



WHERE EVERY PUPIL CREATES THEIR OWN STORY

HOUSE NEWSLETTER - DECEMBER 2024

Kerrison House



From the HM



As we approach the end of term it is always amazing how quickly the weeks fly by, I cannot believe I am writing to you talking about Christmas. Kerrison has been turned into what can only be described as Kyra's grotto, with lights twinkling in the common room and an array of colour in the foyer, it certainly seems as if Christmas has come to Kerrison! The other day we drew names out of the hat for our Secret Santa and the boys were encouraged to get to know their nominated person and avoid the easy option of confectionary - I am sure we will all have enough of that over the coming weeks!

As usual it has been another busy Half Term, with the Year 13 UCAS applications winging their way to universities and the boys eagerly awaiting replies. We must also turn our sights to the mock examinations in February. I hope those in the examination year groups find some time amongst the festivities to turn to their books and get the revision started! It has been lovely to spend time writing reports over the past few weeks, reflecting on what an amazing group of boys the Kerrison cohort are and how much they have achieved in such a short space of time. Every single one of them should be proud of what they have achieved and I hope they take time to reflect on their individual successes both in and out of the classroom over the Christmas Holiday.

The House competitions have been hotting up too, with the eagerly anticipated House Rugby before the exeat weekend. The Junior team did us proud, coming a well fought second place, with some excellent tackling, awesome tries and humility on the pitch. They did the Kerrison name proud, with an almost even split of Year 9 and 10 pupils on the pitch at all times and some noticeable absences from the squad. The Senior team was again plagued by injury, with our captain and illustrious leader, Dan G out with a long term injury, we turned to teamwork, grit and determination. We unfortunately lost all three games, however with two debutants (Max M and Philipp G), having only started rugby in September, and Garrett scoring in the last minute to take a win, the Seniors followed in the Juniors' footsteps and played the game in the right way and upheld the good Kerrison name.

House shooting coincided with the Rugby, all held in the same week and, although I was unable to make it down to watch, I am told we put on a spirited performance and could have put out two teams given the opportunity. Unfortunately, again we still had the adrenaline of House rugby running through our bodies and were a little shaky on the range, however well done to all involved, with Jasper R our best shot (followed closely by Dan G). Finally the House dinner - an inspiring speech by Head of House Dan G and Mr Dawling (our guest speaker) had us all enthralled, with some insights into his life and the mental health issues he has faced and overcome, and all he now does for Veterans, his life in the Army, England Rugby sevens and his position in the Saracens setup.

Thank you to all of the Kerrison parents for entrusting your sons to us during term time and I would like them to remember "Once Kerrison, Always Kerrison!"

Christmas cheer

Christmas has always been a time for giving, I remember as a young child the joy of giving presents to my parents, half brother, brother and even our dogs - often the dogs were the ones who showed the most joy! Over the past few years and at various schools, I have always encouraged pupils to adopt the Random Acts of Kindness, and this year is no different. The Kerrison boys have been challenged to perform a random act of kindness to either other members of the House, the Framlingham College Community, or even the wider community they live within. However, rather than blow your own trumpet, I have encouraged those who have witnessed it, or been on the receiving end to put a note into a box in the common room and we will review these in the last week of term. I would usually set a target of 100 for the House in the last two weeks of term, however getting to know the Kerrison boys, and their natures, I have upped this to 1000! This equates (and here is the mathematician in me) to roughly 3 acts of kindness every 2 days, which is definitely achievable! I would also encourage the boys to continue this for the whole of December, whether at home, in the community, or away on Holiday. When thinking of my children, I will encourage them to have a pre-Christmas clear out to give anything they don't use anymore to those less fortunate than them. I know there are many of charities (such as the Samaritans) who will be able to redistribute these.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a lovely Christmas together, enjoy the festivities and, whether you are managing to seek more temperate climates, looking for snow, or staying at home, to raise a glass to absent friends. From me, my family and the Kerrison staff, a very Merry Christmas and we wish you all a happy and prosperous New Year!

Kerrison House in pictures

