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Issue Number 101 15 November 2019

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I am absolutely delighted to let you know that Heathfield has been shortlisted by the *Times Educational Supplement* for the award of **Boarding School of the Year**. This is a real testament to the hard work and efforts of our staff, and I am very grateful to them all.

We have just held our three assessment days and prospective parents and girls were full of all the great things that they have heard about the school, so thank you to each and every one of you who are clearly spreading the word.

Next weekend is St Nicholas' Stalls and to celebrate our 120th year, the Fellowship, Heathfield Old Girls will be joining in supporting our school to raise money for our new launchpad Sixth Form Centre. To symbolise the importance of our past looking forward to our future, the Chair of the Fellowship, Mrs Karen Hurt will be cutting the ribbon to open the Fair alongside the youngest girl in the school. Unfortunately, I will be in Singapore and Kuala Lumpur at their Independent Schools Shows, meeting new families, international agents and meeting up with our Old Girls. However, I will be logging in to the online auction every day and bidding on a few items, in particular, the 'Headmistress for a Day' as I have been told by the girls that should one of them win it they would like me to be a First Former for a day! Please do have a look at the online auction: www.jumblebee.co.uk/StNicholasStalls. By clicking on the 'lots' you are able to read the description and swipe through the photographs. The site is constantly being updated with new donated items and 'lot' information. Bidding will start next Thursday 21st November at 10.45 am and close on Saturday 23rd at 1.20 pm.

Finally, November is always such a poignant month with the onset of winter, dark evenings and the Remembrance services held countrywide. It is at this time when we assess our lives and realise how lucky we are and what sacrifices some have made for all of us to be what we are today. Our Remembrance Service was so evocative and respectful, and I am so grateful to all the members of our community who support our school every day.

Very best wishes to you all,
Mrs Gardiner Legge, Headmistress

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UK Mathematics Trust

Congratulations to Adelaide, Eira, Lily, and Maya in Form V who took part in the UKMT Mathematical Olympiad for Girls last month. The competition is a two-and-a-half-hour paper, comprised of five challenging questions, designed to identify students for the UK Olympiad team. The paper is normally sat by students in UVI, so it was fantastic to see these four girls keen to take on the challenge in Form V.

A special mention goes to Maya who achieved a Distinction in the competition. This would be a phenomenal achievement for a student of any age, but especially for one in Form V. Maya achieved a grade 9 in IGCSE Mathematics at the end of Form IV and is currently studying towards a Level 2 Certificate in Further Mathematics. We look forward to seeing what the rest of our Further Mathematics classes can achieve in future UKMT competitions.
Mrs Zoe Benjamin, Head of Languages and Society Faculty & Subject Leader, Mathematics



Shortlisted for Best Boarding School - Times Educational Supplement Awards 2020

Hot off the Press - shortlist announced 15 November 2019

The most outstanding individuals and institutions that the independent sector has to offer have been recognised in the shortlist for the 2020 *Tes* Independent School Awards.

It has been revealed that **Heathfield** has been shortlisted for the **Best Boarding School** award.

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TES editor Ann Mroz said: "The Independent schools in this country are truly exceptional. And those that have earned a place on the TES Independent School Awards

shortlist are a cut above the rest. We received an unparalleled number of entries this year, all of which were first-rate. The schools that have been shortlisted should be proud - it's a remarkable achievement".

The winners will be revealed at a gala awards evening at the Grosvenor House Hotel, Park Lane, London on Friday 7 February 2020. To see the full list of who is in the running, pick up a copy of this weeks' *TES*, or visit isawards.co.uk

Ms Anna Morgan, Director of Marketing and Admissions



Halloween

On Thursday 31 October, Boarding staff transformed the Assembly Hall into a Halloween Games Room which included What's in the box?, apple bobbing, pie face, dunking donuts, throw the ring on the witches hat, and a beanbag challenge. Many prizes and sweets were up for grabs and it was lovely to see Mrs Gardiner Legge getting fully involved even if she ended up being covered in slime!

Miss Florence Gray, Deputy Housemistress Brontë



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Safe Drive, Stay Alive

On Monday 4 November, the Lower Sixth attended Safe Drive, Stay Alive in Reading. The event, run by Thames Valley and Hampshire Police and Emergency Services, featured a series of live speakers and short films designed to educate young people of our age group on their responsibilities as drivers and the importance of road safety.

The programme included short films about driving safely and the importance of being responsible while travelling as a driver or a passenger. The morning also included live presentations about the impact of accidents that can be avoided.

The speakers and films showed us the potential dangers of driving and the impacts of our actions behind the wheel, both on ourselves, our families and others. Safe drive, Stay Alive was a very thought-provoking and emotional experience that has had a positive impact on all of us who are thinking about starting to drive, inspiring us to put safety first.

Marybelle, Austen House Captain, and Chapel Prefect



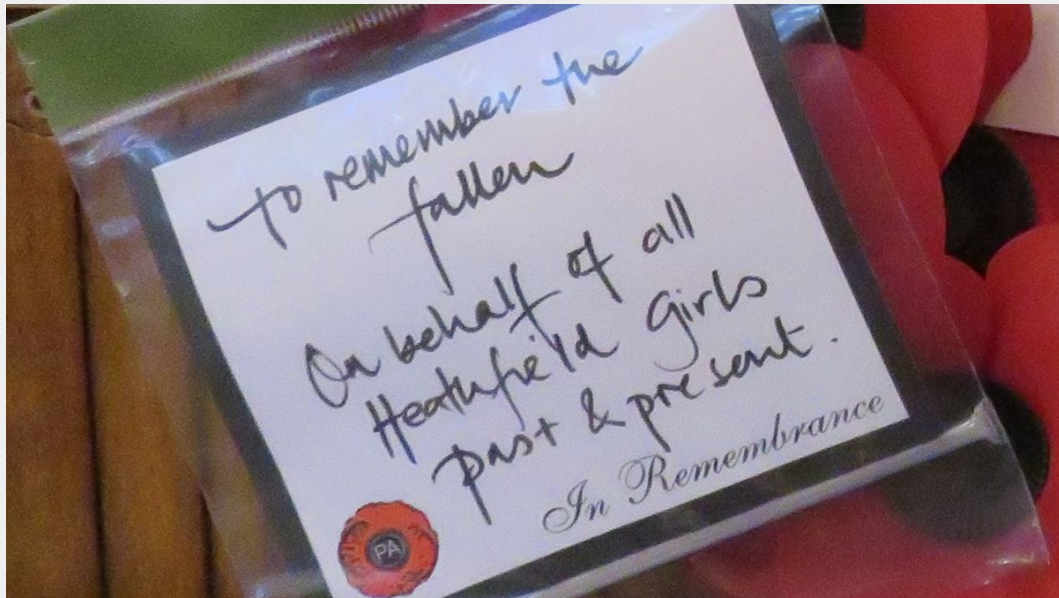
Book Fair

On Tuesday 5 November, the Library held the first termly Book Fair to encourage reading for pleasure. Girls were brought from their English lessons and allowed to purchase up to three books of their choosing. All the girls thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to explore new young adult literature. Even those who didn't have English classes that day, especially the Upper Sixth still came to browse.

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WereLiars. What was especially lovely to see was that we had 53 girls read in the library during lunch that day – the library has a lunchtime reading scheme where if a girl comes to read for at least fifteen minutes, they get a house point. On average, 20 girls come to read every lunch. The girls are already looking forward to next term's Book Fair, where there will be the addition of Manga and graphic novels!

Mr Nathan Lobo, Librarian



Remembrance Service

At the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, following the sound of the last post, played so hauntingly by Dr Snow, the Heathfield Community, together with people across the country and the world, stopped silently to honour the dead of war and conflicts throughout the twentieth and twenty-first century.

In Chapel, wreaths of poppies were laid at the war memorial on behalf of the staff and students past and present. We were particularly conscious of those members of our community who have relatives and friends serving in the armed forces, as well as those whose lives have been forever changed by their experience of conflict.

On the 100th anniversary of the first two minutes' silence, our attention was drawn to the inscription at the war memorial in the Chapel: *Meminisse juvabit* – it will help to remember. For us all, remembering is so much more than simply thinking back. It is about acknowledging, cherishing and honouring the sacrifice of men and women in the service of their country and their fellow human beings.

Fr David Clues, Chaplain



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Lower Sixth GCSE Presentation and Parents Meeting

Parents and girls of the Lower Sixth enjoyed a delicious lunch on Friday 8 November to celebrate their GCSE success. Mrs Gardiner Legge emphasised the hard work that the girls had completed and the support that they had received from teachers and parents.

The girls received their certificates too much applause, followed by an overview of what they might expect over the next two years, before heading to St Mary's Theatre for a Parents' Meeting, where their current progress at A Level was discussed.

Mr Jeremy Hart, Director of Sixth Form, DDSL



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Anti-Bullying Week: Change Starts with Us

From Monday 11 November to Friday 15 November Heathfield has recognised Anti-Bullying week. We have worked with the pupils to identify the small changes that can be made to make big differences to others. We have embraced several activities to celebrate diversity, difference and looking out for each other, including Odd Socks Day, distributing cookies to local commuters on their way back from work, affirmations to each other and mentoring from the U6 to the younger pupils in the School.

It has been emphasised to the girls where to find support and for girls to take a stand against being bystanders – not ignoring what they see but acting in the best of interest of themselves and those around them. We spent time addressing the difference between banter and bullying and the key elements of behaviour that will not be tolerated at School: repetitive, intentional hurting of one person to another.

During Anti-Bullying Week we:

- empowered our pupils to celebrate what makes them, and others, unique

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- encouraged parents and guardians to work with School and talk to their children about bullying, difference and equality
- enabled teachers and other pupils to celebrate what makes us 'all different, all equal' and celebrate difference and equality, encouraging them to take individual and collective action to prevent bullying and create safe environments where children can be themselves.

Mrs Rachel Whitton, Director of Pastoral and Boarding, DSL & Wellbeing Lead



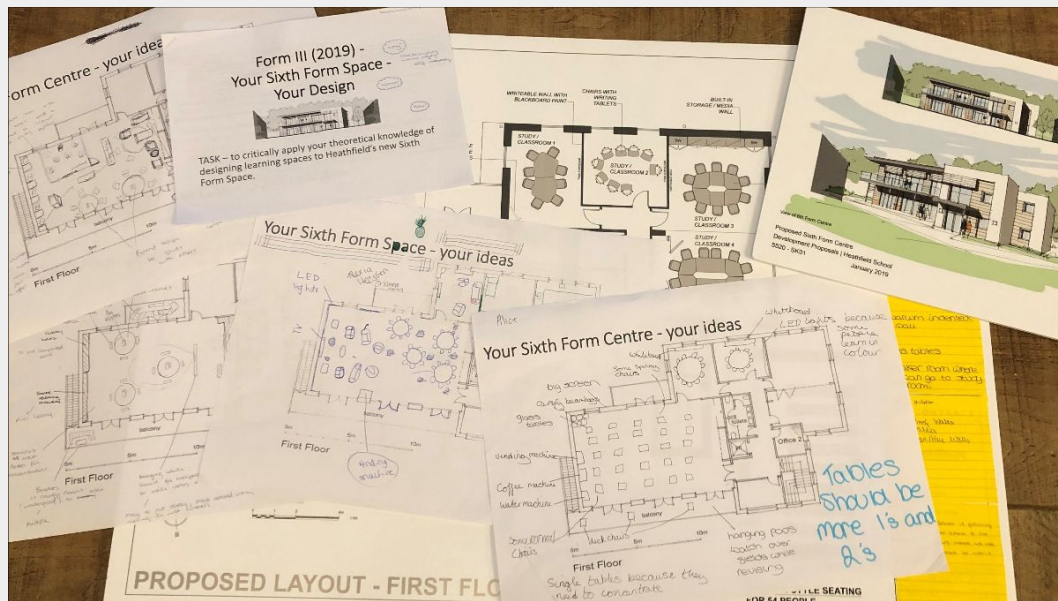
Assessment Days

This month, we were delighted to welcome over 75 girls to our three Assessment Days. Girls joined us from a wide variety of prep schools including Bishopsgate, Coworth Flexlands, Eagle House, Garden House, Hanford, Kew Green and St Piran's, to name but a few.

During their day at Heathfield, the girls sat an hour-long online CEM test which measures potential rather than just knowledge, and Mrs Gardiner Legge enjoyed meeting and interviewing every girl. Our pupils met up with the assessment girls at lunchtime and took groups on tours around Heathfield, answering lots of their questions. The afternoon was filled with fun lessons and workshops including Art, Cookery, Drama, French, Maths, RS, and Science.

At the end of the day, the girls met up with their parents for a delicious tea and the opportunity to meet Mrs Gardiner Legge. We are pleased that the girls did very well in their assessments, and we look forward to welcoming the successful applicants back to Heathfield next September.

Ms Anna Morgan, Director of Marketing and Admission

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Form III examine Sixth Form Plans

In Learning to Learn this term Form III has been considering how their environment can support and encourage learning. The girls have been researching how to design an ideal classroom for 21st-century learning - the theory behind some of the design features and putting their ideas into practice through a design project.

This involves them working in groups to produce their own mood board, a presentation, and an artefact to illustrate their ideas. This is also an opportunity for teamwork and collaborative learning.

With this new theoretical knowledge of optimum learning environments, Form III was given the opportunity to critically examine the plans for the new Sixth Form Centre. The girls had to decide how best to design the first-floor spaces for both individual and collaborative study, and then present some of their ideas.

Mrs Anita Diaz, Teacher in Charge of PSHE and Learning to Learn

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Independent Schools Show, Battersea

Over the weekend of 9 and 10 November, the Marketing and Admissions team attended the hugely popular Independent Schools Show in Battersea. In our fourth year of attending, there were over 240 other schools present, including many of our feeder prep schools such as Eagle House, Eaton House schools, Hanford, Godstowe and Orwell Park.

In addition to meeting up with families whose daughters were already signed up for our three assessment days this month, we met and talked with over 120 new families who took with them lots of information about Heathfield, as well as our jellybeans. We look forward to seeing many of these families at our future open mornings.

Ms Anna Morgan, Director of Marketing and Admissions



SPORTS REPORT

Bath University Sports Science Trip

On Friday 1 November all academic PE students travelled to Bath University for a day of Sports Science. We began by taking part in a strength and conditioning session, which was challenging and fun. We were then taken into the Sports Science Labs to learn about the testing of a variety of different athletes; Cesca and Floria were used as subjects to take part in a VO2 max test and the Wingate Anaerobic Test.

It was interesting to see how athletes are tested in different ways, suitable for their sport, as

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will as see how the results inform their coaches, nutritionists, and support staff in order to improve their performance. The rest of the group were challenged with strength tests where

Adelaide proved she was the strongest in the group!

Next, we were taken to a seminar room where we met Kirsty May, a double mini trampolinist European champion at the age of 20. None of us had heard of the sport before but after watching videos of her perform we were very impressed with her skill, commitment to training and achievements. The day was completed with a lecture on Sports Nutrition and its importance within performance and recovery.



NETBALL

Wednesday 6 November – U15 SE Berks Tournament

On Wednesday 6 November the U15 netball team competed in the South East Berkshire Netball tournament. They played well and fought hard against some tough competition. Our closest game was with St Marys A with only one goal in it. Players of the tournament go to Doddie and Joy.

Wednesday 13 November – U13B, U12A v Thomas's Battersea

On Wednesday 13th November the U12A and U13B played Thomas's Battersea. The U12A played extremely well, winning 14-10. The U13s put up a good fight but unfortunately could not secure the win. Congratulations to players of the matches Tamara and Ines.

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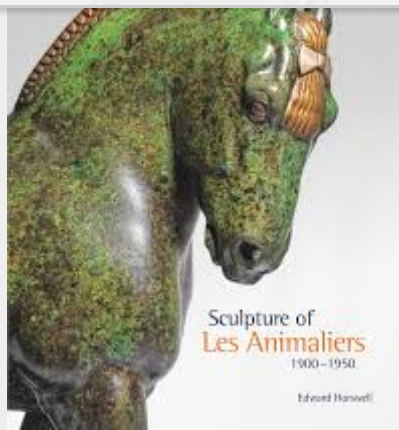
SWIMMING

Wednesday 13 November – High Wycombe Gala

The U13 swim team, Allegra, Amara, Birdie, Johanna, Julia, and Olivia performed brilliantly! Competing against 10 other schools, Allegra came 2nd in 50m Backstroke and 50m Freestyle; Olivia came 2nd in 100m IM and 50m Fly (breaking the record in Heat 1, sadly it was beaten in Heat 2); Johanna came 3rd in 50m Breaststroke; the Medley Relay team Birdie, Johanna, Laura, and Olivia came 2nd and the Freestyle relay team Amara, Birdie, Julia and Laura came 4th.

We came 1st in five out of seven heats. I am proud of the girls and their support for each other was commendable, well-done girls!

Miss C Willimott, Head of Sport

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Heathfield Christmas Drinks

We are absolutely delighted that the Sladmore Gallery have kindly donated the use of one of their fabulous Galleries for our Christmas Drinks party again for 2019. This year, we are hosting it at their JERMYN STREET gallery at No 57 which currently has a fascinating and impressive show titled 'Les Animaliers 1900 to 1950' which we thoroughly recommend you go and see.

House Weekends



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Austen Weekend 2 - 3 November

After playing lacrosse in the morning, Form IV went off to Bath for the day where they visited the Jane Austen Centre, learning about the author's time in the city and even getting to try on some early 19th Century dress.

Brontë House competed against each other in a Multi-Sports Competition including basketball, table football, and table-tennis. In the evening, we celebrated Julia in Form II's birthday with an amazing party with Halloween costumes and a photo booth, disco and incredible cake.

On Sunday after Chapel, the girls were able to try an array of instruments from trombones to cellos as part of a taster session by our Music department. We then welcomed boys from Papplewick for a Social which included a pool party and games in the sports hall.

At the end of the weekend, Form III were able to burn their versions of Guy Fawkes on the bonfire as Heathfield put on its annual fireworks extravaganza for family and friends.

Mr Andrew Valner, Head of House, Austen & Subject Leader, Classics

Dates to Remember

23 November 10.45 - 13.30 St Nicholas' Stalls*

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Fellowship Carol Service*
Christmas Drinks*

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13 December	10.45 Carol Service* 12.00 END OF TERM
07 January	Boarders return from 18.00
08 January	LENT TERM begins
15 February	15.00 HALF TERM
23 February	20.00 Form I - IV Return 21.00 Form V & Sixth Form Return
26-29 February	Form III Trip to Barcelona
07 March	Open Morning
27 March	12.00 END OF TERM

*** Parents are welcome to attend these events.**



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