

HAILEYBURY NEWS

27 February 2026



From the Master

The position of Director of Digital Innovation and Enterprise is a new post at Haileybury. As a member of the Executive Leadership Team, the Director will be responsible for the strategic evolution of Haileybury's digital landscape and will play a central role in the development of the School's programme of leadership and enterprise.

I am delighted to confirm that Mr Tom Wade has been appointed to this exciting new role.

'Haileybury 2030' made clear our commitment to ensuring that the School's provision is 21st Century relevant and that our pupils leave Haileybury with the values, skills and credentials they need to thrive. Making this appointment is further evidence that we are serious about achieving our strategic objectives and will do what is needed to ensure that Haileybury continues to move forward with confidence and clarity of purpose. With my best wishes,

Girls' 1st XI Hockey Through to National Semi-Finals



The girls' 1st XI hockey team recorded a superb victory over Millfield on Tuesday in a thrilling Schools U18 Tier 1 Championship quarter-final. After a tightly contested match, a fantastic equaliser from **Laura** (U6, Hailey) took the score to 1-1 at full time and sent the game to penalties – or “shuffles” in hockey parlance.



Under enormous pressure, and showing immense character, **Lois** (L6, Allenby), **Lettie** (U6, Melville) and then **Florrie** (Vths, Colvin) each held their nerve to score their shuffle. In goal, **Georgie** (L6, Hailey) delivered a masterclass, saving all three of Millfield's attempts to secure the win. It was a pulsating encounter, and the girls now progress to the last four in the country and the national semi-final.

It was an extraordinary afternoon of sport. The performance from the girls was very special, the management of the team was exceptional, and the passionate support from the sidelines undoubtedly made a difference to the outcome.



Half Term Trips

Over half term, twenty of our Hispanists travelled to Madrid on a four-day cultural adventure packed with energy, discovery and plenty of Spanish conversation. Staying in the heart of the Spanish capital on the lively **Gran Vía**, pupils immersed themselves in the city's language, history and culture.

The itinerary was as exciting as the city itself. From exploring Madrid's grand plazas to touring the legendary **Santiago Bernabéu Stadium** and the historic **Las Ventas bullring**, there was no shortage of iconic sights. A particular highlight was a flamenco performance at **Teatro Flamenco Madrid**, where the energy and drama of Spanish dance left a lasting impression.

Art lovers were equally inspired by visits to the magnificent **Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía** and **Museo del Prado**. Seeing Pablo Picasso's powerful **Guernica** in person was a true cultural moment. The group also enjoyed the calm beauty of **Parque del Retiro**, before marvelling at the grandeur of the **Royal Palace of Madrid** and the elegant **Plaza de Oriente**.

Time spent wandering through vibrant neighbourhoods such as **Chueca** and **Malasaña** gave pupils the perfect opportunity to put their Spanish into practice with locals and they rose brilliantly to the challenge.

The pupils represented the School superbly and returned home with plenty of stories to tell and a little more madrileño than before!

A Cultural Adventure in Madrid



Cricket Tour to South Africa

A group of thirty-three Removes and Middles cricketers embarked on an unforgettable tour to South Africa over the half-term break, combining outstanding cricket with remarkable cultural experiences.

The tour began with a training session at **South African College High School (SACS)**, setting the tone for a week of high-quality cricket. From there, the group travelled to **Aquila Private Game Reserve & Spa**, where they enjoyed an unforgettable safari experience. Sightings included lions, elephants, hippos and rhinos, followed by marshmallows around the campfire and stargazing beneath the vast African sky.

Back in Cape Town, the cricket began in earnest with fixtures against **Bellville High School** and **Reddam House Durbanville**. All three teams performed superbly, securing four impressive victories. Memorable moments included Albert (Removes) claiming a hat-trick as part of a five-wicket haul, and Noah (Middles) striking a dramatic six off the final ball to seal a thrilling super over win.

The boys also took in the spectacular views from the summit of **Table Mountain** before continuing their fixtures against SACS and **Fairmont High School**. The tour concluded in style with a fantastic floodlit match at **Bishops Diocesan College**.

We are immensely proud of our pupils not only for their excellent performances on the field, but also for the sportsmanship, camaraderie and maturity they demonstrated throughout what was an extraordinary tour.



Haileybury Delegates Excel at St Andrew's International MUN

Twelve Haileybury pupils representing Greece, Iran and the Philippines took part in the **St Andrew's International Model United Nations**, a four-day event filled with debate, diplomacy and new connections.

Lobbying proved a great success, with multiple resolutions and clauses submitted by our delegates. In total, Team Haileybury delivered 82 main speeches, placing us among the top-performing schools at the conference.

Oleg (L6) made a particularly impressive contribution, having been invited to chair the Ecology & Environment Committee. He led lively debates among more than 80 delegates with professionalism and skill.

First-time participant Thabo (L6) also shone, seeing his amendment debated and passed by a clear majority, backed by strong points of information from Amaziah (M); while Angelica (L6) was named Distinguished Delegate in the closing ceremony for her outstanding performance.

Special mention also goes to Riverling (L6) and Vittorio (L6), who were each nominated by their committees for multiple superlatives recognising their contributions and teamwork.

Beyond the debating floor, pupils enjoyed dinners out and the chance to socialise with students from around the world - rounding off an inspiring few days of global awareness, teamwork and diplomacy.



Exploring the Future: Pupils Visit Airbus Defence and Space

Pupils from the **Space Economy Society** enjoyed a fascinating visit to **Airbus Defence and Space** before the half-term, gaining first-hand insight into one of the world's leading space technology companies.

The day began in the Innovation Lab, where pupils learned about Airbus's work in the space sector and how satellites underpin so many aspects of everyday life. It was a valuable opportunity to connect their Society discussions with the real-world applications shaping the global space economy.

They also met graduates, apprentices and interns, who shared their experiences of early careers in the industry. These conversations gave pupils a clearer picture of the pathways available and made the prospect of working in the space sector feel both accessible and inspiring.

A tour of the wider facility followed, including visits to the robotics lab and the cleanroom, where pupils suited up to stand beside a satellite currently under construction, a truly memorable moment. The highlight of the day was stepping into the Mars Yard, where pupils saw how testing and simulation are carried out for planetary exploration missions.

The experience offered an extraordinary glimpse into the future of space innovation. Pupils expressed their gratitude to everyone who made the trip possible, and to Mrs du Toit for joining them and sharing in such an exciting day for the Society.



Haileybury Musician of the Year

Congratulations to all of our pupils who performed last night in the Haileybury Musician of the Year Finals. Adjudicated by the renowned conductor, David Hill, 15 pupils performed a stunning programme of music which ranged from Debussy, Haydn and Prokofiev to songs from the West End. This year, the standard was incredibly high, and in truth, it is hard to put into words the pride felt by parents and teachers for the pupils, who all performed to the highest of standards. David Hill congratulated all the pupils on their accomplishment and on the musical gifts they had given to the audience that evening: "If a picture paints a thousand words, then music paints a thousand pictures."

The final results were: Highly Commended: Oscar (L6) and Sophia (M); Runners Up: Joe (U6), Bérenger (L6) and Nathan (Vths); and the winner was Jesús (L6).



OH Jamie George (Bartle Frere, 2009):

A Rugby Journey Defined by Passion, Leadership and Legacy



Alumni **Jamie George (Bartle Frere, 2009)** has recently announced his retirement from England rugby, capping a stellar career that took him from captaining Haileybury's 1st XV to earning over 100 England caps, leading the team and starring for Saracens. He has achieved 3 Six Nations titles, multiple European Champions Cups, and appearances at Rugby World Cup finals.

The Haileybury Association explores his journey from Haileybury pitches to Twickenham triumphs, with insights from Jamie himself on how his time at the School taught him important lessons that have shaped his professional commitment.

Read the full story [here](#).

Alumni news this week:

- Nicholas Asheshov (Allenby 1953-57), founder of the Haileybury Dixieland Jazz Band in 1955, has published the first volume of his political adventure trilogy, *Forgotten Secrets*. The trilogy is to start publication later this year in England as 'The Battle Of Wild Goose Lake'. Read more about Nick's remarkable life and work [here](#).



Upcoming Events:

- U6 Professional Headshots - 10 March
- CV Writing Workshop - 10 March
- Pupil Networking Evening - 17 March
- Haileybury Schola Cantorum at Westminster Abbey - 16 April

Visit www.haileyburyassociation.com to explore these stories in more detail, find out what's new and how you can take part.



Haileybury Association



We are thrilled to announce that Haileybury's Science and Technology Centre has been shortlisted for a RIBA East Award! Presented by the Royal Institute of British Architects, these awards celebrate the very best in architectural design, innovation and sustainability across the region.

Opened in 2024, Haileybury SciTech has transformed the School's facilities, more than doubling our previous science and technology spaces. The building is a hub of innovation, featuring state-of-the-art science laboratories, IT suites and dedicated robotics and design technology areas. It is here that our pupils collaborate on pioneering projects including the Stan-X initiative, Cube-Sat, Green Power, and the Vex Robotics programme — fostering creativity, problem-solving and curiosity!

The RIBA East Award judges will visit all shortlisted projects before announcing the winners at the ceremony in May.

Meet The Senior Team

On Monday evening, our future Year 7 pupils and their families joined us for a vibrant Offer Holders' Event. From the moment they arrived, pupils were immersed in hands-on activities showcasing the excitement and variety of life at Haileybury. In small groups they took part in VEX Robotics, CSI-style Science Investigations, Sushi Making, and lively Steel Pan and Samba sessions – each sparking creativity, teamwork and plenty of laughter.

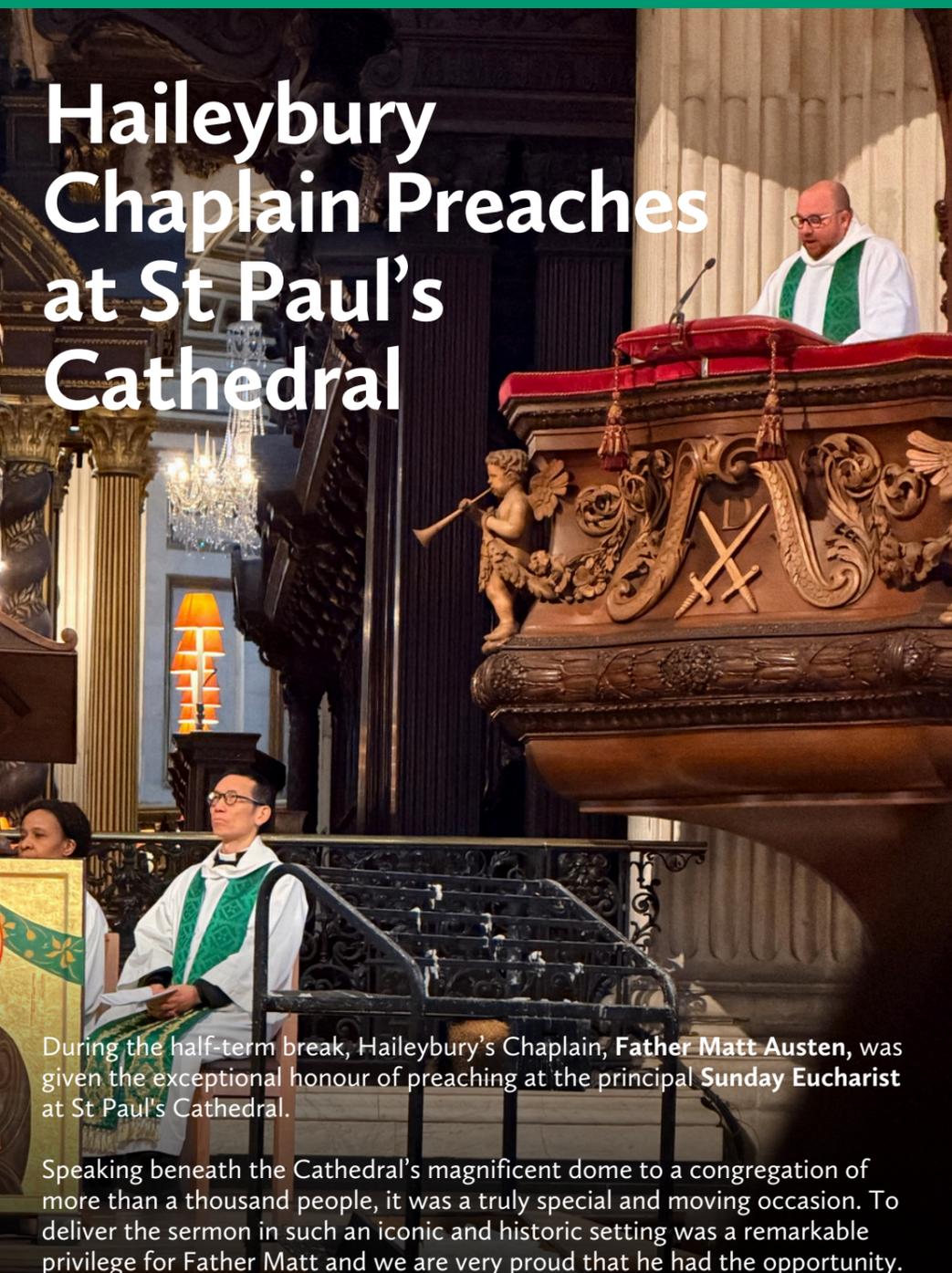


While pupils explored, parents attended engaging talks from the Master and Senior Leadership Team, gaining insight into our vision, values and the journey ahead. A special highlight was Libby from LS2, who spoke beautifully about her Lower School experience. The evening closed with delicious canapés and warm conversation – a perfect opportunity for families to connect and experience the spirit of our thriving community.



Haileybury SciTech Shortlisted for Prestigious RIBA Award

Haileybury Chaplain Preaches at St Paul's Cathedral



During the half-term break, Haileybury's Chaplain, **Father Matt Austen**, was given the exceptional honour of preaching at the principal **Sunday Eucharist** at St Paul's Cathedral.

Speaking beneath the Cathedral's magnificent dome to a congregation of more than a thousand people, it was a truly special and moving occasion. To deliver the sermon in such an iconic and historic setting was a remarkable privilege for Father Matt and we are very proud that he had the opportunity.

Coming Up

Friday 27 to Saturday 28 February

- VEX Robotics UK Nationals (Metals), Telford, Shropshire

Saturday 28 February

- Whole School Open Morning

Saturday 28 February to Monday 2 March

- VEX Robotics UK Nationals (Plastics), Telford, Shropshire

Monday 2 to Wednesday 4 March

- Lower School 1 History and Geography Trip to Yorkshire

Tuesday 3 March

- Eastern European Night, 8.30 pm, Grubber

Wednesday 4 March

- Teams Maths Challenge, all day, Habs Girls School, Elstree
- U10 Girls Prep Schools Netball Festival, 1.00 pm, Sports Hall

Thursday 5 March

- Prep Schools Orchestra Afternoon, Bradby Hall
- HPA Quiz Night, 7.00 pm, Big School