

NEWSLETTER AUTUMN TERM 2022/23

Welcome from the Principal

My first term at Padworth has flown past, but as the saying goes 'time flies when you are having fun'. I have inherited a community in excellent health, with a strong sense of belonging and togetherness that has come to the fore on so many occasions this term, particularly when we mourned the death of Queen Elizabeth II.

There was a real sense of the community coming together to recognise someone who had done so much to bring people together through her life.



Everyone at Padworth, no matter their background, is able to recognise the power of finding commonality. I feel very fortunate to be leading a community with such a strong bond, but also one that is ambitious to move forward.

In reflecting on my first term I am struck by two particular strengths of Padworth. Firstly, how well our students embrace the opportunities they are given for responsibility, not least in the Student Council where I have consciously given them significant room to influence school policy, which they have embraced. Secondly, the willingness of the staff to go the extra mile to get the best for the students within the classroom as well as outside. Supporting the individual to be able to thrive is what Padworth is all about. There is a fantastic range of activities that are available to the students during the week and at weekends, some of which you will get a sense of with the stories and photos below, and all of that helps get the best from our students.

The exam results from last year were impressive and show the development of teaching and learning at Padworth over the past few years. I want to ensure that pursuit of the highest standards continues both academically and in how we develop the whole person at Padworth. I have always been a strong believer that excellent people go on to achieve excellent things and that is certainly what I want for all our students as we prepare them for the next stage in their education and beyond.

I wish everyone associated with Padworth a wonderful holiday period. If you are ever in the area and would like to pop in and say hello, we would be delighted to see you.



At Padworth, we are keen to ensure that our students have plenty of opportunities to research their options for higher education, including university and degree choices. Over the past couple of years, providing access to universities has been challenging due to the Covid pandemic. We were therefore delighted to be able to host a UK Universities Fair at the end of September.

The event was organised by UK Education Guide, with 15 universities represented at the Fair, including Keele University, University of Exeter, University of Nottingham, University of Southampton, University of Strathclyde, University of Warwick, University of York, plus NCUK. Students in Years 11, 12 and 13 were joined by students from Padworth's 'sister school', Bishopstrow College and also Box Hill School. The Fair – which included a barbeque lunch on the Rear Lawn – was a huge success, with all of the universities reporting how pleased they were with the level of engagement of our students. We are planning to make this an annual event in the College's calendar, to ensure that Padworth students have the opportunity to meet with a range of universities whilst at the College.





University Visits



Following the success of the UK Universities Fair, in mid-November, we organised a trip to Birmingham, to visit Aston University and the University of Birmingham, with opportunities for campus tours, various subject talks and lunch at Aston. 37 students across Years 11, 12 and 13, including those enrolled on the NCUK International Foundation Year programme attended. It was an excellent and very enjoyable day, which the students found hugely beneficial, including those currently completing their UCAS applications, as well as those yet to consider their future options and opportunities!

New Foundation Programme for 2023/23 -NCUK University Access Programme in Business

We are delighted to announce that effective September 2023, we will be offering the NCUK University Access Programme in Business. This is a one-year, pre-university preparation programme designed to help international students enhance their English language and study skills to progress at an undergraduate degree at a UK university.

The minimum English language level for the Programme is IELTS 4.5. Students will study three Academic Modules - Management, Finance and Marketing – as well as Mathematics and a Business Project, together with the core English for Academic Purposes module.

The University Access Programme in Business is an ideal solution for international students who do not quite meet the entry requirements for the NCUK International Foundation Year, but who still want to start their journey to a UK university. The programme develops subject knowledge, study skills and English language competency to a level suitable for smooth progression to undergraduate study.

Successful completion of the University Access Programme enables progression to a business-related undergraduate degree at the University of Kent or Leeds Beckett University.

For further details, please contact Clare McNally, Registrar at admissions@padworth.com

Extracurricular Programme

It has been a busy period in terms of activities outside the classroom, with students enjoying a Halloween Party, Bonfire Night (including guy making), a Taste the Difference Quiz, Lagoona Water Park, Burghfest local festival and a trip to Windsor.

We are delighted to share some images from these activities and excursions!













International Day of Languages at the Willink School

On Friday 14 October, 16 students from Years 10 and 11 became teachers for the day, as part of the International Day of Languages organised by the Willink School. The students gave presentations and mini-language lessons to around 200 Year 7 language students at this local school. Lessons included Vietnamese cuisine,

counting to 10 in Cantonese, Polish food and language, Iranian phrases and Chinese horoscopes and writing. Our students really enjoyed the experience and learnt a great deal about the challenges of teaching and learning a language. They were nervous at first, but should be justifiably proud of themselves. It was wonderful to see them grow in confidence and present a lesson in English and share some of their own culture and language to a group of 11 year olds.







New College Video - The Padworth Way

We are delighted to share details of our new College video, which was filmed at the end of October. The video, which is called The Padworth Way, highlights how we prepare students for progression to leading universities in the UK.

The video is available on the Home Page of our website and also on our You Tube channel: https://youtu.be/kt2g42QVKTc



We are delighted to welcome Mike Rust as our new Head of Boarding, effective January 2023. Mike will replace Siobhan Hind, who has decided to pursue career opportunities outside the education sector.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Siobhan for her many years of hard work and dedication to Padworth and also to Padworth's 'sister school', Bishopstrow College, where Siobhan worked previously.

Mike - a Physical Education specialist has been in teaching and school leadership for 17 years. Mike graduated from the University of Brighton with a BA (Hons) in Physical Education in 2006.



He began his career at a comprehensive school in Rugby, where he became Head of Department and drove academic standards and improvement across the school. In 2013, Mike had the opportunity to move internationally and took a teaching and boarding position at Repton School in Dubai. It was here where his passion for boarding schools was reignited and in 2016, Mike moved to Harrow International School Beijing as Assistant Director of Student Well-being and Head of Boarding. In 2021, Mike took a founding role at Wycombe Abbey School in Nanjing as Deputy Head Pastoral and began undertaking an MA in Applied Educational Leadership through UCL. Mike has a passion for pastoral care, school leadership and improvement, and believesthat schools should be safe, supportive, learning environments where students are able to flourish into becoming happy, confident, citizens and leaders of tomorrow.

We are delighted to have Mike join us at Padworth.

Availability for Spring Term, 2022/23 Academic Year

We still have a limited number of places available on our 18 month A Level Programme, commencing January 2023. We are also accepting students on our Pre-Sessional Programme during the Spring Term and Summer Term. The Spring Term commences on Tuesday 3 January 2023. For further details, please contact Clare McNally, Registrar at admissions@padworth.com



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