

SWANBOURNE HOUSE

THE *Stowe*
GROUP



SCHOOL PERFORMANCE
ACADEMIC YEAR 2022 – 2023

SEPTEMBER 2022 – JULY 2023

Swanbourne House is a boarding and day Independent Boarding and Day School. There have been 273 pupils across the School, ranging from 4 to 13. 85 pupils have been registered for boarding (48 boys and 34 girls). Of these, 9 were full boarders, 7 weekly, and 70 flexi-boarders. This document provides a summary of school and individual pupil achievements throughout the year.

ACADEMIC RESULTS

Since September 2019, we have followed the Pre-Senior Baccalaureate (PSB) system for all pupils in Years 7 and 8. This year has seen our third cohort of Upper School successfully complete their two-year course of studies under the PSB assessment framework. Of particular note were the two children who achieved a number of grade 9s. In addition, this year we have won 16 Scholarships and Exhibition Awards for children moving from Swanbourne House to their chosen Senior School.

At the end of this year we have 33 Year 8 pupils graduated from Swanbourne House. Leavers to Senior Schools at 13+: Stowe School; Downe House, Uppingham, Radley, Bedford, Bloxham, Kingham Hill.

Scholarships 13+

- Headmistress's All-Round Award, Downe House (1)
- Academic Scholarship, Downe House (1)
- Academic Exhibition, Radley (1)
- Stephan (Academic) Scholarship, Stowe (1)
- Thring All-Round Scholarship, Uppingham (1)
- Roxburgh Scholarship, Stowe (2)
- Art Scholarship, Stowe (1)
- Art Exhibition, Stowe (1)
- Music Scholarship, Uppingham (1)
- Music Scholarship, Downe House, (!)
- Sport Scholarship, Stowe (1)
- Golf Scholarship, Worth School (1) (declined)
- Sport Exhibition, Stowe (2)
- Drama Exhibition, Stowe (1)

Internal Scholarship Awards 11+

- 15 pupils have been awarded internal scholarships for 2023-2025. 2 Year 8 pupils have been awarded scholarships (one Sport, one Art) for 2023-24.
- 1 Goodhart Outstanding All-rounder Scholarship
- 1 Maggie Beacon Performing Arts Scholarship
- 4 Academic Scholarships
- 2 All-Rounder Scholarships
- 5 Art Scholarships
- 2 DT Scholarships
- 1 Drama Scholarships
- 3 Sports Scholarships (of which 1 equestrian)
- A number of other children have been invited to join bespoke scholarship mentoring groups.

Other Areas of Achievement

- In English we have seen several author visits, a visit from The Grammar Man, national and internal house creative writing competitions, national and internal house poetry competitions and poetry workshops. In particular, several children entered the Young Writers' national poetry competition. There was a trip for Year 8 to a witchcraft and Shakespeare-themed day, and Year 5 visited a local Viking centre.
- In Maths, interdisciplinary work has been high on the agenda with cross-curricular trips to Bletchley Park and The National Space Centre (Years 5 & 6). A Year 8 PSB project saw the pupils launching a business and making investment decisions; and a Year 7 PSB project involved the pupils designing their own online Maths Revision book.
- In Science, a core focus has been Learning How Science Works and looking in greater depth at sustainability and climate change. We celebrated British Science Week with a range of age-specific activities. Year 4 visited Whipsnade zoo.
- In Ancient Languages, we continued to run an optional Ancient Greek language class. After school Ancient Greek Club has been very popular. One of the Year 8 groups pursued Classical Civilisation instead of Latin which was a huge success. One child took Ancient Greek as one of his Radley Scholarship papers and achieved an A.
- Spanish has been introduced as a second MFL in Year 7. A new course has been introduced for Year 5 French. Year 7 attended a ChangeMaker day at Stowe for Modern Foreign Languages. Year 8 and 7S went to watch a French play at Stowe. Year 4 4 enjoyed their annual visit to the French-speaking village shop and Year 7 enjoyed a very successful immersion week in France at Chateau de la Baudonniere. One girl achieved a Grade 9 in her PSB. Pupil language ambassadors have continued their hard work in promoting languages throughout the school.
- In Humanities, we ran a trip to Iceland for selected children in Years 5-8. We took a team to a Global Awareness Worldwide Quiz in Oxford. Year 8 attended a trip to Bletchley Park. The Battle this year was a historical reenactment of the Battle of Cannae. Year 7 & 8 were lucky enough to enjoy a Careers Day, a day full of talks from external speakers.
- In Computing, Digital Leaders continue to support throughout the school and ran an Online Safety workshop for parents and an activity session for Safer Internet Day.
- In Outdoor Learning, residential visits took place to the Dorset Coast for Year 5, Biblins residential camp for Year 6, a Scout Camp in Hampshire for Year 4 and a camp out for Year 3 in a neighbouring village. After delays due to the Covid pandemic, Year 8 embarked upon a week-long trip to Morzine in France as part of their Leavers' Programme where they took part in various outward-bound style activities, with great success.
 - In Art we initiated two Exhibitions one online and a physical Exhibition during the Summer concert. There were several competitions a Interhouse Art Christmas Tree Competition and Bunting making in honour of the Kings Coronation. Scholarships were achieved, both internally and external. Colours were awarded. Collaboration in now cemented nicely with Stowe for our internal Scholars taking place one Saturday every term. Our first collaborative trips were initiated and undertaken at both Bloxam and Uppingham. The Art curriculum in now reflecting the learning taking place in other areas of the school.
- A number of Exceptionally Able pupils attended Bright Young Things sessions at Stowe as part of their Saturday Enrichment programme.
- We have launched our Spearhead Programme which, as well as trips (listed above) includes a series of inspirational speakers for children which this year have included Jack Meyer on his expeditions to K2 and Mount Everest, Richard Boston on a Taste of the Antarctic and Andrew Huxter on People Saving the Planet.
- Younger pupils have also visited the Tower of London and Waddesdon Manor for their project work.
- 8 pupils attended the Winton Cup at Stowe.
- 6 pupils attended the Bloxham Apprentice Challenge.
- 6 pupils participated in the World Wise Quiz at Magdalen College, Oxford

- Staff and pupils took part in the Swanbourne Endeavour, a cross-country outdoor challenge event.
- One pupil painted a fantastic portrait of The King to celebrate the Coronation.

Drama/Dance

There have been 15 Drama Performances over the course of the year.

The main Senior Production (for Years 6 -8) was 'Beauty and the Beast'.

The Year 3 and 4 Production was 'Chitty Chitty Bang Bang Jr'.

Year 5 Productions were classic stories: 'Alice in Wonderland', 'The Wizard of Oz', 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe' and Hans Christian Anderson's 'The Little Mermaid'.

Year 6 Shakespeare plays were adapted versions of 'The Tempest' and 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'.

Year 7 Pantomimes were 'Aladdin', 'Snow White and the Four Dwarves' and 'Cinderella'.

Foundation and Year 1/2 Nativity plays were performed to parents.

House Performing Arts Competitions for children between Years 3 and 8.

House Poetry Recitation Competitions for children between Years F and 8. It was the first time Manor House children had joined in.

Theatre Trips took place to: 'Grease' at Stowe and the Christmas Pantomime at Milton Keynes Theatre.

Pepperpot Perfect was a very popular music, movement and drama class attended by a large percentage of Manor House children.

Drama Scholars performed a showcase performance in November, took part in the Stowe Group Monologue Slam in December and performed 'Harry Rings, Lord of the Potters' in July. M&M Theatrical Productions visited and performed 'Oliver Twist', giving a theatre technique workshop to Year 5 afterwards.

Over the course of the year, 7 children were awarded their ½ drama colours and 10 their full drama colours.

Over the course of the year, 5 children were awarded their ½ dance colours, and 1 their full dance colours.

96 children took LAMDA exams in Acting, Musical Theatre, Verse & Prose and/or Public Speaking between Entry Grade and Grade 6 with 68 achieving a Distinction grade.

98 children participated in LAMDA lessons, with most performing in a LAMDA showcase to parents in February.

Music

Two large scale concerts at Christmas and the Summer, featuring all music groups and several solos from senior musicians.

The Senior Choir went on a hugely successful four day tour to Jersey and performed a full programme in three different venues, as well as taking part in a range of activities.

The staff house band (*Mind the Gap*) continued to perform and gave three concerts during the course of the year in aid of the school charity.

Our Senior Choir led the performances at the inaugural Stowe Group Carol Service in Stowe Chapel, as well as leading our own Carol Service at St Swithun's Church and other services throughout the year (Harvest Festival, Remembrance).

Eight informal house concerts featuring 88 solo performances from children between Years 3 and 8.

Form concerts for every class were held during the Summer Term, giving further performance opportunities for children between Years 3 and 8.

House Music Competition for children between Years 3 and 8.

Stowe Keyboard Day for pianists attended – 8 children took part.

Our Senior Vocal Group travelled to Oakham School for their Prep Schools' Music Day.

50 ABRSM practical exams taken over the course of the year between Prep Test and Grade 5, 22 of these achieved Merits, and 14 achieved Distinctions.

7 Trinity practical exams were taken, 5 achieving a Merit.

Over the course of the year, 2 children were awarded their ½ music colours and 4 their full.

143 children had individual music lessons.

Year 2 took part in an African Drumming workshop.

Sport

In Physical Education and Sport, 217 fixtures were held against other schools and pupils also participated in IAPS tournaments.

New sports have been introduced at Swanbourne in the form of Lacrosse and Korfball.

Externally coached Masterclasses were held in Hockey and Tennis.

This year saw us field our first school equestrian team for many years.

We also fielded our first IAPS triathlon team.

We were thrilled to be able to host Sports Days for every member of the school this year. The school record in Triple Jump which has stood for the last 31 years was beaten with a impressive distance of 10m40. The winning House was Cottesloe, finally knocking Evans off the top spot after 8 years.

29 children competed in the Prep School Athletics Meet at Stowe.

Children competed in the annual Swanbourne Chase.

46 children received their half colours in different sports, and 33 their full colours.

One child represented the County and then the South of England in athletics.

Two children represent the County in Hockey.

Year 7 and 8 pupils did pre-term Hockey, Rugby, and Cricket training at Stowe.

One child qualified as a PADI Open Water SCUBA diver.

One child completed their Level 2 RYA qualification.

Two girls have been invited onto the Bucks Cricket Board Pathway.

One child has been invited to represent County in Cricket.

One child has achieved their green belt in kickboxing.

Four children have been competing in Equestrian events.

One child has been selected to train for County in tennis.

Two children have been selected to play a match for MK Dons.

Charitable Works

The School have supported Imire Rhino Conservation (Zimbabwe) through a variety of events, including Mufti days, Silent Auctions and concerts. Several children have also set themselves challenges to raise money for Imire individually.

We have also supported Comic Relief, the Royal British Legion (selling poppies and other associated products for Remembrance, in addition to the Senior Choir leading the music at the village's Remembrance Service), Disaster Emergency Committee fund for the earthquakes in Turkey & Syria, Mind.

Between Sept 22 and July 23, we made payments totalling £6,912.62 to the following charities:-

Brackley Food Bank - £327.30

Comic Relief - £1,156.42

IMIRE Life for Rhinos - £3,009.56

Mind - £66.77

National Childrens Bureau - £283.37

Place2Be - £428.57

Read for Good - £558.90

Save the Children - Turkey & Syria Appeal - £808.73

The Childrens Society - £273.00

Children were invited to submit their applications for the charity they wished to support in the next school year. These were shortlisted and then voted on by the children.