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**THE SG WAY**  
IT'S IN OUR DNA



## Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Expedition

### *Year 9 Pupil Leaders*

During our elective program, our Year 9 cohort completed their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award. Over 200 pupils have completed their Certificate of Achievement and over 80 received further training in preparation for their overnight expedition to Waddecar Scout Camp, so they could achieve the full award. We look forward to seeing what they can achieve next year when taking on the silver award.

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Pupil leader Marcia reflects on the challenges she faced during the expedition, but why it was all worth it.

Duke of Edinburgh! First of all, I can honestly say that this is one of the best experiences I have ever had. Not only did this trip broaden our social horizons by allowing us to meet and socialise with new people, around the campsite and within our groups. It also enabled us to develop a new skill set including learning how to pitch a tent, cook our own food and navigate the countryside of the Forest of Bowland using a map and communication skills within a group.

However despite all the benefits of DofE, it also came with many challenges. Walking 16km with a heavy backpack for two days in a row, obviously causes much fatigue. Nevertheless, even with some tears along the way all of the groups were resilient and completed the walks both days. Another challenge which many faced during the expedition was pitching and putting down the tents, yet in this struggle people came together to not only laugh with each other but to help each other in pitching and packing up.

Whilst there were many challenges that came with the Bronze DofE expedition, it was an incredible opportunity that I would choose to do again in a heartbeat. If you were ever presented with the opportunity to do it, I would strongly advise you take it. The challenge is more than worth the memories made.

# 5 MINUTES WITH OUR DEPARTING HEAD PUPILS

*Kaelon Rutherford and Lauren Russel*

## **How would you reflect on your time at St George's?**

Kaelon: My time at St George's has been filled with ups and downs. I have witnessed many changes - staff, rules, ideologies and how the school operates itself, and these changes are for the better. It is also a compilation of me 'aiming ever higher', pushing myself to achieve more and do more.

Lauren: I would reflect on my time at St Georges as a really positive experience. I have learnt so many valuable lessons that I will carry with me throughout the next few years of my life.

## **What is your best memory of your time at St George's?**

Kaelon: My best memory of St George's actually hasn't happened yet and will happen on August 25th - results day. The past 5 years have built up to this day, and if it goes my way, it will be unforgettable and that will be thanks to the amazing staff as well as my own hard work.

Lauren: My best memory of my time at St George's would be being a librarian and speaking to younger students about their days and what they love to read. I have also enjoyed getting involved in extracurricular activities such as dance club, dance fest and the charity work this year.

## **Who is your favourite teacher and why?**

Kaelon: The reason why Mr Brierley is my favourite teacher is for his dedication and because he goes above and beyond. It may feel like everything I do is being critiqued, and I'm pretty sure he has a sixth sense for when people don't know the answer, but that doesn't change the fact that he is willing to help me improve no matter what. Miss Holt has also been incredible. She has taught me every year for the past 5 years and is a big part of the reason why I am taking A-level PRE Philosophy, Religion and Ethics, and why I hope to one day to bring a more ethical and moral approach to research medicine.

Lauren: It is difficult to choose just one teacher but I would say those who have taught me from the beginning and watched me grow as both a student and a person such as Mr Fisher and Miss Holt have definitely had a huge impact on me. However, any teacher that has coached me through my GCSE's has definitely been a huge help and I am extremely grateful for their hard work.

## **What advice would you give you to your younger peers?**

Kaelon: Work hard and never give up. Whether you're into sports, academia, music or something else, hard work can get you anywhere. It is easier to cave and seek short-term solace, but don't burn your opportunities for temporary comfort. You may not be talented, but hard work beats talent. I went from having a class average and being in set two, to being one of the highest performing students in set one, and that's through hard work. Whatever you want to improve with, remember with hard work, anything is possible.

Lauren: The biggest piece of advice I would give to my younger peers is to work hard. With hard work, dedication and the right support system, you can achieve anything.

# END OF YEAR CELEBRATIONS

## *Pupil Leaders*

The pupil leadership team have played an important part in re-developing our awards system. We have seen the introduction of character points, golden tickets and a badge system to recognise the pupils who live out OUR DNA consistently. We also felt that some pupils, despite always getting it right, were not drawing attention to their success and achievements. We wanted a way to make sure all our pupils get the recognition they deserve.

This led to the development of our 100% badges, awarded to pupils who receive zero behaviour points in a term. 1 term results in a bronze badge, 2 terms is a silver badge, and if you can go the whole year with zero behaviour points you achieve your gold 100% badge. We are very proud to say that more than 200 incredible pupils achieved their gold 100% award at our end of year celebrations.

As well as this, our teachers and form tutors have nominated pupils for special academic and OUR DNA awards which were celebrated in our assemblies. It was wonderful to see so many of our peers receiving the recognition they deserve.



## YOU SAID, WE DID.

**YOU SAID:** WE WANT FLEXIBILITY IN UNIFORM IN WARM WEATHER  
**WE DID.**

**YOU SAID:** WE WANT TO CELEBRATE ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AS WELL AS EFFORT  
**WE DID.**

**YOU SAID:** WE WANT MORE SPORTING OPPORTUNITIES  
**WE DID.**

**YOU SAID:** WE WANT SPECIFIC ROLES WITHIN THE PUPIL LEADERSHIP TEAM  
**WE DID.**

# SPORTING ROUND UP

## PE Department

### ROUNDERS

Our Year 7, 8 and 9 teams all made it through to the Blackpool Schools final, and did St George's proud. Every team was up against Montgomery, and we were successfully crowned champions in both Year 8 and 9. Year 7 finished 2nd in a close game. Our Year 9 team then went on to represent Blackpool at the Lancashire Youth Games where they enjoyed a trip to Burnley for some high quality rounders with representatives from England Rounders!



### BLACKPOOL YOUTH GAMES

What a week we had for the Blackpool Youth Games! Representatives from Year 7 to 10 had the opportunity to get involved in a range of activities; some with a competitive focus, others more concerned with experiencing new activities and enjoying being physically active. All of our pupils were a credit to the academy, and demonstrated the sporting values of respect, determination, fair play and teamwork in all of the activities. We are so proud of you!



Year 7 boys footgolf team - 2nd and 3rd place



Year 7 - 10 girls glow festival



Year 7/8 girls football team - 3rd place



Year 7 climbing and orienteering festival



Year 9/10 girls football team - 1st place.