and the bomb shelter in the Presidential Palace.

Pupils also had the chance to experience Vietnam's beauty and vibrant culture through visits to the Temple of Literature and various Buddhist pagodas, boat trips along the Saigon and Mekong Rivers, and time spent at the breathtaking Hạ Long Bay, alongside enjoying the country's wonderful food. Staying in both Hồ Chí Minh City and Hanoi also gave them a valuable insight into the differences between North and South Vietnam.

The trip enabled pupils to reflect on the lasting impact of the war and Agent Orange, which continues to affect communities fifty years on. It served as a timely and important reminder of the tragedy of war for pupils and staff alike, particularly at a time when conflict can too often feel normalised through the media. And, importantly, it reinforced the value of trips as part of a holistic education, helping pupils to visualise and understand human history.



Lower School Girls' Cricket and Netball Tour to Malta



The Lower School Girls' Cricket and Netball Tour to Malta was an unforgettable Easter adventure packed with matches, teamwork and plenty of fun.

From the moment they arrived, the girls were buzzing with excitement and ready for a full-on week of Cricket and Netball. One standout day saw them exploring the beautiful, historic streets of Valletta in the morning, before heading into Cricket training and competitive Netball matches in the afternoon - putting their hard-earned skills from the term into action.

The tour offered a brilliant first taste of what touring life is all about, giving the girls a glimpse of the experiences that await them in Senior School.



Duke of Edinburgh Practice Expeditions

During the Easter break, Duke of Edinburgh pupils took on their practice Silver and Gold expeditions in the Peak District, getting ample opportunities to apply the skills they had developed in the lead-up to the trip.

Despite some difficult weather, the Silver and Gold teams both rose to the occasion, showing resilience, teamwork and high morale throughout.

They navigated the challenges of the demanding terrain well, worked together to pitch tents and made shrewd decisions, such as prioritising hot meals, to keep themselves going and on the move.



Staff were impressed by how the **Silver team** motivated each other. After cooking some interestingly textured porridge, they showed great perseverance through the wind and rain across difficult routes.

Meanwhile, the **Gold groups** tackled some of the region's highest peaks, demonstrating both careful planning and unwavering determination to reach the tops.

All pupils returned with a strong sense of achievement and valuable experience to take into their qualifying expedition in June.

A huge well done to all involved!



Over the Easter break, we were delighted to welcome pupils from Italy, Germany, Thailand, Russia, Turkey, China and Japan to our Spring English+ programme.

Our international pupils enjoyed developing their English language skills through engaging project work and enriching study tours, visiting iconic destinations including London, Cambridge and Greenwich in the beautiful spring sunshine.



Haileybury International Summer School offers courses for international pupils aged 11 to 16, which are designed to provide a genuine taster of studying at Haileybury.

The team is now preparing for our Summer intake, with 2 and 4 week programmes running from 5 July to 1 August.

If you would like to find out more, please contact the Summer School team at summerschooladmissions@haileybury.com.

Making River Action Part of the School Day

We are delighted that Haileybury was recently featured as 'Hub in the Spotlight' by Drinkable Rivers, an inspiring initiative in which our pupils actively participate.

In the interview, Dr Stevan Simonovic, Teacher of Chemistry, spoke about how Haileybury has integrated Drinkable Rivers into our Community Action and Volunteering programme, making hands-on engagement with social and environmental issues an integral part of the school day.

He also highlighted the dynamic range of socially and environmentally focused projects that rotate through our programme. For example, some days pupils head to a garden allotment in Hertford Heath to connect with nature; on others, they visit a local care home to foster intergenerational bonds; and at different times, they learn sign language to promote inclusivity.

Read the full article [here](#).



Lower School pupils have been hard at work creating an impressive range of artistic pieces, which were proudly showcased at the Lower School Art Exhibition.

Working across mixed media, sculpture and life study, pupils explored the theme of identity through drawing, painting, collage and digital photography.

Inspired by Michael Craig-Martin, they produced still life compositions based on the theme 'identity', experimenting with scale, composition and colour. Some pupils opted for bold, vibrant palettes, while others explored monochromatic tones to create depth and detail.

More recently, pupils have focused on self-portraiture, drawing inspiration from Pop Art, Pointillism and Fauvism. They began by studying individual facial features, developing their understanding of proportion, line, tone and form, and applying careful use of light and shadow across a range of media.

Building on this foundation, pupils then considered full facial proportions before bringing together their skills in a final piece. Their work demonstrates confident experimentation with collage, acrylics, pen and ink, and pencil.

Looking ahead, pupils will continue their creative journey by producing ceramic skulls and print work inspired by their own photography and a range of primary and secondary sources.



The Launch of the Opportunity Fund

This week, we are thrilled to launch the Opportunity Fund to our Upper Sixth families. The Fund supports transformative bursaries, helping to ensure that talented pupils can access a Haileybury education regardless of financial means.

We are delighted to have already received early support from families, setting a strong foundation for this year's launch.

Each year, many families choose to mark the end of their child's time at the School by donating their deposit to the Fund, creating a lasting legacy for future pupils. Click [here](#) to find out more.

Sydney Connections: OHs Reunite Over Coffee and Careers



The Haileybury Association was delighted to bring together two OHs now living and working in Sydney, both building successful careers in marketing. Zoe Cole (Colvin, 2018), recently relocated to Australia and met with Steve Alpe (Trevelyan, 2006), with their shared Haileybury experience helping to create an instant connection. Read more about their connection [here](#).

Alumni News

- Sam Billings (Bartle Frere, 2009) reached his 400th T20 cricket appearance.
- Arthur Bishop-Laggett (Bartle Frere, 2020) and James Dalglish (Thomason, 2025) returned to the School to generously volunteer with the Spring School. Read more about their experience [here](#).



Upcoming Events

- [60 years of the Art School Celebration](#) - 15 June
- [The Master's Choral Event](#) - 26 June
- [Haileybury Schola Cantorum in Malta](#) - 5 July

Visit www.haileyburyassociation.com to explore these stories in more detail, find out what's new and how you can take part.

Jasmyn Rides Strong in National XC Series

Jasmyn (Allenby, Middles) competed in the first two rounds of the Mountain Bike XC National Series in Plymouth and Cannock during the Easter break.

Despite the demanding courses, she performed exceptionally well and kept pace with some of the best riders in the country, an impressive achievement in her first year competing at national level.

Jasmyn currently sits just outside the top ten in the opening two rounds and is ranked around 10th nationally in the Under 16 category, with three rounds still to go.

Congratulations to Jasmyn, and best of luck for the rounds ahead!



Coming Up

Saturday 25 April

- Heads of School Lunch - 12 pm, *Master's Lodge*

Tuesday 28 April

- Charity Rock Concert - 8.30 pm, *Bradby Hall* (pupils only)

Wednesday 29 April

- Junior Maths Challenge - 9.30 am, *Big School*

Thursday 30 April

- Prep and Primary Discovery Day: *History's Mysteries* - All Day, *Big School*
- House Nights - 7.30 pm

Friday 1 May

- Kipling Pop-up Event for Parents and Boys - 6.30 pm, *Kipling House*
- CCF Annual Dinner - 7.30 pm, *Common Room*

Thursday 30 April to Wednesday 6 May

- Stan-X trip to Lawrenceville, New Jersey and New York, USA