

# THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

27 April 2018

It certainly is back to school with a bang for our GCSE Art students who were the first to sit their exams at the start of this week. Although it is somewhat daunting to have to face this pressure so early on in the term, I am sure they will be very relieved to have completed them in plenty of time to prepare for the next spate! Next week the Upper 5 Modern Foreign Languages cohort will sit their oral examinations and I wish them a very English good luck for all of these!

As if the prospect of A-levels around the corner isn't enough, the Upper 6 girls are organising their traditional 'Legacy Evening' to raise funds to donate back to the school for a certain project. This will be held on Wednesday 2 May from 4.30pm-7pm when there will be a showing of Mamma Mia on the huge screen in the new Performing Arts Centre. Snacks will be provided and there will, of course, be the obligatory sing-along to the music! A letter about this has been sent to parents but, in the meantime, please do help support our leavers by encouraging your daughters to join in on this fun evening.

With Ten Tors now only two weeks away, our teams will be back out on the moor this weekend for their final training walks. It is always with some trepidation that I check the weather forecast for weekends such as these but I am delighted to report that the conditions should be nigh-on perfect. After so much rain throughout the winter, and again today, we are certainly deserving of a dry spell so fingers crossed this will last through to the real thing on Friday 11 May through to Sunday 13 May!

Continuing with the great outdoors theme, I had great fun on Tuesday evening when I joined the Adventure Society on the quay to watch them trying their hands at kayaking. There was certainly a lot of splashing around, accompanied by the usual shrieks of excitement and they all had a great time. This new club has proven a hugely popular addition to the calendar and it will certainly be something we will be continuing in future terms.

On to the week's news ...



### Hugely exciting time for Miss Blackwell



Have you spotted a beaming Miss Blackwell this week? She has been invited to perform alongside Sheku Kanneh-Mason at the Budleigh Salterton Music Festival in July.

Sheku, one of the brightest young stars on the classical music scene and winner of the 2016 BBC Young Musician of the Year competition, is already in great demand from major orchestras and concert halls worldwide. In January 2018, his debut album, *Inspiration*, was released with the City of Birmingham

Symphony Orchestra and Mirga Gražinytė-Tyla. Its phenomenal success propelled Sheku to number 18 in the Official UK Album charts, and number 1 in the Classical chart.

It really is wonderfully exciting that our very own Miss Blackwell will be playing alongside him as part of the official Festival Orchestra. The concert will take place on Tuesday 17 July and to find out more please visit <http://budleighmusicfestival.co.uk/programme/>

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### Some sporting news

Our many teams have kicked off the summer season with several fixtures this week. Most notably, the Under 13 tennis team sealed an excellent victory yesterday in Division 1 of the Team Tennis Schools Years 7/8 Devon 2018 Competition against Ivybridge Community College, now the biggest school in Europe! The forthcoming calendar is filled with an abundance of athletics, rounders, tennis and swimming fixtures for teams across the school and we look forward to a busy sporting term ahead.

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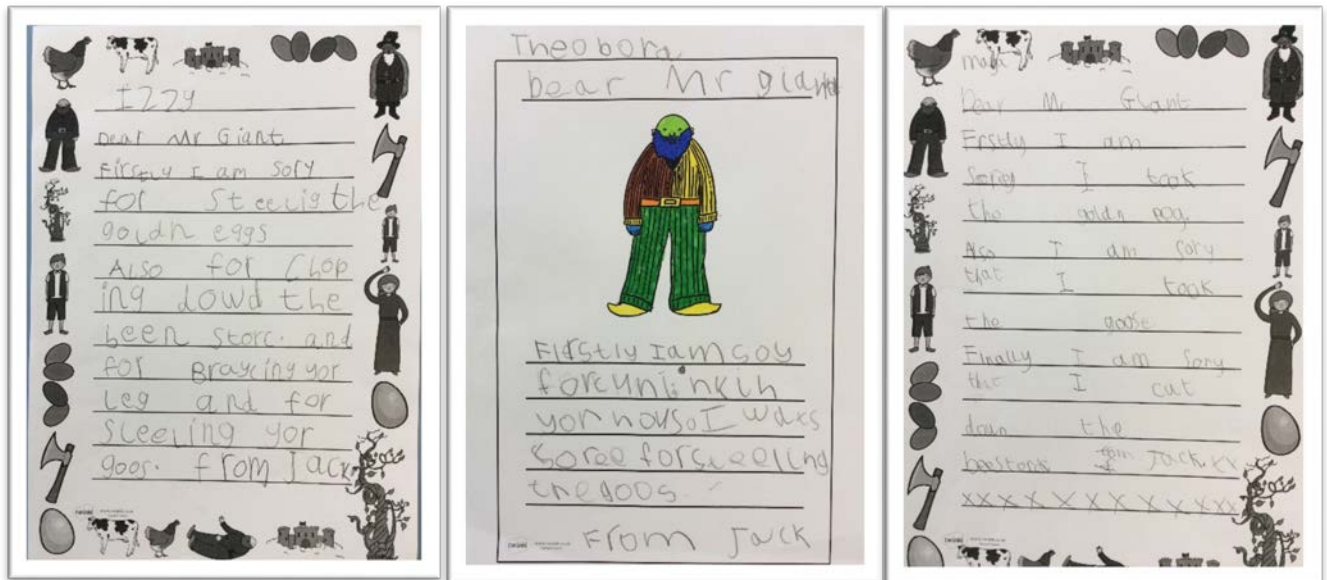
### Good luck to Evangeline and Natalie

We wish lots of luck to Evangeline Davies and Natalie Charity (both Lower 4) who have been selected to represent Devon in the Under 14 Basketball team. They go to Gloucestershire this Sunday for the South West Regional Tournament where they will be playing against teams representing Gloucestershire, Bristol, Wiltshire and the South West. We wish them well for what promises to be a tough contest and look forward to hearing how they fare!

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### Some lovely writing from Reception Class

Once more, we have some lovely updates from the girls in Reception who have been looking at the story of 'Jack and the Beanstalk' in their class. This week they were tasked with pretending to be Jack and writing a letter to the giant to apologise for his misdemeanours. Here are just a small selection of these wonderful works



### 'The Secret Life of the Queen' through to the next round

Congratulations to Isabelle Gulley (Year 6) whose short story 'The Secret Life of the Queen' has made it through to the next round of the BBC Radio 2 500 Words competition. It is a brilliant story about a queen who hates high heels and likes nothing more than a muffin from McDonalds for breakfast – so much so, that she nips out of the palace in disguise to indulge her desires! We are so excited for Isabelle that she has made it this far in the competition and we will keep everything crossed that she continues to impress the judges!

### Cookery classes for Years 3 and 4

We are very grateful to Mrs Griffiths (parent of Cathryn in Upper 3) who has volunteered her time to teach the Year 3 and 4 girls some cookery skills over the next few weeks. As ever, these sessions are interwoven with an academic theme and the girls have been drawing on their History and Geography topics for inspiration. Earlier this week, the Year 4s made some very tasty Roman Honey Cakes and today Year 3 produced Egyptian flat bread with a delicious dip to complement their studies on ancient and modern Egypt.





### Lower 4 'Bake Off' heats up

The hotly contested Lower 4 'Bake Off' has seen an enormous array of creations in the Food and Nutrition room and this week they were icing gingerbread as part of their technical creative challenge. Such is the very high standard of skills that we don't envy Mrs Finnegan and Mrs Fanous who have to select the overall winner each week!

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### Mini Maynard Masterchefs

We are delighted to be launching the brand new Mini Maynard Masterchef course for toddlers. This is a five-week programme and will be held on Tuesdays from 10-11am, starting on 5 June through to 3 July.

There will be more information on our website soon including how to book on to the course ([www.maynard.co.uk](http://www.maynard.co.uk)).



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### Junior School Gym and Dance Showcase

We are looking forward to hosting our second ever Gym and Dance Showcase on Tuesday 8 May from 2.30pm in the Gym, to which we warmly invite all parents and guardians. The inaugural show last year was stunning with performances from the Reception Class right through to Year 6, including our super talented gymnastic team. It was, without doubt, one of the highlights of the academic year and this year's edition promises to be just as spectacular, so do come along if you can!



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### Forever a Maynardian

We always like to hear from our alumnae so it was a real treat to receive this photo from our 1996 leavers who were celebrating their collective 40<sup>th</sup> birthdays with a weekend away in the Cotswolds. Our thanks to Nicky Veysey for the update and her kind words:

"We very fondly remembered our happy and inspiring days at The Maynard, and the self-belief and 'girl power' the school instilled in us all. It was wonderful to celebrate 30 years of fantastic friendships that are still going strong."



**This week from our roving reporter, Isabel Greaves**

“School lunches are amazing. My absolute favourite is the chocolate brownie they make. I asked some friends and they all told me they had so many favourites - from arctic rolls, roasts and banana fritters. There is a variety of things to choose that might float your boat and they also have plenty of vegetarian options like veggi frittatas and veggi burgers. But I think the most popular thing is when you need a packed lunch and you get the chicken wrap. It is heavenly, the mayo to lettuce to chicken ratio is pure perfection. The cooks are wizards in the food world and we all are grateful for them as they conquer our hunger with their fine cuisine.”

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Have a fabulous weekend!



Sarah Dunn  
Headmistress

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