



**Spring is in the air, with the promise of new beginnings.** Homewood students, like others around the country, were welcomed back to school in March after months of remote learning. New routines were established and everyone is adapting to the challenges they bring. With vaccines rolling out, there seems to at last be light at the end of the tunnel. We continue to trust that you and your loved ones keep safe and well.

*The Homewood Alumni Team*



## Mr Doodle donates £10k to Graphics Department

Former Homewood student and now acclaimed international artist Sam Cox (Class of 2012), better known as Mr Doodle, is donating £10,000 to Homewood's art and graphic design department where he first developed his distinctive and unconventional creative style.

Since leaving Homewood and forging his stellar career path, Sam has continued to maintain a close connection with the school and regularly returns to run creative workshops for students. He has even decorated several spaces within the school with his intricate and fun doodles.

During a visit in March he confirmed the generous donation and made a socially distanced giant cheque presentation to Homewood's Head of Graphics Morgan Davies and Homewood Principal Jeremy Single – of course embellished with some of his signature doodles.

Explaining why he was making the donation, Sam said: "Homewood School has always been such an important place to me. I have such fond memories of drawing away endlessly with such amazing encouragement and guidance from my teachers. I really value those years, and the work I created at Homewood still remains amongst my favourites."



"I truly hope that the donation will help to provide something that the department and the students lucky enough to study Graphic Design at Homewood will find useful for years to come."

Principal Jeremy Single said: "Sam's enthusiasm for passing on his love of being creative is infectious and that is worth its weight in gold for our students. On top of that, a donation on this scale will make a real difference to the resources we can provide to help students to harness that creative spark and nurture many more successful Homewood artists to follow in his footsteps."

You can follow the work of our talented GCSE and A level artists on Instagram: [@thatgraphicsstuff](#) [@homewoodtextiles](#)

**Keep up with all Homewood's news**

You can always keep up with the latest from Homewood via our [website](#), and by following us on [Twitter @Homewood\\_School](#) and via our [Facebook](#) page

## Alumni events 2021

1970-73 Leavers Alumni Reunion. The plans for this event are still on hold and will be reassessed with the hope that the event can be rescheduled in 2022.

We are still considering the options to hold a summer alumni meeting but are unable to confirm anything at present. We will be in touch with any details when a decision has been made.

## The art of reconnecting the community



The Tenterden Schools Trust's annual Community Art Project is due to take over the town from 3 - 16 July 2021. The annual project is pulling out all the stops to celebrate both the 60th anniversary of the preserved Kent & East Sussex Railway and the reopening of Tenterden High Street after a year like no other. Students from all the Trust's schools, including Homewood, and community groups will be spending the next few months creating hundreds of unique 2D and 3D artworks. These will be showcased in three free art exhibitions across the town – St Mildred's Church, Tenterden Railway Station and the high street itself.

This year's theme – *Looking back, moving forward: all aboard the Tenterden Community Train* – not only reflects the heritage railway's milestone but also how the Tenterden community, like so many others, are coming to terms with the last 12 months and moving positively into the future as a thriving high street for businesses and visitors.

So, if you can, make a date to 'get on board' and visit Tenterden between 3 and 16 July. You can find out more at:

[www.tenterden-schools-trust.com/CommunityArtProject](http://www.tenterden-schools-trust.com/CommunityArtProject)

## Improvements to the school buildings



One silver lining of lockdown has been the opportunities to progress some long-awaited building improvements.

A substantial government grant has been secured for the Trust and at Homewood the money has been used to install new fire safety measures, energy efficient LED lighting around the school and overhaul the flat roof areas. In addition, the Sinden Theatre has undergone a complete refurbishment prior to an exciting re-opening – more news on that soon!

The newly decorated reception area in the Mansion block is also looking far brighter and inviting for visitors to the school.

### Refer A Friend

We know many of you are still in contact with friends that you made whilst at Homewood. We really want our Alumni Network to grow so do consider passing on this link so they can join too.

<https://networks.futurefirst.org.uk/former-student/homewood>



## New life on the farm

No Spring newsletter would be complete without some photos of the new arrivals down at the farm! As many alumni will remember, Homewood Farm has always been an important and much-loved asset to the school, teaching pupils about animal care, environmental and conservation issues, as well as linking with Science, Geography, English and Maths. It is of course home to the school's popular Young Farmers club. The Farm is also open to the community for educational or recreational visits and on open days such as the popular lambing days. Unfortunately, the pandemic has prevented these events taking place but we have still welcomed some beautiful new lambs and calves, captured on camera here.



## Spotlight on careers

A huge thank you to all our brilliant Alumni who have volunteered to appear in our poster campaign within school. Having images of successful former students forging careers in varied fields helps to inspire and encourage our current student cohort. If you would be willing to appear in our campaign in the future please contact us on [alumni@homewood.kent.sch.uk](mailto:alumni@homewood.kent.sch.uk) and we will get in touch.

## 'This Girl Can' campaign to promote female involvement in exercise and sport

The PE department will be running a THIS GIRL CAN week in September 2021 and would like to know if any former students are employed or involved in these fields. If you are, would you be willing to be involved to run a sport / fitness lesson, lead a Q&A session or share your insights into your career area? If you think you can help please contact the team at: [k.beament@homewood.kent.sch.uk](mailto:k.beament@homewood.kent.sch.uk)



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