



Prep School Lacrosse, Wednesday 11 May



Following on from the hugely successful Lacrosse event last year for Prep Schools, we were delighted to welcome over 100 Prep girls to Heathfield to try out Lacrosse for their first time with our Director of Sport, Wendy Reynolds, who has played, coached and umpired at World Cup level.

The girls were given their team t-shirts and started to learn the basic skills of Lacrosse and taking part in activities that help to hone their Lacrosse skills. The girls threw themselves into all the exercises and had a wonderful experience, followed by a delicious tea.



We look forward to seeing some of these girls back at Heathfield as new pupils in the years ahead.



Key dates for your diary

- 21 May** - OPEN MORNING
- 27 May - 5 Jun** - HALF TERM
- 11 June** - Parents' Tennis
- 14 - 18 June** - Royal Ascot
- 18 June** - Sports Day
- 29 June** - Lily Ball
- 2 July** - Parents' Day
- 2 July, 1pm** - END OF TERM
- 6 September** - Return of LVI & new Form III
- 7 September** - Return of current girls & new Form IV
- 8 September** - Start of new Forms I & II

Please see school calendar for details of other events

Cambridge University English Successes

A number of Heathfield overseas students sat their public English Language examinations this academic year. Completed over several weekends, these exams demanded at least four hours of focus and the culmination of between six hundred and one thousand hours of prior classwork and study. In March, Asuka and Maria (Form V) were acknowledged, for their abilities, with The University of Cambridge Advanced English Qualification. This certificate is one of the highest accolades for second-language English users. Maria (pictured) secured a distinction (Grade A). Her achievement means that she is internationally recognisable as a very advanced speaker: she holds skills at the most educated level of linguistic proficiency.



Similarly, Maria (Form III), Tanya and Daniela (Form IV) all gained Higher Intermediate Certificates from Cambridge University. These awards range between Levels 2 and 3 on The UK National Qualifications Framework and afford greater opportunities in further education through developing English written competence and spoken fluency. UVI students Maria, Olamide, Lina, Christy, Kathy and Farah also scored commendable to distinction passes in the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) for UK-EU University and higher education entrance. We congratulate all these girls on their well-deserved successes.

Marcus Snow, Teacher of EFL

TeenTech, Summer Term

Congratulations to Millie Geddes who has won her place in the finals at the TeenTech Awards 2016 in a most challenging category, *Best Innovation - Concept*.

As a finalist, Millie will present her ideas to industry specialists and academics, as well as the TeenTech panel of judges at the Royal Society on 20 June. These judges will make a decision on the day and winners for the different categories will be announced.



TeenTech runs lively one-day events, with a year-round supporting awards scheme, to help young teenagers see the wide range of career possibilities in Science, Engineering and Technology. They are an award winning, industry-led initiative, founded in 2008 by Maggie Philbin and Chris Dodson to help the "X Factor" generation understand their true potential and the real opportunities available in the contemporary STEM workplace. At each TeenTech event 300 pupils from 30 different schools benefit from hands-on exhibits and challenges run by leading organisations.

Well done Millie!

Rushi Millns, Subject Leader ICT

Form II Geography & Science Trip to Cheddar Gorge, Wednesday 11 May

Form II set off on Wednesday 11 May for a day trip to Cheddar Gorge to see for themselves the variety of limestone formations that they had been studying. It was also an opportunity to visit a 'honeypot site' and consider the attractions that brought visitors to the area.

Carefully avoiding traffic problems of the day – the closure of the M4 – and the torrential rain, we arrived on time to be taken on a guided tour around the impressive Gough's Cave. We were told about the skeleton of the 9000 year old Stone Age Cheddar man, stalactites, stalagmites, the frozen river and the Lesser Horseshoe Bats that inhabit the cave. Form II were also surprised to learn that the caves had been used for many years to mature the Cheddar cheese made in the area – the giant truckles spent a year in the caves at the consistent temperature of 11°C. The guide commented that Form II were one of the best behaved groups that he had taken into the caves and was impressed by their knowledge and enthusiasm.

We then climbed up the 274 steps of Jacob's Ladder to see views of the Gorge, the village of Cheddar and the surrounding valley. Form II practised their skills by drawing field sketches and trying to capture and label the geographical features. In the afternoon, we took advantage of the dry weather and had a short ride on the open top bus to learn more about the geology, wildlife and activities that took place in the Gorge.

We arrived back to the shops in time to watch a demonstration of sweet making at the famous Cheddar Sweet Kitchen and, of course, to purchase some samples to bring home. Then, following a little time to visit some of the other shops, it was time to venture home.

Thanks to the drivers Steve and Guy for skilfully side-stepping the traffic jams, to Mrs Milner who accompanied us on the day and to Form II for their co-operation and fantastic energy.

Lesley Worrall, Teacher of Geography & History



Fellowship Day, Saturday 7 May

This year's Fellowship Day was made particularly special by the celebration of the life of Régine Lankshear, who taught French at Heathfield between 1984 and 2014. It was wonderful to see so many girls return for this special occasion.

Everyone was catching up with staff and each other and revisiting days gone by. Walking down the hallways and seeing old dorms brought an air of excitement as Old Girls reminisced about the good old days. The weather was fabulous and the sun shone all day. The atmosphere was very relaxed, conversations and laughter flowed. Drinks were served in the library, followed by a delicious lunch in the dining room; seconds and even thirds were abundant!

After lunch we went to Chapel for the commemorative service of the life of Régine. It was a wonderful and very poignant service. The choir sang beautifully and Karen Hurt and Sophia Crossman read the lessons. The Headmistress's Eulogy was very moving and was followed by Father Tim's very fitting address; both were just perfect. Régine had a contagious zest for living and will never be forgotten by all who met her. She is sorely missed.

Everyone talked over a wonderful tea; the kitchen had spoilt us with two stunning cakes. Everyone was very impressed with the new STEM building and how the school has evolved over the years while still retaining the essence that makes it so unique. A brilliant day - Fellowship Day 2016 was a huge success!

Joanna Meeson, Old Girls' Co-ordinator



Creative Writing, Summer Term

Don't gobblefunk around with words - Roald Dahl

This is easy for the BFG (Big Friendly Giant) to say to Sophie in Roald Dahl's wonderful story, but it can be difficult to identify when you are engaged in the activity. At the Heathfield Creative Writing Club, Inklings, we try to do just that and so much more. Every Monday lunchtime we look at different aspects of writing from novel planning techniques and structure through to alternative opening styles. The topics are completely guided by the girls' needs and it is a great opportunity for them to come along with their ideas in order to explore different writing styles, finding a voice for their stories and also to discuss 'problems' they might be experiencing with their writing. Some of our girls write for pleasure or to enter competitions whilst others have aspirations to become writers. Whether the girls are interested in poetry or prose, all are welcome.



This is the debut short story of one of our young writers, Maia Barakova (IV), but before you read it, I will leave you with one last quote: *Every secret of a writer's soul, every experience of his life, every quality of his mind, is written large in his works - Virginia Woolf*

A Chance to Redeem Oneself

Octavión stood and faced Victoria. Why did he agree to this? Octavión knew the answer to that, but hated himself for falling for it. Standing up for Leon not to be taken into custody and risking his position, as the king's right hand man, was a high price to pay. This entire event was unfolding because he saw Igneous in Leon's eyes. Igneous, the boy that lied to him and, now, most probably, the same age as Leon. The boy had the makings of a great king to come. If only Octavión had not let him go... If only...

Octavión shook his head; now was not the time to be thinking about Igneous. There was a task at hand and he would deal with finding Igneous later.

He had no chance of winning and Victoria knew it. The way her blue eyes churned as if they were the sea, screamed clearly how she was feeling. For some reason it took Octavión back ten years, when they were teenagers, and he had been stupid enough to tease the female king's favourite child prodigy. A stupid mistake that had led to a horse race. He had lost, despite being trained in Netheria for four years and Victoria wearing a dress. Yes, those were the eyes of the same, now grown up, woman who was going to take away his sole victory.

"Are you going to fight me with your cloak?" Octavión asked as he took off his embroidered jacket.

"It would be more fun for everyone to know that you lost to the Captain, despite having a clear advantage," Victoria winked at him as she unclasped her cloak and proceeded to take off her jacket that had the king's crest embroidered onto it.

Valentín and Leon watched this unfold and looked like death was upon them. Leon knew that Octavión was going to lose, especially after yesterday. Why did Octavión stand up for him? So what if he damaged property? There was no reason for Octavión to risk his position for him, a newcomer. Valentín, on the other hand, scared out of his wits, for this reminded him of the first time Octavión had challenged Victoria and lost. Of course, Octavión, being stubborn, continued to challenge her until one warm, spring afternoon, where he was able to redeem his countless losses. Valentín remembered as if it happened yesterday: the shock and wonder that spread across both of the fifteen year olds said a lot. Victoria had stood, with the sword pointed at her chest; the sea tempestuous in her eyes: Octavión's grey-green eyes clearing as if after a long downpour of rain, becoming brighter and greener. He stood there, panting, covered in sweat with the sword poised at Victoria's chest.

Right now it seemed almost too good of a chance to pass. A rematch. A chance to redeem Victoria's pride or crush it.

"You look like you just saw a ghost," Leon spoke up all of a sudden.

"Says the seventeen year old boy whose innocence is on the line."

"I just don't want to leave again," Leon whispered as he shook his ash blond hair.

"Leave? Again? What do you..." Valentín's handsome features furrowed.

The clash of swords rang, turning Valentín's attention back to his friends.

"You seem a bit rusty," Victoria smiled as she parried Octavión's strike.

Creative Writing, Summer Term continued

In court, heads would have turned to witness such a beautiful smile and marvel at the beauty of the young woman. If she had not donned a sword and shield, abandoning all hopes of participating in such events.

"As if!" Octavión panted and took another swing which Victoria side stepped with ease.

"He's going to lose," Leon whispered as his bronze eyes hardened.

"I would love to disagree with you, but..."

Another clang of swords and Octavión slipped.

"That does not seem to be the case right now," Valentín finished as silence fell between the two.

Waiting. Waiting for Octavión's defeat.

It all ended when Victoria hooked her foot around his, making him stumble forward. Octavión made an attempt to regain his balance only to fall face front; he rolled away and only got as far as standing up with one foot when the sword was pointed at him.

"I win," Victoria spoke with authority.

Octavión made no move to drop his sword and continued to glare bitterly at the grass underneath his feet.

"Drop the sword Octavión, you lost," Victoria hissed quietly.

"No, I haven't," Octavión side rolled.

This lasted for a few more seconds before Octavión was once more facing the tip of the sword only this time...

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Defeated, twice, and no sword to make a third attempt. He lost.

"I'm so sorry that I won," her voice rang with sarcasm.

"Please, Victoria, don't take him to the king," Octavión begged. When did he have the time to stoop so low as to beg? They made a deal and she won.

"Who said I would?" Victoria leaned on her sword

Octavión froze and realisation hit him like a jet of water.

Victoria let out a laugh that was music to the ears, in turn making him feel even more foolish.

"Now, now, no need to be embarrassed, it's just one more thing I'm good at that you have yet to improve on." Victoria sheathed her sword.

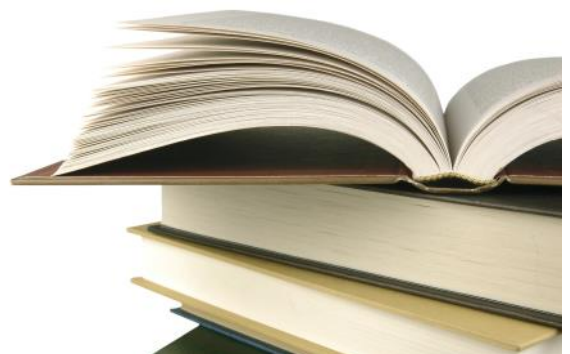
Octavión's cheeks became tinted and he felt like his whole world was about to collapse. He should have known, and yet, here he was, fooled and defeated. The last thing he needed was for the king to appear out of the blue and scold them.

"Captain, I believe this was quite harsh on my right hand man." The king spoke as he walked out of the forest.

Be careful what you wish for, idiot, Octavión chided himself.

The whole world revolved to a stop; it was as if the whole universe was holding its breath. Awaiting judgment from the king that stood before them.

"Your majesty," Victoria stepped in calmly and bowed with the other three.



May Day Confirmations

On Sunday 1 May six Heathfield students were confirmed by the Bishop of Northampton, the Right Reverend Peter Doyle, into the Roman Catholic Church in the beautiful chapel at Eton College.

Those who made their confirmation were Toyin Bello in LVI, Beatrice Byford, Eugenia Cipriani Sansonetti, Nicole Ferber, Charlotte Geddes and Darcey Guerrini all from Form IV. The students had started their preparation for confirmation in October of last year when they had joint classes with the Anglican candidates and then had further classes with Fr Nicholas Heap, the Roman Catholic Chaplain of Eton.

The students also had a celebratory supper with Mrs Heywood who presented each girl with a rosary before reciting a decade together. Fr Nicholas also provided a priest for the students to make their confessions prior to the Confirmation Mass. The service as ever was truly spiritually moving with the Bishop giving a strong sermon on the powers of the Holy Spirit and the choir singing so beautifully.



Fr Tim Tregunno, Chaplain

UVI Wine appreciation - Summer Term

As an activity this year, the UVI have been participating in wine appreciation sessions with Dr Harden. It has been a great opportunity to sample different wines from a variety of different regions. After learning about the wine making process, we assessed wines for appearance, aroma and taste and considered possible food pairings. The sessions have incorporated both Old and New World wines and have included Spanish and Italian wines, Alsatian-inspired wines and Rhone-inspired wines.

My personal highlights have been two red wines, one a Châteauneuf du Pape and the other an Italian Amarone, both rich and powerful wines. Some of the more unusual wines have been a spicy Gewürztraminer from Alsace and a sparkling Australian red Shiraz that was very odd.



From the sessions we have had so far, we are now able to recognise the subtle threads that weave into complex wine aromas and distinguish between dry and sweet wines. It has been a very informative course, which we have all thoroughly enjoyed and we all look forward to trying new wines and finding out much more.

Elinor Fresson (UVI)

EU Referendum, Thursday 23 June

On 23 June every British citizen of voting age will face one of the biggest decisions of their lives: whether to remain in the EU or leave.

Our students have bright futures ahead of them, and they should have their say in this crucial decision. In order to make their choice, we are giving the UVI (and some LVI girls) a short, impartial information session going through both sides of the debate, covering all the major points and giving pupils the opportunity to ask any questions.

They will be advised how to register to vote online at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote which will take just a few minutes. Students will need to provide their National Insurance number, date of birth and address. To vote in the referendum they need to register to vote by midnight **7 June 2016**. If they can't vote in person on the day they can apply online for a postal vote. They can also register at the address where they will be living on 23 June if this is different to their term time address.

The Cabinet Office has produced a suite of resources covering everything from the history of democracy to the practicalities of registering to vote, which can be found at <http://ow.ly/4mVSd7>. This includes a specific resource for schools - the Rock Enrol! lesson framework - which suggests activities for young people to discuss the importance of voting, and to raise awareness of opportunities to register to vote (<http://ow.ly/4mVSg2>).

David Mitchell, Head of Languages & Society Faculty, Subject Leader - History & Politics

A cut above, Summer Term

Congratulations to Catharine Reid who has raised over £1,000 for Cancer Research UK, a charity very close to her heart. Catharine cut 10 inches off her hair on 4 May and donated it to the Little Princess Charity where it will be used to make wigs for children who have lost their hair due to chemotherapy. Well done Catharine! If you would like to donate, please visit her JustGiving page: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/CatharineReid>



Seacole Weekend, 7 & 8 May

Seacole were blessed with the best weather of the year so far for what was a very busy and enjoyable weekend. On Saturday morning Forms I-III all took to the sports field for some athletics practice with the PE department while older girls got their heads down to some serious study for upcoming examinations. Form IV girls headed to Windsor for a fun afternoon completing the colour rush with a team of staff made up of the PE department, Housemistresses and Science technician who, on this occasion, led the way. Well done everyone! A fantastic time was had by all. Meanwhile back at school, while Old Girls and staff arrived for Fellowship Day, some girls had fun with inflatables in the pool while others experimented in the kitchen, making giant cookies. At 4pm we



welcomed next year's

new girls for a sleepover and they enjoyed a special tea provided by our talented catering team before completing a 'Heathfield Treasure Hunt' which involved them visiting every corner of the building and grounds to seek answers to questions about the school and its history. It was competitive and very close so they decided to share the prizes. Finally, after a barbecue supper, the whole school headed to the theatre for a wonderful, musical evening with a very talented singer and songwriter, Katy Hurt, who entertained us all with her individual style and a few popular favourites. Thank you to Holly, Daisy and Tansy for their excellent contribution to the evening and also to Angela Liang for 'stepping up' and accompanying on the piano at the last minute. Very well done!

On Sunday Form I and II said goodbye to their guests after a Roald Dahl inspired breakfast with word games. Then Forms I – III boarded the coach for a fun day at Thorpe Park in the beautiful sunshine! Everybody had fun and enjoyed the rides. Form IV worked hard all day preparing and training for their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award expedition while others found a quiet corner to study independently or with the help of their teachers. Finally, after a hard day of study minibuses headed to the cinema for a relaxing evening. Fourth Form Choir girls were treated to an evening at Wagamamas while others enjoyed the beautiful grounds in the evening sunshine.

Jeanette Kemp, Head of House - Seacole



London to Amsterdam, 3 - 4 June

Ian Parham, our Facilities Manager, is cycling 145 miles from London to Amsterdam in aid of Prostate Cancer UK: men united. He is cycling alongside other football supporters from all across the country who are uniting to raise as much money as possible towards this worthwhile cause.

If you would like to support Ian and Prostate Cancer UK, please visit Ian's Just Giving page: www.justgiving.com/Ian-Parham06LondontoAmsterdam. Thank you.



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