

NEWSLETTER

I thought 'The Martians have arrived!', but then I realised that I was looking at pollen slightly out of focus." [On looking through his telescope]

Sir Patrick Moore, Astronomer

Week 12 2023-24

BRITISH ASTRONOMY AND ASTROPHYSICS OLYMPIAD



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Last week, six CATS Students bravely stepped forward to tackle the British Astronomy and Astrophysics Olympiad (BAAO).

This gruelling challenge is not for the faint-hearted. The question papers are set to be stimulating but probing, pushing the boundaries of the students critical thinking and knowledge, whilst bringing them closer to on-going research and discoveries in Astronomy.

The top students from across the country will be given the opportunity to take a second paper in February.

Our students are no strangers to these sorts of opportunities, often taking part in Olympiads in Physics, Chemistry and Biology, as well as the Mathematical Challenge.

Well done Ei, Shaffiyyah, Duc, Kirill, Boca, and Aisha for taking part!



MATHS CONUNDRUM #3

In this tricky logic game, you must figure out how to get everyone across the bridge. Using reasoning and logic, you must get 5 people across the bridge in 30 minutes. Each person crosses the bridge at a different speed (1 min, 3 mins, 6 mins, 8 mins, 12 mins).

Instructions

Help everyone to cross the bridge before the light goes out!

The lamp must be carried by a person and it can only last 30 minutes.

Each person has a different walking speed, and the bridge can hold up to 2 persons each time.

This week's winners

1st place: Maelle 11 mins 24s

2nd place: Bosco 20 mins

CHRISTMAS PREPARATIONS



Christmas begins in earnest at CATS Cambridge, with decorations springing up across our boarding houses bringing the festive season's cheer to all.

Christmas is always a busy period for us with lots of exciting activities planned, including the Christmas Fayre, the annual Berlin Christmas Market Trip, the CATS Christmas Dinner, and the wonderfully eccentric Christmas Jumper Day.



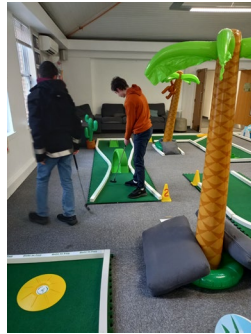
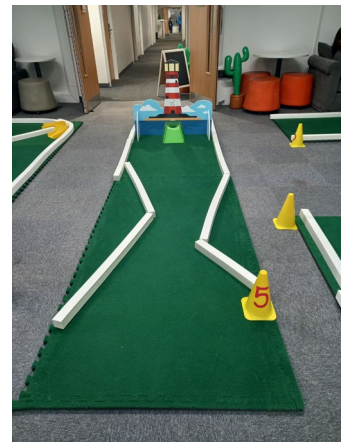
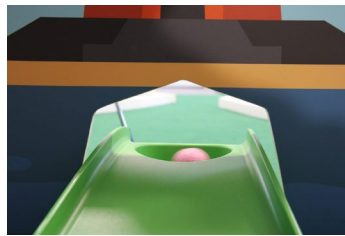
MINI GOLF COMPETITION

Welcome to the tropical paradise of CATS Cambridge Common Room, given over to Phil Bond, Panther House Director, to turn into a wonderful mini-golf course for staff and students to enjoy.

The course was open throughout the day and saw all and sundry wander in to try their hand at the puzzling holes.

The object is to score the least number of points on each hole and just have a bit of fun, which of course was the main objective. Except on hole 9, which was clearly designed as a punishment.

You can see Becky, one of our ESL tutors, setting up for a practice swing on the infamous hole 9 below.



ART SHOWCASE

Pre-Programme Visual Arts students this term have been working with oil pastels; firstly, taking photographs of still life arrangements and then creating their own still life focused studies with oil pastel.

The outcomes are some strong, vibrant compositional pieces of work with objects and lemons that look at how colour, shape and texture work together.



Living in the Present

Phil Harwood,
Vice Principal

This is my favourite time of year to be in Cambridge. As winter descends upon the city, the spirit of the season takes hold with the enchanting Christmas lights around the market square, creating a perfect opportunity to relish the joy of the present, surrounded by the warmth of community and the allure of seasonal delights.

As the echoes of the past resonate through the cobbled streets, Cambridge offers a unique opportunity for us to live in the present whilst being steeped in history. As a liberal, forward-looking city that is positioned at the forefront of scientific research, Cambridge has been a centre of learning and cultural melting pot for centuries.

Cambridge is more than this though and offers something for everyone. The Botanic Gardens' Light Trail is an illuminated journey through its famous landscapes savouring the beauty of nature, juxtaposed with technology, creating memories that linger long after the lights fade away. And let's not forget the unique Dinky Doors Challenge scattered throughout the city. These miniature marvels invite us all to take part in a modern-day treasure hunt with a twist. Living in the present means discovering these surprises around every corner, appreciating the creativity and idiosyncrasies that make Cambridge such an amazing place in which to work and play.

In the tapestry of Cambridge life, woven with threads of tradition and innovation, the key to true making the most of our time here lies in embracing the present. Whether it's the timeless majesty of the University colleges, the festive spirit of the Christmas market, the enchantment of the Light Trail, or the whimsy of Dinky Doors, there's a kaleidoscope of opportunities out there to immerse ourselves in.

