

THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

23 June 2017

As the remaining few external exams still tick on for our A-level students, it was wonderful to see the GCSE girls finally being able to let their hair down and relax at their Prom on Wednesday night. My enormous thanks to Mr and Mrs Birkin for hosting the girls and their parents at The Great Barn at Higher Ashton which made for the most gorgeous venue. Everything was perfect, the sun shone brightly and the girls all looked so glamorous! It was a thoroughly well-deserved celebration after a long exam period and I must commend all those taking their GCSE's for their hugely mature conduct and great sense of calm throughout!

Elsewhere in the school, our other year groups were enjoying their post-examination treats on their Residential camps. The Upper 4s travelled to Ironbridge in Shropshire for a three-day stay and, despite the stifling heat, they all had a cracking time candle dipping, visiting the Blists Hill Victorian Village and ten pin bowling. The trip was topped off with a full day at Alton Towers that was an absolute highlight and I know many of the girls enjoyed scaring themselves silly on all the rides (although I'm also told that Mr Loosemore and Miss Lavelle more than rivalled them in this department!).

I will look forward to reporting back from the ongoing residential this week and I'm just so pleased that the weather has been kind to all the girls! The Year 6s are having a splendid time at Mill on the Brue where they have been all week and we waved the Year 5s off on Wednesday for three days of teambuilding activities at Heatree on Dartmoor.

As ever, this has been an enormously busy week and I am still amazed by the sheer number of visits from prospective pupils and their parents. Not a day goes by when we are not welcoming another new face to the School for a tour or Taster Day and I know the Admissions Department are inundated, even still, with interest from across the county and beyond. This is marvellous news to any Headmistress!

On to the week's news!



Save the date – the Exeter Art Show returns

We will once again be hosting the Exeter Art Show here at School and I just wanted to give you plenty of advance warning so you can save the date. It will be held over the weekend 18 – 20 April 2018 and we, once again, hope for an excellent turn out! At the last Show in 2015, we had nearly 150 local and national exhibitors, including Royal Academicians, and a huge footfall over the weekend, making it one of the biggest exhibitions in the region.



We are actively seeking sponsorship for the Show and I also look forward to announcing our charity partner just as soon as this is confirmed. We have decided this year to donate 100% of the proceeds (the commission from the sale of the works) to our charity which, given this exceeded £12,000 last time, should make a real difference. I am only too delighted that we can say the show is 100% charity-based and I hope as many as possible will be able to support it to make it another true success for everyone involved.

Charlotte ‘commended’ in Science Essay Prize

Congratulations to Charlotte Jackson (Lower 6) who has been ‘commended’ for her entry in the Peterhouse’s Kelvin Science Essay Prize. This is a tremendous result given there were over 250 entrants in total. As the letter states: “In addition to the advertised prize winners, only 22 essays were commended, so this represents a distinct achievement.” Well done, Charlotte.

Gifted and Talented attend ‘Maths is Your Future’ Day

Thirty three of our Year 10 girls were left feeling enthused after a really inspirational day at the ‘Maths is your Future’ enrichment event at the University yesterday. They attended three different workshops about how maths can be applied outside the curriculum; from learning how it can be used to plan a town, playing a card trick using modular arithmetic and learning how MI9 used hidden codes in their messages to the war camps – it was, by all accounts, a fascinating day and I know many of the girls were sufficiently enthused to consider continuing the subject at A-level.



Chance to win £5,000 worth of books for the school

I’m sorry to push this again this week, but we would really appreciate it if as many people as possible could enter the National Book Tokens competition to win £5,000 worth of books for the school. It is very easy and quick to complete and we would be very grateful for all your submissions. Wouldn’t it be wonderful to win? Entries can be made here: <https://www.nationalbooktokens.com/schools>

Apologies to Flo for last week's omission

My sincere apologies to Flo Evans in Lower 4 who somehow was missed off last week's gymnastic news, despite winning a silver medal in the 14/15 year group at the Devon Championship held in Plymouth!

This is a wonderful achievement given Flo is that much younger than her competitors at just 13 years old, so a huge well done to her!



Exceptional talent at the A-level and GCSE Art Exhibition

I was wowed by the sheer talent on show at Thursday night's A-level and GCSE Art Exhibition in Tregear. There really were some wonderful pieces on show and I feel quite sure many of these would be very saleable, given they were so good! It was brilliant to see so many parents, staff and students popping into the exhibition and my thanks to you all for your continued support of all the many things that our girls do here!





Under 14 Rounders Team are Devon Champions

Congratulations to our Under 14 Rounders team who are adding to their amazing success this year in Hockey, Netball, Basketball and Athletics with another county title: Devon School Games U14 Rounders Champions.

Representing Exeter Schools at the Devon School Games in Plymouth they played seven matches, drawing one and winning all the other six to be crowned the champions! This is particularly brilliant

given they had only returned very late from their residential the night before and were all feeling a little jaded. But, as ever, they played superbly and this latest championship title just goes to show what an extraordinarily talented group the Under 14s are with so many successes across the sporting board.

Superb Under 10 results

Our Under 10 Rounders team clocked two excellent victories on Monday when they played St Peter's Lymptone in an away match. The A team won 13-8 and the Bs batted and fielded equally superbly to win 12-10. Without exception, they all played brilliantly despite the intense heat and complete lack of shade in which to shelter from the hot sun so huge congratulations to them!



The Lower Sixth take to the water

Given the extreme heat of this week, the Lower Sixth girls were certainly in the right place, leaving us all sweltering back at School on Tuesday whilst they enjoyed the first (of four) sessions at Haven Banks! They had great fun learning all kinds of watersports including kayaking, sailing, canoeing and stand up paddleboarding – the perfect thing for a hot day! The next three Tuesday afternoons will see them all back at the Banks having yet more watery fun!

Excellent results in the Primary Schools Swimming Gala

Our Junior School team put in some excellent performances at the Primary Schools Swimming Gala, organised by Exeter Swimming Club and held at The Pyramids on Tuesday.

The event is designed for teams from Years 4, 5 and 6 to compete in breaststroke, freestyle, backstroke, butterfly and a 4 x 25m freestyle relay. Unfortunately, however, our Year 6 swimmers were unable to attend as they were away on their residential and so, instead, some courageous Year 5s swam up a year in their place (Connie Hurrell, Harleigh Fry & Ita Gallaher).

The girls were superb and competed with determination at a very hot, loud and exciting event. In the individual events many girls qualified for the finals and were placed as follows:

Year 4

Bryony Hayward - Silver medallist in Freestyle

Claudia Eveling - 4th in Breaststroke

Hannah Clark - 4th in Backstroke

Year 5

Isabel Board - Bronze medallist in Butterfly

Jessica Fraser - Gold medallist in Breaststroke

Year 5 (swimming in Year 6 races)

Connie Hurrell - 6th in Breaststroke

Harleigh Fry - 6th in Backstroke



Our Relay team also won the Bronze medal finishing 3rd out of 12 teams so huge congratulations to Isabel Board, Grace Fitzgerald, Jess Fraser & Connie Hurrell. Overall the Maynard School finished 3rd out of 12 competing schools which is a fabulous result given we had no Year 6 swimmers. Well done to them all!

Continuing with the water theme ...

I just had to share these photos with you of the Pre-Prep girls cooling off with a quick dip in the paddling pools after an energetic tennis lesson! They even used the time productively to practise their ten times tables using their toes! What genius teaching!



Tennis Academy

With Wimbledon fast approaching it seems only fitting to use this opportunity to thank our wonderful senior girls who have attended the Junior Academy sessions before school throughout the year support Jon Rycroft as assistant coaches. They have been invaluable to him, dedicated and committed so my enormous thanks to our Lower 6 girls Lucy Harris-Deans, Jasmine Reay and Alex Daniels!

We currently run Tennis Academy sessions for invited girls in Year 3-4 and Years 5, 6 and 7 - all of whom have made massive progress and are now beginning to play at a really good level. For this last part of term, we are planning to hold open tennis practice at lunchtimes for all to come and play, and private individual and group lessons are available through arrangement with our tennis coach Mr Jon Rycroft.



Thrive

We have recently introduced the Thrive programme into the school, led by our Thrive co-ordinator Angela Trevallion. Thrive has been developed to help us better understand children's behaviour and what it signals about their emotional development, and Angela works with some of our pupils using arts and play-based activities.

Here they are enjoying the sunshine whilst working with puppets help the girls to externalise internal voices and find ways to make sense of events, experiences and emotions in a non-judgemental way.



Final preparations for Open Evening

We are really looking forward to hosting our Summer Open Evening on Tuesday and I know the staff are super busy preparing all sorts of fun activities within their individual apartments. Do please spread the word to anyone considering a Maynard education for their daughter as this is a wonderfully insightful evening to our School with lots of great opportunities to talk with our girls and the staff. More details can be found on our website www.maynard.co.uk.

Personal Information Sheets ** Reminder**

Please may I remind all parents to complete your daughter's Personal Information Sheets and return them to the School Office on Monday. We have already received the vast majority (which is just brilliant) but it would be lovely if anyone who hasn't done so, could do them over the weekend. Many thanks!

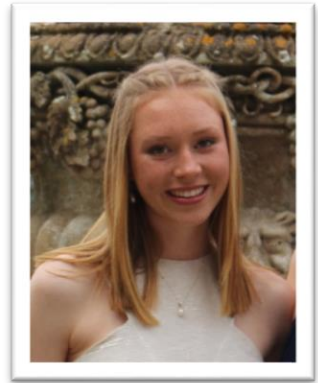
Good luck to Emma

I finish this newsletter with wishing Emma Machell (Lower Sixth) the very best of luck in the 6km Bantam Swoosh. It sounds like a completely amazing event, advertised as taking place in completely clear, shallow waters where you can always see the sandy bed. It ends, apparently, in a swoosh as the ebbing tide is funnelled through a narrow section of the river, speeding you along over the riverbed at up to four times the usual swimming speed - I only wish I was doing it!



Emma is using this event both as a culmination of her DofE gold training and to raise money for the Teenage Cancer Trust and we wish her loads of luck. If you would like to sponsor her, you can do it via this link and I know she would be incredibly grateful for any donations:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/emma-machell>



Have a lovely weekend!

Sarah Dunn
Headmistress
