

The Manor

The Manor, in its current location, turned 75 this year. The honours board at the entrance to the house notes all those who have led the house in this time, both students and housemasters. It is an honour and a privilege to be part of this history, while striving to take The Manor further forward into the future. Living alongside 41 boys in their teenage years is any combination of hilarious, bizarre, rewarding, exhausting, inspiring and great fun. As I write this report at the end of the academic year it can feel like all of these at once!

The Christmas Term

It was a pleasure to welcome many new boys to the house back in September. In the Third Form six pupils (Oaken, Arthur, Frahal, Justin, Walter, Ben) joined us at the start of year, with Wil joining too after Christmas. Alex, Harry and Jason joined the Fourth Form, with Will, Josh, Kaleb and Joe all adding to the Sixth Form. There were plenty of new faces and it was good to see all settle quickly into the life of the house.

The first couple of weeks are always very busy. The informal boarders' dinner on the Saturday night and the "Getting to Know York" Sunday were a great way for all the boarders to get to know each other and the place where they now live. The following Sunday was the optional paintballing activity and this proved great fun for all those that took part. Great effort and preparation went into the house sing as usual, but after last year's win it was always unlikely we would feature this time round. It is always great to see the boys perform and a huge well done to all those who brought this together.

Sadly, due to new RFU rules, house rugby played across year groups is no more. This meant that the House Cross-Country was the major event. Kieran Whyte finished third for the Manor in the Senior Boys event, with Dom Winn also in the top ten in the Junior Boys.

A particular highlight of this term was the fact our Junior debaters reached the final of the competition. They prepared well and argued strongly throughout the competition – a huge well done to Olly Tomalin, and also to Flynn Southgate who won the outstanding speaker award. The Senior challenge (House Quiz) did their best but we were outgunned by some strong teams elsewhere.



The Easter Term

Football continued to be a strong and popular sport in house this term with a large number of boys representing the school 1st and 2nd XI. Due to the popularity of Senior Football, House Football was restricted to a Lower Sixth lunchtime tournament which was greatly enjoyed by all who took part. While perhaps we didn't have the skill to win the competition, our commitment and spirit were surely the best!





Our Junior House Hockey team gave things a very strong go as well, finishing second, and it was great to see so many of the juniors taking part.

The Summer term

Our junior Challenge team competed really well this year as too did our strong junior cricket who put in some excellent performances to reach the tournament final. The whole school sports day had to be cancelled due to waterlogged pitches, but the junior version of this for the Third and Fourth Forms was a terrific afternoon. It was good to see the team spirit on show and there were some impressive performances in different events too.



Exams permeated house life this term and the dedicated focus of the boys impressed me greatly. Working hard, while continuing to enjoy boarding life, was a key feature of the term. That was along with the barbecues we were able to have more of this year due to the excellent weather!

Perhaps the best aspect of this term is our very own Manor Handball – our own game, devised by the boys around the lines on the driveway. If you want to see all that is best about boarding in action this is it – it really makes for great watching and embodies the school values well (humility apart perhaps...)!

The People

As ever the end of the school year sees goodbyes and thanks. The Upper Sixth will now be well on with the next stage of their lives and it was sad to see them leave at the end of term gathering. We also wished Andrew well too.



Dori and I are ably supported by a strong team of tutors and in-house support staff. David Robinson has provided excellent support in his first year living in, making a great contribution to the smooth running of the house. Matt Cannon joined the Manor team and has made a huge contribution too as do all the tutors that are part of the Manor.

Colette, our Matron, and the team of cleaners continue to keep the rooms looking remarkably clean and tidy; something that parents always pick up on positively and remark upon.

My final thanks always go to my family. Without their patience, support and understanding I wouldn't still be enjoying this as much as I do.

Mr Steve Gwilliam

