



I hope you all had a lovely half term with your daughters; it's been a busy time since then. The Lower Sixth Lunch introduced the Sixth Form programme we run at Heathfield as well as celebrating our great GCSE results from the Summer. Parents, girls and staff all came together for a wonderful lunch prepared by Brookwood, followed by a presentation in the Assembly Hall and I'm sure that the pictures underneath underline the pride we have in the girls' achievements.

Our Assessment Days for Forms I and III have gone well too; it is always so special to see the nervous girls who arrive in the morning become confident spirited young women by the afternoon; an appropriate metaphor for the whole school!

I have been busy too, putting out the word for Heathfield at prep schools and at the Independent Schools' Show which has been very encouraging. As well, there has been a steady stream of parents coming in the doo to visit us.

The girls, as ever, have been busy and this newsletter will outline the many and varied activities in which they have been involved. I wish you all a lovely few weeks and I look forward to seeing you at Nicky Stalls, if not before.

Mrs Gardiner Legge – Headmistress

Michaelmas Term Assembly

Michaelmas Term was rounded off nicely on Friday 21 October during our Half Term Celebration Assembly, where we publically acknowledged all the fantastic achievements of the academic year so far.

Orchestra and Choir Badges were awarded for outstanding commitment, and Examination Certificates were handed out to the girls who have taken Music and LAMDA examinations. Special congratulations must go to the following students who all achieved 83% or over: Tansy, Phoebe, Catharine and Marybelle. An outstanding achievement of which we are very proud.

This was followed by the House Captains' Badges which were awarded to the following girls: Gabi and Anoushka (Austen); Sophie and Minnie (De Valois); Grace and Georgie (Seacole); Kitty and Natasha (Somerville). Staff Awards were also given to Juana, Emma and Kitty. Well done girls!

Finally, a Red Tie was awarded to Ella for her truly outstanding dedication to her clubs. She has gone above and beyond the usual exacting requirements of a Red Tie award; she has already set up three extra clubs with the youngsters, and has selflessly given her time to attend every practice and fixture to assist. Congratulations Ella, you should feel very proud of yourself!



GCSE Celebrations

Our LVI girls who received their GCSE results this summer got to celebrate once more in front of their parents and teachers in a special certificate presentation which took place Friday 11 November. Congratulations to all of you!



Networking Workshop at Eton College

Form V and Sixth Form girls returned to school early after half term to take advantage of an amazing opportunity to attend a Networking Workshop at Eton College.

On the evening of Tuesday 1 November, the girls sat in the renowned Jafar Hall, which is Eton College's new debating hall opened in 2015 by the Prince of Wales, and were spoken to about effective ways in which to network in a professional environment. Attendees learnt techniques including how to deliver an 'elevator pitch', followed by the opportunity to practise some of the skills discussed. They can now say they are among only a few girls to have been taught by an Eton Master!

The purpose of these workshops is to prepare the girls for networking opportunities that come up in the future; from external, formal events to more informal evenings at Heathfield. Girls who were unable to attend have already had an opportunity to attend a workshop at school with further sessions due to be held.

Rushi Millns, Head of ICT, Careers and Outreach



Architect Networking Event

Hot on the heels of their first networking training session, Upper School girls who have a

particular interest in Architecture were invited to an Architect Networking Event on Tuesday 8 November at the historic Upper School in Eton College.

As the busts of Fielding and Shelley looked on, the Heathfield Sixth Formers put their training into practise as they took it in turn to speak to the nine architects and designers at the event. The girls were able to speak to a student currently studying Architecture at university, as well as an architect from Foster and Partners working on the Battersea Power Station project. The professionals included partners and directors from a range of organisations that had designed the stadium for London 2012, bridges in Qatar, and social and conservation projects.

The girls gained valuable insights and developed business contacts, and they hope to progress this on to work experience in their field of interest. It was a very successful evening, and we are already looking forward to the next Networking Events which will be focused on Medicine.

Rushi Millns, Head of ICT, Careers and Outreach



Athena link up with Eton College FemSoc

Our Athena Society has recently formed an alliance with the newly formed Feminist Society at Eton, to create an open space in which the girls and boys can collaborate and discuss various issues relating to feminism, gender and diversity etc. FemSoc were fortunate to have their inaugural talk from Dr Helen Pankhurst earlier this year, granddaughter of Sylvia Pankhurst and great-granddaughter of Emmeline Pankhurst, British political activist and leader of the British suffragette movement.

To commence this relationship, on Wednesday 9 November Athena attended the FemSoc talk on Consent. The evening started with the traditional boys on one side and the girls on the other but by the end of the evening, the nature of the activities resulted in discussions being held in smaller mixed groups. The talk explored some interesting issues and gave the students plenty to reflect upon.

To follow on from this talk, the FemSoc boys will be attending a discussion supper at Heathfield with Athena in order to discuss the matters further and develop the collaborative nature of this new partnership. It is very inspiring to see these young minds tackling issues

and forming their own opinions on feminism and gender equality.

Athena Society's link with FemSoc will continue in this vein, with the boys and girls coming together to listen to talks which are to be followed up by working suppers where the topic can be discussed further after they have all had the opportunity to reflect on their thoughts.

Rushi Millns, Head of ICT, Careers and Outreach



Photography/Geography Competition

This summer the theme for the Geography Photography competition was 'Scapes'. There was a wonderful response with over 140 girls entering, and Form V almost attaining a 100% entry level. Mrs Gardiner Legge was very excited to be joining the judging panel of Miss White and Mrs Mason.

Congratulations to Carolina, Jasmine, Lily and Mr O'Brien who were the overall winners, and well done to everyone who placed and took part. The photographs were wide ranging and truly awe-inspiring.

Look out next June for the announcement of the theme for Summer 2017!

Basia Mason, Head of Humanities Faculty & Subject Leader – Geography



Harvest Chapel

A Saturday excursion to a local supermarket, armed only with a meagre £5 and a remit to spend wisely and well, the Annual Harvest Challenge generated a good response from the girls and staff.

Everyone was invited to spend £5 on providing a balanced, nutritional and economical food parcel for a family of four who might have to depend on a food bank. The result, as you can see, was an imaginative and generous collection of goods which will be given to a local food bank.

The Harvest Festival in Chapel acknowledged our dependency on creation, on the people who work to produce and distribute our food, and on the lavish generosity of God who empties himself into the humblest of foodstuffs. In considering how food is marketed and advertised, we were asked to consider what sort of advertisements we might be to demonstrate our response to God's love.

Huge thanks to all who participated, not least from those whom we might never meet but whose lives will be touched by such kindness.

Fr David Clues, Chaplain

Art History

The world of Art History has been shaken recently upon the news that the subject has been axed by the last remaining exam board offering the subject at A Level. Below is a short extract from an article written by Katy Blatt, Art History teacher at Godolphin and Latymer School.

“Art history is a wonderful, enriching – and useful – subject. It involves learning to unpack

the language of images, never more essential than in today's visually-saturated world. Art history students are "in tune," their eyes open to the messages embedded in our day-to-day environments. The new A Level specification made the subject even more relevant, incorporating a "global" element for a multi-cultural, ethnically diverse population of students. This is, and would have been, a course that develops a sense of global citizenship and multi-ethnic sensibilities.

The Godolphin and Latymer History of Art Higher Education Conference and Fair has acted as a nexus for the meeting of students, academics and teachers from across England and Scotland, free of charge, since 2013, and is being replicated with similar programs around the country, including here at Heathfield School.

Since AQA's announcement last week, there has been a spirited response from academics, journalists and teachers alike. The community of art history teachers has united, with over 50 teachers offering their services as markers or centres for marking. The Save Art History in Schools change.org and 38degrees petitions have amassed over 17,000 signatures. Rather than a dearth of support for the A Level, or a lack of capable markers, as AQA suggested, these are signs of a healthy and vibrant academic community."



Outstanding Inspection Report Makes Heathfield Summer School Smile and Cheer!

Not only did Heathfield Summer School celebrate its 40th anniversary this year, but it is also celebrating an excellent inspection report by the British Council. This is the body which accredits English language courses. The inspectors were very impressed by all they saw and said they had "rarely enjoyed an inspection so much."

Heathfield achieved overall Strengths (previously called Points of Excellence), which show we exceed the inspection criteria, in all the following areas: staff management; student administration; quality assurance; premises and facilities; learning resources; academic management; course design; teaching; care of students; accommodation; leisure opportunities, and care of under 18s.

Director of Summer Courses Helen Madaras said: "Having served for eight years on the British Council Accreditation Committee, I can say with certainty that this is an exceptionally good report and I must pay tribute to the excellent staff team who achieved this and to our wonderful summer students."

In addition to 20 English lessons a week and three excursions, the girls, who come from over 30 countries, enjoy a very full programme of art, crafts, cookery, dance, drama, floristry,

music and photography as well as a whole range of field, pool and racquet sports.

At the moment in the main school there are seven girls who began their Heathfield life on the Summer Courses. International Summer School and our Activities Summer Camp for British girls always particularly enjoy welcoming prospective pupils (a great way to try life at Heathfield!), daughters of Old Girls, and friends and relatives of current pupils. In 2017 our dates will be July 15th to August 12th.

For information call + 44 1344 885197, email summerschool@heathfieldschool.net or visit the website <http://www.heathfieldsummerschool.co.uk/>

Helen Madaras, Summer School Director



Bonfire Night

On Monday 7 November the whole school gathered outside for the fireworks display to mark Bonfire Night. It was a wonderful evening full of spectacular fireworks, enjoyed by the girls and staff alike.



Sport Roundup

On November 5 our U14A, U13A and 1st Lacrosse team welcomed The Royal School to Heathfield for a morning of matches.

The U13A played a great game, closely fought and action packed. Special mentions must be made of Scarlett, Tamara and Isabella for excellent performances, and well done to Katrina as well who scored her first goal.

Despite a loss for the U14A team, Eugenia had an outstanding morning where she saved 90% of the shots in goal. The team worked extremely hard together and their commitment cannot be faulted.

Our 1st team also put on an excellent performance, with numerous turnovers and goal scoring opportunities. Our tight defence meant lots of pressure on The Royal School, and Georgie, Ella, Honor and Nicole were all at the top of their game down the attacking end.

The netball teams have also had an excellent return after half term. The U13A and U13B teams faced St Mary's Ascot, on Tuesday 8 November and both came out victorious. The U12A team put up a good fight but eventually lost to LVS.

On Wednesday 9 November our U15A team took on a whole host of schools during the South East Berkshire Netball Tournament, and finished an amazing 7th out of the twenty-one teams competing. Well done to Aisha, Hum and Immie who were awarded players of the match.

Wendy Reynolds, Director of Sport



Equestrian

With the winter upon us, Polo Season is now here and we have moved all lessons back into the arena.

The teams train at the Berkshire Polo Club on Thursdays and Fifield Polo Club on Mondays and Tuesdays. Heathfield specialises in the arena polo and all team players are working towards beating our local rivals again next term, St Mary's and St George's Ascot.

The beginners have all settled into their lesson and are playing instructional chukkas at the end of each lesson. Weekend riders are still based at the Honourable Artillery Company in Windsor Great Park and improving each week on the huge but gentle horses based there.

Gill Glimmerveen, Equestrian Co-ordinator

House Weekends



Austen Weekend 5 & 6 November

This Austen weekend had a Harry Potter theme running through both days. From quiet quill time to charms and transfigurations, from care of magical creatures to the Warner Bros Studio Tour and from a Butter Beer awareness course to Defence against the Dark Arts, the weekend was packed full.

During the afternoon activities, girls had the opportunity to hold and touch various breeds of owl, have a go at making their own stop motion movies, try green screening and making Shrinkie charms.

The whole-school quiz on Saturday evening also tested their knowledge of all the Harry Potter movies and books, and Ravenclaw House were the clear winners!

However, the 'piece de resistance' was the transformation of the dining room into the Hogwarts grand hall complete with floating candles, potions and a mystical feast.

Some of Form I commented "We had an amazing weekend! You should never miss an Austen weekend, they are the best!"

Thank you once again to the Catering team for their breath-taking display in the dining hall; it was definitely a weekend to remember.

Karen White, Head of House – Austen

Dates to Remember

26 November - **St Nicholas' Stalls**

26-27 November - **Optional Exeat**

15 December - **End of Term**



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