**Issue Number 103**
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120 years ago, Eleanor Beatrice Wyatt decided that she was going to set up a school, a school with a difference in Ascot, a school for young women where she wanted them to see the sky. She created that school, poured her heart, soul and energies into it for our benefit, for the benefit of girls, parents, staff that she wouldn't ever know. As I sit here, writing this at her desk, in her chair, I feel the same responsibility toward the Heathfield girls of the future. There is no other school that creates the same passionate, opinionated, confident girl that Heathfield does, no other school that hugs (both literally and figuratively) current pupils, ex pupils and staff, current staff and parents like Heathfield does. Heathfield is an extraordinary place of care and learning both in and out of the classroom and I want to take that even further.

Everyone who knows me knows that I am incredibly ambitious for our school. I want to continue to highlight Heathfield as the school of choice for those who want a smaller school with a focus on character and developing strong women who will go out and make the world a better place. I am passionate about the launch of our Sixth Form programme based around mentoring and work experience which will launch your daughters, equipped and resilient into their futures. Thank you so much to all those who have come to supper with me to hear about my vision for our Sixth Form programme and I'm delighted to tell you that we are already into six figures in terms of fundraising. I know that so many of you are committed to the school, are evangelical about the way that Heathfield has transformed your daughter and we will be launching a programme in the New Year so that every one of you who feels that Heathfield has either done something for you, or for your daughter can continue to support us.

But most of all I want to thank YOU, all of you, past, current and future parents, old and current girls, staff, Prep Heads, Governors, HPA, Friends of Heathfield and the Fellowship for your unfailing support and friendship and being part of the team. We are here because we all believe in our young women and the power of young women when supported and encouraged and therefore happy to go out and change the world around them for the better, for everyone. Thank you all so much for being along for that journey.

I wish you a peaceful and joyous holiday with those you love and look forward to greeting you again in January 2020.
*Mrs Gardiner Legge, Headmistress*



**A Level History, Politics and Sociology students attend *Knowledge Café***

On Thursday 28 November Sixth Form pupils took part in a Knowledge Café run by the educational charity Cumberland Lodge alongside pupils from other schools.

Participants took part in a series of short discussions in small groups, guided by staff from Cumberland Lodge, exploring the modern-day relevance of accounts of the rise of fascism from people who lived in 1930s Germany.

Everyone was encouraged to relate the historic accounts to issues facing young people in current times, tackling questions such as:

- How can we address tensions between generations, in our own families or communities?
- How can we build resilience and protect ourselves and others from being swept along by populist movements?
- How can society meet the needs of young people who are searching for meaning, purpose and the best in life, in challenging times?

The discussions touched on pressing issues such as the rise of populism and nationalism, young people's responsibilities in a democratic society, and the role of inter-generational exchange in learning lessons from past experiences.

The girls were buzzing after their Knowledge Café experience, having had the opportunity to think through their responses to the questions raised by Darkness over Germany. The opportunity to discuss thoughts and ideas with peers from other schools, encouraged by staff from Cumberland Lodge, will also be an experience that they will remember.
*Mr Jeremy Hart, Director of Sixth Form*



### Art & Design Higher Education Lectures

This half term, as part of an on-going series of Higher Education Lectures, Forms V, LVI and UVI Art and Design students enjoyed meeting representatives from the Charles H Cecil Studios, in Florence, Italy.

The Charles H Cecil Studios occupy the most historic Florentine atelier still in active use. Fine Artists George Clark and Isabella Watling discussed with students the rigorous training in the practice and tradition of drawing and painting from life.

We are proud of our association with Charles H Cecil Studios and encourage those interested in pursuing a professional career as a portrait artist to consider the short and full-time courses that they offer.

For more information, please visit: http://www.charlescecilstudios.com/
*Mrs Eve Feilen, Subject Leader for Art & Design*



### Scary Little Girls Workshops

Forms II and III took part in a Drama workshop run by Scary Little Girls, a theatre production company (https://scarylittlegirls.co.uk/) who have visited Heathfield

on many occasions over the past few years, to work on giving the girls an opportunity to express their views and feelings and explore the bonds of trust and friendship that make Heathfield girls so special.

The girls feedback clearly shows what the girls gained from their time with Shazz and Becca:

“It was a very interactive and informative workshop and there were some great team building activities.”

“I learnt I can trust my friends”.

“I liked how it was fun, but we also learnt new skills”.

“We learned to work as a team rather than arguing!”

“I loved the group activities because I thought they really brought us together”.

“It was great to work with people I would never normally work with”.

“It taught me how to get on with other people”.

“We learnt a lot about how we feel about the current world and I would like to have spoken even more about women’s rights”.

“Shazz and Becca devised lots of fun games and were really kind and supportive, focusing on the positive; they were warm and welcoming and open to all our opinions”.

Finally, some feedback from Becca and Shazz about their day at Heathfield:

“We had a great time; the community of your School brings out such a lovely spirit in the students.”
*Mrs Anita Diaz, Teacher in Charge PSHE and Learning to Learn*




**A Level Religious Studies Trip**
Last week, the Religious Studies A Level students went to the British Museum to view Inspired by the East: how the Islamic world influenced western art. This educational yet enlightening exhibition looks at how artists from Europe and North America were

inspired by, and represented, the Islamic world, especially the Middle East and North Africa.

In the exhibition, we examined the idea of Orientalism, offering another look at this cultural relationship, revealing that Orientalism encompasses many types of visual and decorative arts – not just painting, objects are as diverse as photography, glass, jewellery and clothing, and contemporary art.

The next area we visited was the Islamic World gallery, where we were able to both admire and observe how Islam has developed as both a religion and a cultural way of life. A wide variation of artefacts, ranging from ancient fashion items to animated portraits representing women's everyday life during the Ottoman era allowed for a clear historic and ideological perspective of Islam. The British Museum's Islamic collection comprises a broad spectrum of the material culture produced from the seventh century to the present day in the Islamic world.
*Alia and Imaan, Lower Sixth*




**Lower Sixth Economics Trip**
On Monday 9 December Minty and Olivia (LVI) attended the Polecon Economic Conference at Friends House, London along with 500 other students. During the conference, they listened to ten speakers who discussed amongst other matters topics including issues surrounding Brexit. The various speakers from a variety of institutions including NatWest; The TUC; The IEA; IFS and Kings College' London demonstrated and explained how an economic background related to the current Brexit debate.

As Brexit is a topical issue, the students were provided with an insight into both sides of the remain/leave arguments and discussed what would happen if a Conservative, Labour or Liberal Democratic party were to win the election. The statistics presented were based on Economic forecasts and predictions. Although one of the speakers Tim Harford explained the issues surrounding forecasting the future, he demonstrated how even one of the more prestigious Economists, namely John Maynard Keynes could get these predictions wrong. The students enjoyed his presentation as they had already read one of his books namely The Undercover Economist.

The major areas that were discussed included productivity; trade; economic growth and the short term/long term goals of the three main political parties. Students were presented with several options to the outcome of Brexit which will help them to understand the issues that they themselves may face in the future. It was an enjoyable day and the students benefitted from seeing Economics in the real world.
*Ms Joit Uppal, Teacher in Charge - Economics*




### *Fresh Start* Charity Initiative

On 9 December *Fresh Start* made its first donation of just over 400 hygiene products to *Ealing Food Bank*. *Fresh Start*'s ambition started out only in September, as an idea by Alia (LVI) to fill the gap in the charitable industry through the collection and donation of essential hygiene products (i.e. toothbrushes, toothpaste, sanitary and shaving products, etc.). These will be distributed to local food banks thus enabling them to provide a further service to those in need, not only providing them with the basic needs of food but making available hygiene products that most of us take for granted daily.

*Fresh Start* has been receiving generous amounts of donations from staff, students and parents at Heathfield, and we are currently in the process of collaborating with Tesco, who will be assisting with the collection of donations from the local public community from January.

I hope to gradually expand awareness of hygiene poverty through *Fresh Start* discussions and talks at local schools, communicating with the press and continuing to provide our local food banks and homeless shelters with essential hygiene products we feel should be available to everyone, no matter their circumstance.
*Alia, Manager, Fresh Start, Lower Sixth*



**Fellowship Carol Service**

The Fellowship Carol Service on Tuesday 3 December was held in London for the second year at the Chelsea Old Church. It was a joy to see 150 Old Girls joining this Christmas celebration, which was followed by a party afterward in the Petyt Hall with drinks and canapes.

Old Girls, some who left Heathfield just a couple of years ago joined those who have been gone a decade or two to make this a very special occasion. Rev David Reindorp, Vicar of Chelsea Old Church, was greatly impressed by the ability of our girls to reunite with such enthusiasm while raising the conversation in decibels to quite a pitch!

Special thanks must go to Alice Orr-Ewing, Alice St Clair-Erskine, Emily Marr, Marina Gardiner Legge, and Tom Cross Brown for their perfectly executed readings and the magnificent Chelsea Old Church Choir who brought strength and depth to the music and carols.

Old Girl, Georgina Stewart (1999-2006) held the reins this year and with her enthusiasm and ability arranged a particularly happy and successful evening. Thank you, Georgina it was a remarkable feat.

We hope to see as many, if not more, Heathfield Old Girls again next year at this special Fellowship event.

*Rebecca Farha, Fellowship Coordinator*







***Leiths School of Food and Wine* Students Christmas Cake Competition**

Upper Sixth students taking the Leiths Food and Wine Course made some amazing cakes for our annual Christmas Competition. Staff voted for their favourite cakes in each category and the winners were:

Most technically proficient: Sophia

Most technically ambitious: Livvy

Most creative: Clemmie

Best Traditional: Eve

Best Original: Emma

*Mrs Margaret Blackburn, Subject Leader of Cookery*







**Gold Medal in Taekwondo**

Huge congratulations to Adelaide (Form V) who competed in the British Taekwondo Club Championships where she won gold medals in fighting and Poomsae.

*Miss Carys Willimott, Head of Sport*



**Christmas Chukkas and Gymkhana**

Christmas Chukkas with Coolhooves Polo at the Royal County of Berkshire Polo Club on our last lesson of the term was great fun for all the Heathfield polo players. Fantastic support and Christmas treats provided by parents who were able to attend. All players showed great team spirit and team technique.

Wednesday riders had Gymkhana fun at the end of term at Berkshire Riding Centre. All riders from beginners to advanced joined in the games and races. Lots of laughter and cheers from the girls encouraged both ponies and riders.

*Mrs Gill Glimmerveen, Equestrian Co-ordinator*







### Christmas Drinks

The festive spirit was truly overflowing at our annual Christmas Drinks on Monday at the Sladmore Gallery in Jermyn Street. Joined by over 100 current parents and Heads of preparatory schools, it was a fantastic opportunity to mix and mingle. Mrs Gardiner Legge's speech reflected on the events of 2019 and spoke of the School's ambitions and expectations for 2020. Thank you to everyone who attended for making the evening so enjoyable and memorable.

*Mrs Anna Morgan, Director of Marketing and Admissions*







## Whole School Trip to Winter Wonderland

On Wednesday 13 December, Forms I to IV and Sixth Form all travelled to Hyde Park after school to visit Winter Wonderland. Girls arrived in high spirits, and practically sprinted through the gates! They all had the choice of going to watch Cirque Beserk, Paddington on Ice, or going on the Big Wheel, as well as having time to go on some of the many rides.

Paddington on Ice was a hit, with Ricky quickly becoming the favourite of all the Form II girls! The motorbike display in Cirque Beserk was incredible, and girls could see miles across London from the top of the Big Wheel. They also enjoyed the chance to visit some of the various food stands, and many girls were spotted holding candyfloss almost as big as they were! It was a very festive trip, which was greatly enjoyed by all the girls.
*Miss Harriett Bowerman, Resident Graduate Boarding Assistant*







**Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Lunch**

Christmas jumpers, tinsel, and lights were worn by staff and students to enjoy a fabulous Christmas lunch. A traditional Roast Turkey was served with all the trimmings followed by profiteroles and mince pies.

With Heathfield tradition, the girls celebrated with songs that are passed down through the year groups. After a hearty lunch and sing-along, as always, the youngest girl in the school, Bea, dismissed the girls after lunch.

*Ms Elizabeth Massey, Marketing and Events*







## Carol Service

Michaelmas Term ended in the traditional way with a positive and moving celebration of the Christmas story through readings and song.

Outstanding solo, duet group performances from Lily (Form I); Sasha (Form II); Bella, Clemmie, Lily and Sonya (Form III); Frankie (Form IV); Alexandra and Tilda (Form V); Emma, Harriet, Sophia and Tansy (UVI) were greeted with applause from parents and staff.

The Heathfield Top 12 singers, Form I Choir, Form II Choir, Senior Choir, and the Staff Choir all performed alongside the school band and orchestra. Mrs Dance and Miss Kong from the Music Department work tirelessly rehearsing, arranging and nurturing the musical talent at Heathfield.

Following the Blessing by Fr David was a rousing rendition of *Deck the Halls*. A fitting and uplifting way to end the term as the school community went their separate ways.

*Miss Su Mei Kong, Assistant Director of Music*




**St Nicholas' Stalls 2019**

120 years ago, Eleanor Beatrice Wyatt founded Heathfield School with the aim 'to educate those who would educate others'. This philanthropic outlook is at the very heart of our School today as demonstrated by our recent pupil-led fundraiser, St Nicholas' Stalls.

With The Fellowship and alumnae families adding their support to this year's event, an online auction and a common fundraising goal – the Heathfield community broke all previous records with a provisional total of over £31k, almost doubling recent years' efforts. Thank you for supporting your daughters.

As pupil numbers increase in the lower school and Heathfield's Sixth Form skills programme is launched, the need for a dedicated space where Heathfield's Sixth Form pupils can be mentored and prepared is more pressing. Quite simply, the vision is to ensure your daughters are 'launched' with the values, knowledge and skills to enable her to go out and make the world a better place.

If you wish to add your support to Heathfield's dedicated Sixth Form Space please contact *Mrs Emma Boryer, Director of Development,* development@heathfieldschool.net.



**House Shield Winners**

Congratulations to Michealmas Term House Shield Winners *Seacole.*



## SPORT REPORT

Lacrosse v St Swithun's - Saturday 30 November

All teams played well and there was some great lacrosse. The First Team won 8-2 and Second Team won 12-6. Unfortunately, the U15's lost by three goals; however, it was their best performance of the season. The U14 squad was a mix of U13s and U14s, a winning formula as they won 13-5. Congratulations to all girls who took part, particularly Players of the matches, Lucy, Romilly, Scarlett, and Teale.

Lacrosse v Claremont – Saturday 7 December

On Saturday the Second Team, U15, U14, U13 & U12A&B lacrosse teams travelled away to play against Claremont Fan Court School. U12A won 12-5, U12B won 7-3, U13 won 18-1, U14 won 9-3 and the Second Team won 15-4. The U15's played superbly and implemented the skills and tactics they have been working incredibly hard on in training, particularly

holding the ball in attack. Congratulations to all the Players of the matches Allegra G, Bella, Ella, Florence, Ines, Nina, Scarlett, Tami, and Tamra.



South Region Trampolining - Sunday 1 December

On Sunday 8 girls competed in the South Region Trampolining Competition held in the Isle of Wight. All the girls competed well, particularly as it was the first trampolining competition for most of the girls. Hannah (Form III) came third individually and the Year 7-8 Intermediate Team, Alice, Ella, Freedom, and Hannah, came joint first, qualifying to compete in the Nationals in January. Well done to all girls involved!

Netball U13 & U14 v Marist – Wednesday 4 December

Both teams played well against the Marist who are very strong, the girls put in lots of effort and managed to keep the score lines close. Congratulations to Doddie, Jazzy, and Tami for receiving Player of the Match.

*Miss Carys Willimott, Head of Sport*

tes independent school awards 2020

## Shortlisted

Boarding school of the year

# House Weekends









### Weekend 30 November – 1 December

Sixth Form students had a great time Go-Karting in Reading on Saturday afternoon. The session started with girls donning safety gear and then being given a thorough briefing on safety, behaviour and the understanding of the workings of the track.

Although some girls were slightly apprehensive when they first got on the track, everyone soon got into racing mode. Competitive driving then took place with girls trying to beat their own and other's times in the two sessions they had.

On Saturday Brontë House boarders and day girls headed off to Gravity Force Trampoline Park. The girls somersaulted their way from one trampoline to another, played trampoline dodgeball, and a particularly intense version of Total Wipeout. Exhausted from the exercise and laughter, the girls came home to a Takeaway Night, where pizzas were handed out in the Common Room as they watched a movie.

On Sunday girls played brilliantly in their morning Lacrosse matches. After the matches, Brontë House and Form IV hopped on to coaches for some Christmas shopping at Westfield, London. With so many shops, everyone was incredibly successful at not only buying Christmas gifts for their loved ones – but they also managed to nab a few presents for themselves too!

*Miss Rosie Bevan, Resident Graduate Boarding Assistant*















### Weekend 7 - 8 December

Form IV, V and Sixth Form Lacrosse players were up at 7.15am on Saturday to play an away match. After an exciting game, they all returned for the afternoon to enjoy some down time. The Form IVs had a trip to Winchester Christmas Market, where they enjoyed the seasonal atmosphere and artisan produce at the wide variety of stalls as well as at the less traditional food outlets. The Form Vs went to Ascot before they settled down to revise for the second week of their mock exams.

On Saturday 7 December, Amber celebrated her 18th birthday with her family and members of the Upper Sixth had a lunch at the wonderful Coworth Park hotel. The girls had lots of fun getting ready on Saturday morning. They all looked stunning and were looking forward to an elegant and fun filled celebration.

After studying in the afternoon, the Sixth Form then enjoyed a meal out at Carluccios at the Lexicon in Bracknell.

Forms I to III had a busy day of rehearsals to prepare for Brontë's Got Talent in the evening. It was amazing to see all the girls hard work pay off in such fantastic performances. The show consisted of six sister group performances followed by nine different acts consisting of dancing and singing. Thank you to all parents, pupils and teachers who came to support Brontë House and congratulations to all the girls who took part. Everyone enjoyed drinks and nibbles after the show in Brontë common room.

On Sunday Form V organised their day around further revision sessions; however, they did take a break in the afternoon and went into Ascot. Form IV began their end of term packing and went to Ascot in the afternoon. Sunday was a relaxed day for Sixth Form, some went

into Ascot and most of Upper Sixth were busy revising. The Head Girl Team began the [illegible] task of working on place settings for girls and all staff at the forthcoming Christmas lunch.

Brontë House spent the morning code breaking in the morning to work out clues, leading them around the school to find a prize. After lunch girls enjoyed Christmas games and craft rotation. They all took part in a Scavenger Hunt, made felt Christmas tree decorations, iced biscuits, and played the Chocolate Game. It was such a fun afternoon and all the girls really got stuck in and enjoyed themselves. The evening consisted of free time, relaxing and end of term packing.

*Miss Florence Gray, Deputy Housemistress Brontë*

# Dates to Remember

| | |
|---|---|
| 07 January | Boarders return from 18.00 |
| 08 January | LENT TERM begins |
| 01 February | History of Art Conference* |
| 07 February | Founder's Day |
| 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 |
| 19/20 March | Drama Production* |
| 27 March | 12.00 END OF TERM |

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

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