

NEWSLETTER

“Every child is an artist; the problem is staying an artist when you grow up”

Pablo Picasso

Week 5 2023-24

ISA EAST REGIONAL ART COMPETITION



ISA EAST REGIONAL ART COMPETITION

Schools from across East Anglia gathered at CATS Cambridge on Saturday 14th to celebrate the works of hundreds of students throughout the region as part of the ISA East Regional Art Competition.

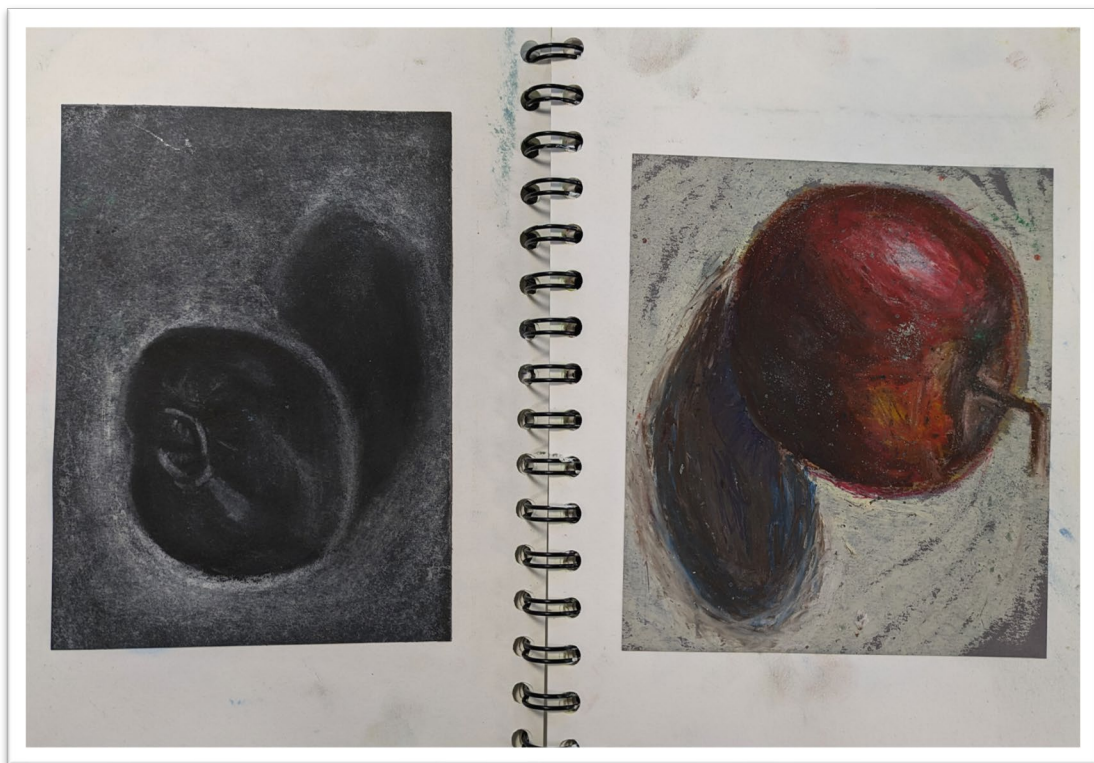
As a member school of the Independent Schools Association, CATS Cambridge hosts this event every other year. It's always a lively affair with over 80 students of all ages and their families coming to see the gallery of compositions in the Common Room, followed by an awards ceremony held in the Lecture theatre with Dominic Tomalin, Principal.

There are around forty different categories, and it was pleasing to see our students submitting in several, including 2D Individual Art, Photography, Sketchbooks and Drawing. Do join us in congratulating the outstanding achievements of our students who once again amaze us all with their skill and eye for art. You can see our submissions below:



2D Individual Art KS5
'Como And Kharkiv 07.07.2022'
Polina
2nd Place

ISA EAST REGIONAL ART COMPETITION



Sketchbook KS3 & KS4
'Natural Form'
Gia Mee
2nd Place



2D Individual Art KS4
'Pink Blossom at Night'
Hester

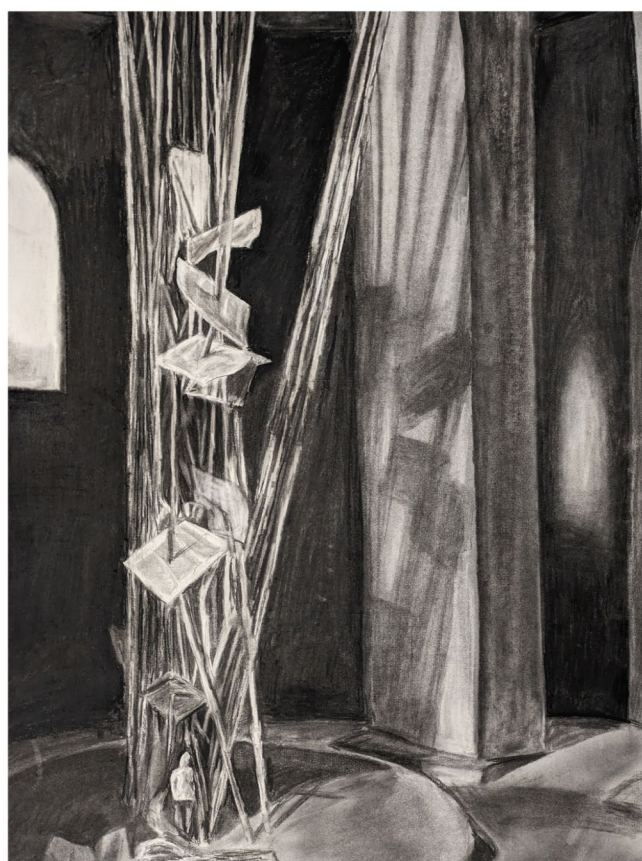


Photography KS5
'On the bus'
Bosco
1st Place

ISA EAST REGIONAL ART COMPETITION



Photography KS4
'Light'
Su
Highly Commended



Sketchbook KS5
'Personal Investigation'
Meriel
1st Place



CATS CAMBRIDGE vs TRINITY COLLEGE

8 -3 Win against Trinity College II

On Saturday we took to the pitch for our first game of the season filled with anticipation of how our newly form squad would perform, and as expected they performed amazingly!

Godfrey Matereure has been working hard with the boys for the past few weeks in training sessions to get them ready for the sessions and it seems this has paid off, goals coming from Nazar Shklier who scored three, Isaac Oseii Bonsu who scored two, Assem El Keiy, Sa'aad Dansandau and George Capita all got one each.

We hope this results kicks us off to what could be a very successful season!



PUNTING

The sudden drop in temperature did not stop our Prepatec group taking to the River Cam on punts this Saturday. Punting refers to riding a flat-bottom boat known as a punt, which a person pushes along with a pole. The group had a guided tour where we saw famous Cambridge landmarks including the Bridge of Sighs, the Mathematical Bridge, Kings College, Trinity College and much more. The tour guide took the group from quayside all the way to Mill Pond before heading back to the city centre.

It's not a trip to Cambridge if you don't go punting. Always a popular tourist attraction, the Cam is often filled with punts majestically bumping their way along the river during peak season, and it's not uncommon to occasionally spot a celebrity enjoying the calm river tour of our beautiful city!

One of the best bits of punting is the remarkably informative history of the colleges as you travel along the river. The punters are well-versed, and you can expect to be inundated with colourful descriptions and interesting morsels of Cambridge history as you glide along.





Optimistic Realism

Dominic Tomalin,
Principal



Mid-October includes annual the deadline for early University applications, applications to medical courses and the Oxbridge Colleges. Whether to make an application for a place on one of these much sought after undergraduate courses is a decision that deserves very careful consideration. Such applications mark the beginning of a journey that is far from risk free.

About 20% of those who apply to the University of Cambridge win an offer for a place on an undergraduate course, only 15% win a place. 700 of those who were given conditional offers failed to meet the conditions. That's 15% of those who thought that they had a fighting chance of hitting the grades. Those odds aren't great, yet the only way you can guarantee not going to an Oxbridge College or Medical School a place is by not applying, by not putting yourself at what looks to be a significant risk of failure. Managing that level of risk with confidence requires optimistic realism.

Challenging ambitions are hard to realise. This doesn't mean that you shouldn't have them. Quite the contrary, you must dream, but simply dreaming will not make something so. As the psychologist Richard Wiseman observes, simply visualising yourself achieving an outcome is a near total waste of time. You are better off imagining yourself completing all of the tasks necessary to reach that goal, see:

<https://richardwiseman.wordpress.com/2016/12/28/how-to-keep-your-new-years-resolutions-2/>.

Understanding whether you can bring that ambition within reach is a critical aspect of the decision-making process. Understanding whether it's worth it in terms of the time, energy and distraction in the context of its impact on alternates needs careful consideration.

Tough self-analysis is needed. Such an analysis must start with knowing where you are at. Knowing where you are starting from allows you discern what it is that needs to be done to reach your goal. You can then plot your course and have plans to deal with the inevitable challenges ahead. At CATS Cambridge we want all our students to develop the resilience to take on those challenges, to manage risks rather than be averse to them, to bring their own personal goals within reach. Whether or not part of that journey is applying to an Oxbridge college or any other of the top universities, is something about which they each need to make an informed decision, a decision grounded in an understanding of from where they will be launching. After that, a goodly dose of optimistic realism will help them go further than a wing and a prayer.