

THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

9 February 2018

Given my Bahamian upbringing, I'm not particularly a winter person and so I love this time of year when the days start to draw out and I'm no longer leaving home and arriving back in the dark! I've even spotted the odd daffodil in bloom en route which is a true sign that spring is only round the corner!

With half term already upon us, I have the opportunity to reflect on what has been yet another hugely busy term so far. The last few weeks have been a whirlwind of activity for our Admissions Department which has been inundated with scholarship and Maynard Award applications – a delight for any headmistress to see. It always gives me great pleasure to be involved in the selection process and I have had the privilege of meeting some enormously talented and very impressive students. They never cease to amaze me with their incredible confidence, ability and charisma and I am delighted to have been able to recognise the achievements of so many of these very deserving candidates. It is also truly satisfying that such talented individuals are all so intent on a Maynard education – testimony indeed as to our school's reputation across the academic, sporting and Performing Arts board.

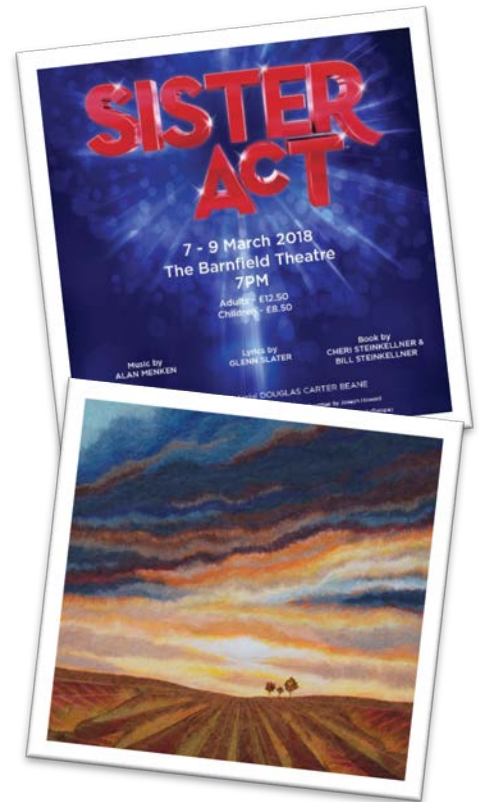
Likewise, all of our students have been achieving exceptional things – promising results in the recent mock examinations, displays of enormous resilience on a hostile and wintry Dartmoor during Ten Tors training, excellence on the sports front and wonderful trips galore to widen our horizons. On which note, 20 students departed today for the History trip to New York and I have no doubt they will absolutely love their itinerary which includes tours of the Statue of Liberty, a Broadway Show, the Empire State Building, the World Trade Center and, of course, the inevitable and endless shopping opportunities in the city that never sleeps!



Looking ahead to the next half of term, I cannot wait for the whole school production of *Sister Act*! The corridors on a Monday and Thursday evening after rehearsals are always buzzing with cast members happily singing their various numbers as they go about their business and it is very infectious. With less than four weeks to go, excitement levels are certainly mounting and I, for one, am looking forward to attending every single one of the performances!

Preparations for the much anticipated Rathbones Exeter Art Show are also in full swing and it is such an honour and privilege to be organising and hosting such a fantastic fundraiser for YoungMinds, a charity that we wholeheartedly support for all of its work that it does to improve the mental well-being of children across the UK. More about the Show to follow.

In the meantime, may I take this opportunity to wish you all a wonderful half term!



European Youth Parliament



Nine of our keen debaters from the Lower 6th took part in the South West Regional Forum of the European Youth Parliament on Monday. This was held in the august surroundings of the Council Chamber at County Hall in Exeter and attracted seven schools from as far afield as Stroud and Liskeard. Our team entered enthusiastically into all the debates and were complimented by the judges on their excellent teamwork and detailed knowledge of the topics under discussion. These included: 'Pesco - the start of a European Army?', 'How to establish an effective fight against climate change' and 'How to establish a unified approach to separatist movements across the EU'.

It was a fantastic experience and thoroughly enjoyed by the girls who all hope to continue their involvement with the European Youth Parliament in the future.

News from Year 2

The Year 2 girls have had a busy few weeks this last half term and in Literacy they have been writing their own fantastic fables including 'The Reindeer and the Unicorn' and 'The Ostrich and the Fox'. Equally, in Maths this week they have been learning all about grams and kilograms whilst undertaking their own interesting investigations. It has been a brilliant term so far in which they have worked really hard, so well done to them all!



Chinese New Year in Year 4



As ever, Mrs Fry's class has risen to the annual challenge of what to create in celebration of the Chinese New Year and, very fortunately, this year it is the Year of the Dog (Nula, the Junior School dog, is delighted)! PSHCE lessons have focused on the Chinese traditions surrounding the New Year celebrations and they have been researching further details in their computing lessons, as well as creating this wonderful display during Art. Not to mention that they are all now adept in writing Happy New Year in Chinese!

Report from the Year 6 trip to Plymouth's Aquarium

Our Year 6 students enjoyed a fantastic trip to the National Marine Aquarium in Plymouth on Monday. In the morning, we toured the aquarium and looked at how creatures are adapted for life in a rock pool. We also saw a huge tank full of fish who live in the colder Atlantic waters and our guide, Loveday, told us about the Conga Eel who travels all the way to Mediterranean waters to lay its eggs. We then looked at fish found in more tropical waters and considered why they are so brightly coloured. We examined two examples of coral reef - one which was healthy and flourishing and one which was not so healthy - and we talked about the importance of looking after our environment and, particularly, our oceans. The shark tank was also very impressive and we counted four different types of shark. Much to everyone's excitement, Friday (the turtle) was also swimming around happily, too.

In the afternoon, we were really lucky to be able to dissect squid! In groups, we carefully extracted the beak, then cut our squid open to see how it works internally. We found the place where squid ink is stored and managed to use this to write our names on paper and also dissected the eyeball which proved rather messy!

All in all, it was another fantastic day out for both students and staff alike!



Performance of the Month for January

We have great pleasure in announcing January's Performance of the Month nominees! Our huge congratulations to them all and we look forward to revealing the winner in an assembly after half term:

Megan Abrahams, Sophie Barker, Natalie Charity, Katie Harries, Jessie Menzies, Louisa Thomson (all Lower 4): For their impressive performance at the Devon Under 13 Indoor Athletics Championships where they won the team silver, competing in various athletics disciplines against other Exeter schools.

The U12 Netball Team from Upper 3: For their superb comeback performance against Truro School, where after the first quarter they were 1-8 down but fought hard to win the game with a final score of 16-14.

Ruby Jarman (Upper 5), the U16 Netball Captain: For her superb commitment, motivation and leadership at the Regional netball tournament of the National Schools Tournament. Ruby was superb throughout and led her team by example.

The U11 Gymnastics Squad of Harleigh Fry, Sienna Fuller, Connie Hurrell, Elisa Neal-Jones and Poppy Taylor (all Year 6): For their performance at the ISGA National Challenge Cup in Cambridge, winning team bronze and individual silver for Connie.

The U13 Netball Team from Lower 4: For their strong performance in the ISNC plate against Haberdashers Monmouth, winning the game 26-16 and progressing through to the Quarter Final of the plate competition.

Katie Harries & Amelia Moody (Lower 4 & Upper 5): For their performances at the Devon Schools Cross-Country, both securing a spot in the county team to represent Devon in the South West Schools round of the English Schools Competition.

Photography competition results

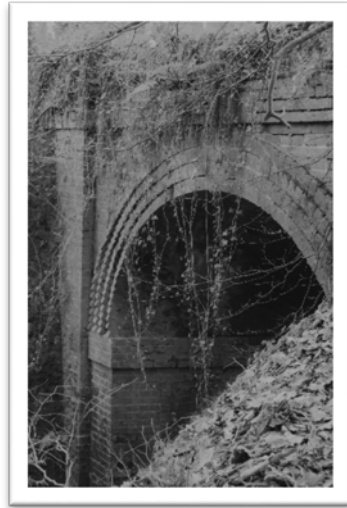
Congratulations to all those that entered the Geographical Photographer 2017 competition. We received over 50 entries, all of a terrifically high standard which made for a very difficult task when trying to choose the winners! Well done to you all!

The next competitions will be entitled 'Love Physics' and 'A window into life at school' – look out for the details in an upcoming newsletter! In the meantime, don't forget Photography Club takes place every Thursday during lunch A in the Pring computer room!

The results of the competition are:

Humans Using the Earth category:

Runners-up – Emily Davis (Lower 4), Eleanor Cumbley (Lower 4), Darcy Howle (Lower 6),
Ellen Shrimpton (Lower 4)



Second place: Eleanor Silver
(Upper 3)

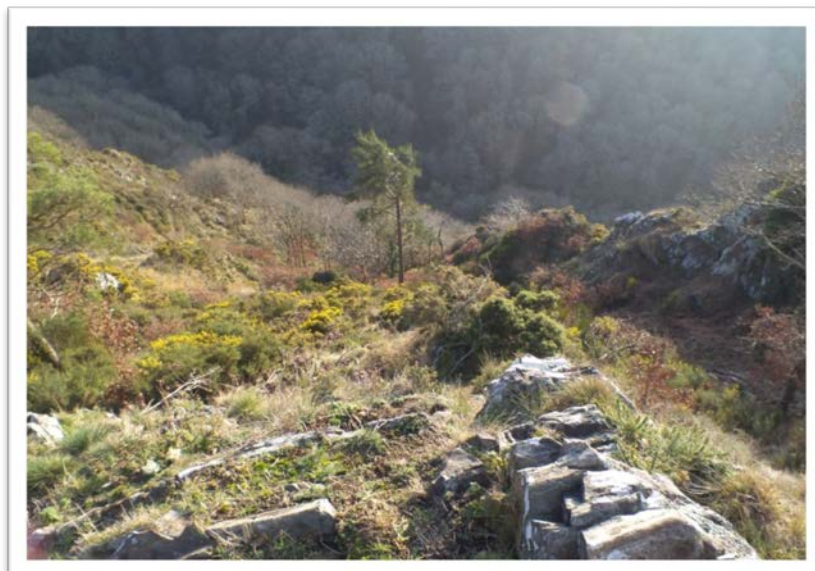
WINNER: Dulcie Fraser (Upper 4)



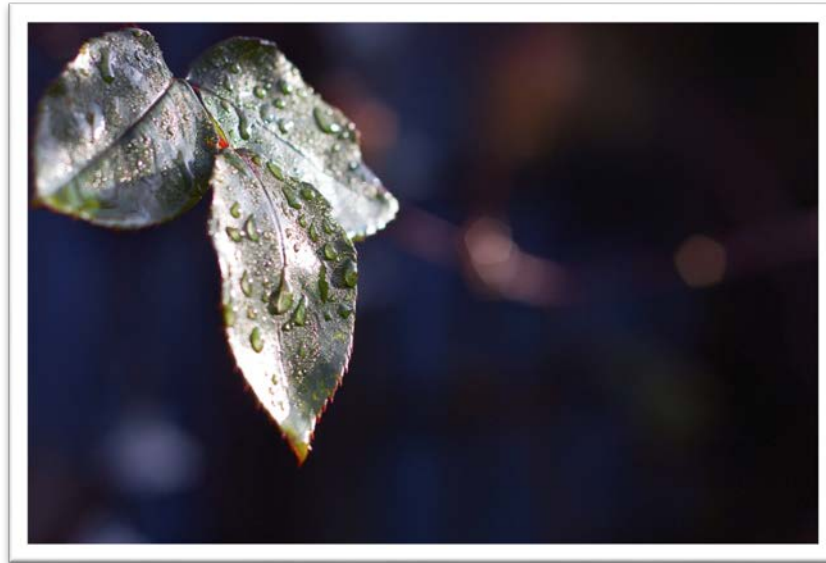
Nature Category:

Runners-up – Anna Catterick (Lower 4), Manon Smith (Lower 4), Flo Evans (Upper 4),
Katie Harries (Lower 4), Hannah D’Souza (Upper 3)

Second place: Katie Ashcroft-Jones (Upper 3)



WINNER: Roneisha Gogoi (Lower 4)



New look Rathbones Exeter Art Show website is launched

As preparations gain apace for the Rathbones Exeter Art Show (20-22 April), organised by us and hosted here at The Maynard, we had great pleasure launching the new look www.exeterartshow.co.uk website earlier this week. We are extremely fortunate this year in having some wonderful sponsors and we look forward to working with them in the coming months to make this the biggest and best yet. Our grateful thanks to Rathbones, Knight Frank, Dart's Farm and Foot Anstey for their huge support!



In an exciting development, all 100% of the commission from any artworks purchased will be donated to this year's charity partner, Young Minds. Given this came to over £12,000 in the last show in 2015, this makes the Exeter Art Show one of the largest charity events in Exeter and, with your support, we hope to increase our donation even further this year! We envisage having over 150 exhibitors with prices ranging from £10 - £10,000 and there is sure to be something to suit every taste and budget! For further information, please do visit the website or the dedicated Facebook page: @exeterartshow

<https://www.facebook.com/exeterartshow/>

Uniform selling event & Second Hand Shop

On Thursday 1 March, the school supplier, Stevensons, will be selling uniform in the Gym from 2pm-5pm. Do come along to stock up on summer supplies in readiness for next term!

Also, don't forget we also have a Second Hand Uniform Shop with lots of good quality uniform in stock. You can make an appointment to visit the shop by emailing office@maynard.co.uk

Equally, we are always looking for new stock - especially new sports clothes/concert skirts/smaller sized uniform! To sell any unwanted uniform, please remove all name tags and attach a label (downloadable from the school website in the information/uniform section) with your details. Uniform should be dropped into Reception during school hours and 50% of the sale price will be credited to your next school fees account when the item is sold. Please note, that if uniform is handed in unlabelled then it will be treated as a 'gift' with all profits from the sale going to the school.

MPA Quiz Night: ** Correction to last week's published team numbers **

Please note that teams for the MPA Quiz night on Friday 16 March 2018 should comprise **6-8 people** and not as published in last week's newsletter. Our sincere apologies for any confusion!

Do come along and join us for what is always a great fun night! Tickets cost £14 and include a fish and chip supper (with vegetarian option also available) and can be purchased either via www.classlist.com or through the attached form.



And finally ...

We bade a sad farewell earlier today to Mr O'Neill (Modern Foreign Languages) and Mrs Burt (Head of Computing) and we wish them loads of luck for the future. Our enormous thanks to them for all their hard work and commitment - you will be missed!

In the meantime, Mr O'Neill has expressly asked that we say a huge thank you on his behalf for all the many cards and messages (being an IT whizz - Mrs Burt has already done this through Twitter)!

Have a fantastic half term!



Sarah Dunn
Headmistress

