

## House Report for 2019-2020

There is a song with the opening line 'Where do I begin?' and that is just how I feel when sitting down to write this report of everything that has gone on this year with the 6 Houses in school. I have to think though of how the year has ended and everything that has not happened too. Many of the planned events have had to be cancelled – or hopefully only postponed until next academic year – due to the situation we have found ourselves in since March.

There has been no end to the year with the manic Maths departments Times Tables Rock Stars competition for the year 7's in its normal format. However, it has taken place online. Evie Hunter was overall champion and the House winner was Curie.

There was no inter house sports for years 8 or 9, no balloon pop or popcorn sales and no final House Assembly to present certificates to the House Champions and award the House Trophy to the winning House. Nor has there been an afternoon off timetable for them with inflatables on the field. It is extremely disappointing, but individual winners have still received their prizes.

The year began with some House Leaders and House Captains attending the very busy open evening back in September. They manned a stall selling cakes, drinks and snacks to prospective new students, while filling their parents in on how the house system in school actually works. There was great interest and it seemed to be an excellent selling point for Greenbank, with parents very impressed at the opportunities provided by the system, the rewards for pupils and the benefits to the House charities. All money raised on the night was split across all 6 House charities.

At the end of November, the House Talent Show took place. This is always one of the most popular events of the year and the show was compered by Greenbank's very own Ant & Dec, Mr Hunter and Mr Scott, who could have won it themselves if they had been allowed to enter. They introduced the widest variety of acts we have ever had in the show and first place went to Olivia Armstrong from year 11, who sang beautifully for Seacole House. In second and third place were Hepburn and Bronte respectively.

Year 7's had a sporty start taking part in Inter House sports – again won by Seacole - and a sponsored skip to give a boost to charity fund raising. They were followed by year 8 who also took part. This was the first time all houses jumped, and many girls found out how enjoyable skipping can be – and how much hard work.

To celebrate International Women's Day in March, the art competition was launched with inspirational women being the theme. There were some fabulous and creative entries and first prize went to year 8's Annie Philips from Keller. Hepburn were second and Seacole came third.

During PDT, there were five house quizzes throughout the year instead of the normal 6, but I still managed to organise one for during lockdown which gave the pupils who entered, the opportunity to see some of the adorable, cute pets owned by staff and guess who they belonged to. Of the five quizzes, Hepburn and Pankhurst both won two and Curie the other.

The last of the big house competitions also took place while pupils were not in school and that was the creative writing competition, which has become an annual event. Every house

had their own winner, who have received their certificates and prizes but the overall winner, chosen by Mrs Whittaker, was Susie Blake in 7H for Seacole.

Of course one of the main purposes the Houses have is to raise money for charity. This has been done in various ways by different houses. Along with the aforementioned sponsored skip there have been sales of cakes and pancakes. There were raffles for Christmas and Mother's Day, a sweet tombola, a treasure hunt, a Christmas movie night and face painting.

Bronte raised £564.35 for Southport Offshore Lifeboat

Curie raised £233.5 for Queenscourt Hospice

Hepburn raised £872.28 for UNICEF

Keller raised £280.45 for Scottys Little Soldiers

Pankhurst raised £330.22 for Light for Life

Seacole raised £574.14 for Liverpool Women's Hospital/Help for Heroes

That's a total of £2854.95 for good causes and couldn't have been achieved without the hard work of House Leaders and the commitment and generosity of both students and parents.

The year has seen other changes taking place. Mrs Almond, House Leader for Bronte stepped down after many years. She has been my right hand woman and is going to be incredibly missed. Mr Wildman, Senior Science Technician stepped into her shoes and has already begun to enthusiastically fill them.

It has been decided that from September, there will be a 7<sup>th</sup> House. Changes to the format mean tutor groups will consist of only one house instead of a mixture and form letters will reflect their house. As there are 7 forms per year group there needed to be a 7<sup>th</sup> House Patron. At the beginning of March, just before we locked down, pupils voted for which inspirational women should be granted the honour. It was an overwhelming result for Southport's own Christiana Hartley. Miss Marsh from reception is the lucky, and very eager, new House Leader and lilac was chosen as the House colour. Some staff have had to change houses to reflect their form and give them the opportunity to work together as one unit to support their Leaders.

All that is left for me to do is report that Seacole House are the new House Champions for 2019-2020 and their yellow ribbons now adorn not only the House Trophy, but they have taken the triple, winning the House Talent Show cup and the Creative Writing Shield. Congratulations to Ms Gouldbourne in her first full year as their House Leader and to all the pupils who have worked hard to contribute achievement points to allow a brand new name to be engraved on the Champions trophy.

Good Luck to all 7 Houses for next year.

Mrs A Moran

House Co-Ordinator

