

EUROPA SECONDARY NEWSLETTER

2nd May 2025

Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Practice Expedition in Glorious Sunshine



This week, students from Europa School took part in the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DoE) practice expedition, making the most of the glorious spring sunshine. The two-day adventure began with orienteering and training sessions on day one, equipping the students with essential navigation and teamwork skills in preparation for their main expedition in September. They then camped in the playing fields overnight and prepared their own meals.

On Wednesday the students hiked 18 km through Oxfordshire countryside, supported by Europa staff and volunteers. Spirits remained high throughout, with students showing great humour and resilience.

The expedition provided valuable lessons, not just in what to pack and how to plan, but just as importantly, what not to bring, preparing them for their expedition in September when they will have 2 days of hiking and have to carry their tents as well.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is a great opportunity for students to build confidence, develop independence, and challenge themselves beyond the classroom. It continues to be extremely popular among Europa's students, with a staggering 30 students signed up for Gold DoE. Expeditions and practice expeditions continue all of this term and into the autumn term with S4 going out next week for their Silver DoE practice expedition.

Diary

Mon 5th May Wed 7th May Thurs 8th May

Mon 12th May Wed 14th May Bank Holiday, IB & MYP Exams all week EPAS club trip to 8th May

Silver DoE Practice Expedition (to 10/5)

S2 Carnegie Quiz (Abingdon) S6 Geo Field Trip

S6 Bio & ESS Field Trip









Europa Coding Club Win Oxon RoboCon

The Europa School Coding Club team were the winners of Oxfordshire RoboCon this year!

Our team consisted of Adalric, Tom, Jahila & Maxence, who were all great ambassadors for our school by performing amazingly well under intense competition pressure against 9 other schools.

The competition presents an exciting challenge of creativity, teamwork, strategy, coding and problem solving.

In the words of Tom: "From this competition what I learned was how important testing was, going through trial and error allowed us to

find our problems faster and fix them more efficiently.





Another thing I learnt was from another team - MCS another school, who had an extremely competitive robot. However, they got knocked out in the semi-finals because they had spent their time perfecting their robots picking up the box sequence and they didn't have any feature to check if they were up against the wall. We had implemented such a feature as we spent more time on everything instead of perfecting one thing. Overall I learnt that failing can be the best way to improve, I improved my python skills including how to work with a library and improved my problem-solving skills."

If you would like to become a roboticist, coder or tinkerer - join the

Coding Club.



We're excited to share that our Diploma Programme students are now diving into the core of their Internal Assessments (IAs) and Extended Essays (EES)! Some subjects have already kicked off, while others are just beginning—this means we are entering a continuous and evolving phase of academic inquiry across disciplines.

At this crucial time, we ask for your support in encouraging your children to stay organized, write academically, and make the most of their time. One great way to be involved is by getting to know your child's IAs/EEs topic—ask them about it! Conversations at home can go a long way in boosting confidence and clarity.

We also encourage you to talk with your child about academic integrity and how to use Artificial Intelligence thoughtfully and ethically to support, not substitute, their work. And yes, those friendly reminders about procrastination still matter: missing deadlines tends to create a domino effect, leading to stress and compromised performance.

Please remind your children that a great piece of work doesn't have to be grand or overly complex. Often, the most effective investigations are based on simple, well-defined questions tackled with strong scientific methods and clear reasoning. For those working with a mix of primary and secondary data, we know the task is ambitious—but we are confident in their ability to rise to the challenge.

Thank you for your continued support, and let's cheer our students on as they engage deeply with their IAs across all subjects!

Warm regards, Adriana Reis, ESS teacher



2nd May 2025





THURSDAY 22 MAY 8-9 AM

THAME LANE ENTRANCE

Bag up your preloved, unwanted and outgrown clothes, paired shoes, and handbags and bring them to school.

Rags2Riches4Schools will collect them on the day and pay for them by weight.





PRELOVED CLOTHES and SHOES COLLECTION with Rags2Riches4Schools to raise funds for our school and recycle well.

Sort through your cupboards and wardrobes and fill a bag (or more!) with clean, reusable, unwanted or outgrown clothes and shoes.

YES: clean, good condition adult and children's clothes, paired shoes tied together, hats and scarves, handbags and belts, packed in bags. This will be taken by the weight for reuse and a donation paid to the PTA.

NO: uniforms, socks, dirty items, ripped or stained clothes.

Please refer to for full details of what is accepted.







Please note that there is a special FAMILY offer on Sunday 25th.

Standard tickets cost £30 each but we are offering certain schools a £40 family ticket for 4 (2 adults and 2 children aged 8-18; or 1 adult and 3 children aged 8-18). Families may bring a picnic and enjoy the stunning gardens there - open from 1pm. The concert will start at 3pm, in the church at Asthall, and last just over an hour.

More info