



As I write, a fantastic assortment of costumes decorates the corridors for *World Book Day* which celebrates *Strong Women in Literature*. It is somewhat surreal to be writing this to you dressed as Miss Trunchbull from *Matilda* and just one of the myriad of reasons why being at Heathfield is so invigorating.

I hope you enjoy reading about the multiplicity of activities your daughters have been involved with including a visit to Rushall Farm and hearing about the work of *The Jo Cox Foundation* from CEO Catherine Anderson. We played Harrow at Polo this week and the competitors played magnificently at National Schools' Lacrosse.

We are looking forward to welcoming new families to Heathfield tomorrow for our Open Morning and are all hoping that the sun shines.

Wishing you all a restful weekend.

Mrs Gardiner Legge (AKA Trunchbull)



Form I Geography and Science Trip to Rushall Organic Farm

On Tuesday 25 February Form I set off for Rushall Organic Farm near Bradfield in Berkshire. On arrival, the groups set off to investigate environmental factors that affect farming and they took measurements of light, moisture and the pH of the soils in three different locations.

Pupils were shown how Rushall Farm is an organic mixed farm, where they grow cereal crops and sell sheep and cattle. Pupils learned about inputs, processes, and outputs into the farm and about how little labour is required with the use of machinery. Pupils were also shown how the farm has diversified into other activities such as school visits and as a venue for weddings.

A geographical highlight was the Chalk Pit with its geological cross-section dating back 87 million years. However, the highlight of the trip for the pupils was the time spent in the barn enjoying holding the newborn lambs.

Form I will now write up their notes and data in the classroom as an independent project



Form III Classics and Geography Trip to Barcelona

The girls left behind the English rain for the warmer weather of Barcelona. First on the itinerary was a visit to the Torres winery where the girls learned about viticulture including the processes of maceration and fermentation; they also were able to try some fresh grape-juice which was very much enjoyed by all. In the afternoon, we travelled to the centre of Barcelona where we visited Casa Mila, our first experience of Gaudi's architecture. The girls appreciated the views from the top of the famous apartment building and going through the museum and furnished rooms with their early 20th-century décor. In the evening we were able to relax in the hotel and even joined in some spirited dancing with the locals.

On the second day, we explored the local area including a walk along the beach. We then visited arguably the most famous landmark of the city, Sagrada Familia, showcasing more of Gaudi's style as we were able to see his incredible architecture including the older, spectacular Nativity façade and the newer, starker Passion façade; we learned too about the Glory façade which will be ready in time for the centenary of Gaudi's death in 2026. In the afternoon, Heathfield went back in time to Augustan era Barcino where we saw evidence of public laundries and wineries in the City of Barcelona museum. In the evening, the girls relaxed in Lloret de Mar, taking part in bowling.

On our last day, the girls travelled to the Gothic Cathedral of St Eulalia where they were able to compare the older style and feel to the more recent work of Gaudi viewed the day before. They were tasked with filling in Geography tourist surveys with each pupil collecting individual data which will be used in their following lessons. Tourists ranged from many different countries have travelled to Barcelona in a number of ways and for a number of different reasons. The girls and staff returned back to England having worked hard and with fond memories of a busy few days in Spain.

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



A Level Drama Practical Examinations

On Tuesday 3 March the A Level Drama students had their practical exam, each group performing both a scripted extract and a fully devised play. The performances covered a range of styles, ranging from promenade and site-specific work to Berkoff, Artaud, and Naturalism.

A great deal of work went into the creation of these pieces, with the girls powering through late night and weekend rehearsals to give polished and professional performances.

Design concepts were especially creative this year, including the use of Mrs Gardiner Legge's car for a devised piece set in a car factory!

Mrs Lucy Halcrow, Subject Leader of Drama and Theatre Studies





World Book Day

With three events, competitions and activities running through reading lessons, there was no shortage of ways to celebrate *World Book Day* this year. Girls took part in the *World Day Book Quiz*, with five dastardly rounds ranging from Shakespeare Quotes to Who Wrote This Book? Congratulations to Olivia in LVI, the individual winner, nabbing herself a Lindor Easter Egg, and to Somerville House who won the most points on the day.

Thursday saw Heathfield transformed into a literary haven with girls dressing up as their favourite *Strong Woman of Literature*, this year's theme. The best costumes judged by Mrs Trunchbull (aka our Headmistress) won a £5 tuck shop voucher. Best Group Costume for Mulan was Liv, Selena, and Scarlett (Form I). Allegra D (Form II) won Best Craftsmanship for her Mary Poppins costume and Joy (Form III) as Celie Harris from *The Colour Purple* for Best Individual, and Closest to the Theme went to Tamara (Form III) for Michelle Obama.

The week was rounded off with the termly Book Fair, where Primary Books, a local bookseller, come in to offer girls the chance to purchase the latest titles in Young Adult literature.

Pupils this month also have the chance to win a Harry Potter book signed by Daniel Radcliffe by entering the Book Cover competition where the girls design a new cover for a book of their choosing. With so many great entries so far, time runs out on March 20 to win this great prize!

Mr Nathan Lobo, Librarian





Guest Speaker Catherine Anderson

On Wednesday 4 March, the Careers and Outreach department organised a talk for Forms II to UVI by Catherine Anderson, the CEO of the inspirational Joe Cox Foundation. Nine girls participated in an intimate speaker supper beforehand where we were able to engage in conversation with Catherine and gain an understanding of her personal ambitions.

Catherine strives to build a positive legacy for Jo Cox, not only politically but also in epitomising what Jo truly believed in; “We have far more in common than that which divides us”. Catherine’s fluent presentation embodied the core principals at Heathfield, is the empowerment of women as well as the importance of caring for one another, she exhibited that a career incorporating both values is accessible for each and every one of us. The evening was very enjoyable and a great way to start off Women’s History Month.

Minty, Head Girl



National Schools’ Lacrosse Tournament

The weather had a severe impact on the *National Schools’ Lacrosse Tournament* this year with the 2nd team tournament being postponed until Sunday 15 March and the U14 team being cancelled.

The 1st and U14 teams, however, managed to get in one day’s play and some highly competitive matches were played. The U14 team found Moreton Hall, Queen Anne’s and Caterham tough opposition but bounced back to beat St George’s 4 – 1. Their final group game was against North London Collegiate which they needed to win. The game was end to end with some excellent defensive and attacking play. Poised on a ‘knife-edge’ at 2-2 the team couldn’t hold on and NLC scored in the last 30 seconds to prevent the team from qualifying for the knock out stages.

The 1st team, having played Fettes College, St Alban’s High and Walthamstow Hall they faced Putney High in the first round of the knockout stages. The game was a tight one, going from end to end: having scored the first goal, Putney came back to equalise and then go-ahead 2-1. A free position shot tied the game at 2-2 and with about 3 minutes left to play, and with the team in the ascendancy, the play was halted and eventually stopped due to an injury to Auriel. Thankfully, Auriel is on the road to recovery and I would like to thank the team for their hard work and commitment.

Miss Wendy Reynolds, Director of Co-Curricular Activities & Operations



Take a Second Look at Heathfield

Heathfield hosted its first *Take a Second Look at Heathfield* event on Thursday 27 February. We invited over twenty families who were still undecided about which school they wanted to accept a place at for their daughters. The afternoon gave them the opportunity to have a personalised tour with current pupils and to see the school in action on a normal school day. Mrs Gardiner Legge welcomed everyone with a short talk and introduced key members of staff and our Head Girl Team who were available to answer any questions about Heathfield.

The afternoon proved a great success with families enjoying the chance to talk to staff and pupils after their tours and leaving with their minds made up. I am delighted to report that over half the families accepted their place on the day or over the following weekend and as a result we are now nearly full in Form I for September 2020.

Ms Anna Morgan, Director of Marketing and Admissions



THE ROYAL MILITARY ACADEMY SANDHURST FROM A FEMALE PERSPECTIVE

25 MARCH 2020

6PM - 9PM

The Royal Military Academy Sandhurst from a Female Perspective

Heathfield old girl Octavia Woolger, who is currently training at Sandhurst has invited Heathfield staff and students to the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst to learn about the Military from a Female Perspective on Wednesday 25 March.

During her time at Heathfield, Octavia was Sports Prefect and went on to study Sport at Loughborough University. She was on the *Girls for Gold* pathway to Tokyo Olympics 2020 in Canoeing but unfortunately, an injury meant that she had to withdraw from the programme.

Octavia is now almost halfway through her training where she is being taught leadership, problem-solving, executing plans, etc. within dynamic situations. Sandhurst is recognised as a world-leading leadership and military training academy where all officers in the British Army are trained to take on the responsibility of leading their soldiers.

Hosted by Officer Cadets currently on the commissioning course, this event is aimed at young women from 16 years old who could be the next generation of Officer Cadets. Taking place on the 25 March 2020 from 1800hrs, the evening will consist of presentations, a question and answer session and a 'panel' style discussion. This event will be followed by an optional dinner where there will be a chance to ask further questions to the Officer Cadets and staff. Those interested in attending should email Officer Cadet Ilić. (952oili@armymail.mod.uk) for more information. (<https://www.army.mod.uk/who-we-are/our-schools-and-colleges/rma-sandhurst/officer-training/>).



SPORT REPORT

This year we have introduced activity weeks for Forms I to III at the end of each half term. The last week of Lent half term, girls played Tag Rugby and Water Polo. The girls loved trying out new sports and some Form III girls were brave enough to try some contact Rugby with Miss Willimott.

Our Friday Football Club at Ascot Utd FC is continuing this term so please make sure you sign up with Miss Willimott if you are interested.

The Senior Netball squad came up against St George's, Ascot on Wednesday 12 February. It was a well-matched game and brilliantly fought out by both sides. Unfortunately, we couldn't quite hold onto the win in the last quarter and lost 18-22. Congratulations to Kiki for Player of the Match.

On Tuesday our U13A and B Netball squads competed in the annual *Ascot Schools' Netball Tournament*, held at St George's, Ascot and hosted by the Marist. Both teams played superbly, even though it was extremely cold and wet. Well done to all involved, our A team finished 4th and our B team finished joint 3rd. Well done girls!

On Wednesday 16 February it was time for our U13 swim squad to compete in the *Wycombe Abbey Swim Finals*. Having previously qualified in second position for these finals the girls were hungry for gold. Despite losing a few squad members to injury and illness, the girls swam brilliantly, with Olivia C (Form II) not only winning the 100m Individual Medley but breaking the gala record! It was a fantastic evening and the girls received silver medals in the Junior Category. A great achievement, congratulations to the whole squad!

On Tuesday the U14 lacrosse team competed in the *National Schools' Lacrosse Tournament*. Despite the cold and rain, the girls played brilliantly and improved their teamwork and tactical play throughout the day. It was especially great to see some of the U13s playing as part of the team and both year groups mixing so well. We won our match against St George's but unfortunately didn't quite make it through to the quarter-finals after narrowly missing out. Our last game was a 2-2 draw, and a nail-biting finish which unfortunately led to a 3-2 defeat. Congratulations to all girls involved, a superb effort!
Miss Carys Willimott, Head of Sport



House Weekends



Weekend 29 February – 1 March

On Saturday morning, many of the girls had a surprisingly relaxing morning as the scheduled Lacrosse matches were postponed. In the afternoon, Forms I and II took part in a wonderful session of graffiti spray painting, where they could express their artistic talents and have fun creating boards with their names on.

Forms IV and V spent time at *Pottery Pals*, painting their own designs onto a range of items

In the evening, Bronte House girls indulged in delicious hot chocolate during a movie night. Form III arrived safely back from Barcelona in the late evening, tired but content after a delightful trip.

The Sixth Form pizza evening proved to be a lovely bonding session, enjoyed by all involved. The girls were treated to pizzas, garlic bread and salad, followed by ice cream with lots of toppings.

Forms I and II took part in an exciting Art session with Louise on Sunday morning. They made friendship bracelets and created mood boards, with personalised inspirational quotes and drawings. In the afternoon, girls in Forms I and II had the choice of going indoor sky diving or ten-pin bowling. Both groups had a marvellous time and shared their experiences on the bus back to Heathfield, whilst Form III recovered from their late-night return from Spain.

In Middle House and Sixth Form, the 1st Lacrosse team played in the Nationals whilst other senior girls took afternoon trips to Windsor, consolidated work or relaxed after a taxing week of assessments.

Mrs Janet Liepa, Deputy Housemistress

Dates to Remember

07 March	Open Morning
18/19/20 March	Sweet Charity Drama Production*
27 March	12.00 END OF TERM
19 April	SUMMER TERM
	18.00 - 21.00 Boarders Return
20 April	08.00 All pupils return
02 May	Open Morning
07 May	15.00 Exeat Begins
08-10 May	Bank Holiday Weekend
13 June	Sports Day*
19 June	Arabian Nights Drama Production Forms I to III*
27 June	Parents' Day*
	END OF TERM

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



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