

THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

28 September 2018

How lovely it is to have the sunshine back; only this time last week we were having to make the very difficult decision to call off the Silver Duke of Edinburgh three day and two night qualifying expedition at Land's End. Given the appalling weather that ensued throughout the weekend I have no doubt in my mind that we made the right call on safety grounds. However, it was a shame all the same and, rest assured, we will find a way to reschedule.

That said, it is fortuitous that we now have this lovely weather and in time for our Open Morning tomorrow! School is currently awash with staff and students putting the finishing touches in place (including our wonderful new and very striking pictures outside the Main School Hall!). Once again, we anticipate a high turn-out of approximately 60 prospective families making this one of the most important events of the year and I would like to thank you all for allowing your daughter to lend a hand with the proceedings. As I've said before, the girls are our best ambassadors so to have this support bodes very well indeed!

In terms of the week passed, it has once again been somewhat of a social whirlwind! I have enjoyed several early morning visits to the local state schools with Mr Hibberd. The schools have all been very welcoming in allowing me to meet with their bright and talented Year 11s to talk to them about life here in the Maynard Sixth Form.

It was also wonderful to welcome so many parents at the Upper 3 Tea Party on Monday. It was a very relaxed occasion with, as ever, a wonderful tea laid on by the catering staff and it provided the perfect opportunity for parents to chat to the staff and meet the other parents. It was also lovely to hear how well the girls are settling in, with their main difficulty being choosing their extra-curricular activities from the wealth on offer.



We also had a good turn-out for Tuesday evening's GCSE study skills session for those parents with daughters in the Lower 5. For many, this was the first foray into the world of external examinations which can be a bit of a minefield! We hope that this was a helpful guide for the coming couple of years and gave some useful tips as to how best to support your daughter through this period. I also hope that this session has been of some comfort to know how all the staff here are working so hard to support the girls in their studies and fully prepare them for their examinations ahead, without putting them under any undue pressure. At this stage there really is nothing to worry about!

Now, on to the week's news!

Young Enterprise roles established



Congratulations to all those in the Lower 6 who have been selected onto the board of this year's Young Enterprise team. We have a wonderful group of 20 girls involved and we very much look forward to informing you of their product plans as they transpire but, suffice to say, they will be up and running in full sales mode in time for all the upcoming Christmas fairs. The key members are: Alyssa Gibbons (Managing Director), Emma Murphy (Operations Director), Emily Pike (Sales Director), Ellie Pile (Finance Director), Eleanor Lyons (Administration Director), Amanda Milligan

(Marketing Director) and Sara Al-Seaidy (IT Director). Combined with the rest of the team, we are sure they will be a force to be reckoned with!

Reading Zone Picture Book Competition success

Before the summer holiday some girls in Year 6, now in Upper 3, entered the Reading Zone Picture Book competition. Harleigh Fry submitted her own entry, and Susanna Hawkins and Honey Hubble entered as a team. We are delighted to say that Susanna's and Honey's picture book got as far as being shortlisted for the prize, and Harleigh's entry received some lovely feedback.

The judge Rachel Bright said that Harleigh's picture book, *Shy Girl*, was 'nicely structured and beautifully illustrated and it offered a great message about friendship'. Susanna's and Honey's picture book, *The Kind Mouse*, had 'a strong message about bullying', and she loved 'the moral that love and kindness are the most important things in life' and 'the idea of putting a heart to spot in every picture'. You can view information about the winners of the competition and more of Susanna's and Honey's feedback here https://www.readingzone.com/index.php?zone=sz&page=full_picture_book&id=3223.



All three girls put a tremendous amount of work into their entries and both picture books are available to view in the library on request. Well done Harleigh, Susanna and Honey!

Update from Ypres



Earlier this month we told how Mrs Smith had the honour of conducting ladies from the Chivenor and Lymstone Military Wives Choirs at the Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate in Ypres, but we neglected to give an update as to how it all went. So here is her report and our apologies for the tardiness in sharing it! “The MWC had been invited to participate and performed 'Only Remembered' as wreaths were laid in front of a huge crowd. The Band of the Royal Scots Guards was also there on the same evening and so the ceremony was even more special and poignant. Earlier in the day, the choir had been taken to both British and German cemeteries, including Tyne Cot where one of

the choir laid a wreath near the name of her great-great uncle who is remembered there. On the Saturday, the choir gave a concert at St George's Memorial Chapel in Ypres before travelling home the following day.”

MUN Conference at the College

On Saturday, 10 Sixth Formers attended the Exeter College Model United Nations Conference. For many of the girls it was their first experience of MUN, yet they performed splendidly. Representing India and China, they argued persuasively for the interests of China and India on a variety of committees including the Security Council, Human Rights, Economic, Middle East and the Environment.

In the afternoon they formed political alliances, first when dealing with a (fortunately imaginary) coup in Mexico and when debating resolutions formed in their committees.

Special mention must go to Amanda Milligan who, on her first conference with us, was awarded the Best Delegate award on the Economic and Social committee.



'Julie' at the Picturehouse



The Lower 6 Drama Class with Mrs Bellamy-Cooper went to see 'Julie', a National Theatre Live production at The Picturehouse on Tuesday. This outstanding modern re-telling of Strindberg's Classic 'Miss Julie' was written by Polly Stenham and directed by Carrie Cracknell. The show was highly emotionally charged, challenging, physical and intense; an exploration of privilege and class in 2018. Vanessa Kirby (*The Crown*) totally commanded the stage in this tour de force performance and it was another great opportunity to see modern work for the Lower 6.

Don't forget that the Upper 5 and Lower 6 Drama Students are off to Plymouth Theatre Royal to see Frantic Assembly's 'The Unreturning' next Tuesday 2 October. We will be leaving school at 6pm and returning at approximately 10.35pm and we look forward to yet another cracking performance in the drama calendar!

Tough game for the Under 13 Netball team

Our Under 13 netball team came up against some very tough opponents on Tuesday when meeting the Royal Grammar School Worcester in the first round of the Independent Schools Netball Cup. In the words of Mrs Fabian they were "very well drilled and talented" and although "our girls all worked incredibly hard and didn't give up for a second", the RGS team proved just too good. As we always say, you can't expect to win everything but learning to pick yourself up after a disappointing result is a key life lesson and the Under 13 team were certainly magnanimous in defeat!



Junior School Gymnastics



Our Junior School Squad Gymnasts have begun working on their competition floor routines at Exeter Gym Club this week, being taught by our wonderful Under 12 team who competed last year for the first time at the ISGA National Championships.

The girls are learning each other's routines in pairs, all choreographed for them by their coaches at the Exeter Gym Club.

This year we are hoping to enter more age groups into the British Schools Gymnastics Association Floor and Vault competitions and preparations are already under way in earnest!

Under 18 Hockey team off to a great start

Well done to the Under 18 hockey side who played an away game on Wednesday against the Millfield 3rd XI. It was a cracking match and a great start to the season with our girls just taking the edge and winning 2-1.



Hockey draw against Uffculme

The Under 14 hockey team played a great first match of the season last night against Uffculme School and it was the closest of games, finishing 0-0 on the final whistle.

There was some fantastic shows of talent with lots of end-to-end play from both teams and The Maynard girls will certainly have grown from the experience.

Hannah Sophia wins 'Imagine Devon' Photography Competition

Congratulations to Hannah Sophia Mulhauser (Upper 3) for winning the Under 16 category in the 'Imagine Devon' Photography Competition, run in conjunction with the Devon Wildlife Trust and Bills Opticians. At only 12-years old, this really is a remarkable effort and we hope she is enjoying her prize of a ZEISS Virtual Reality headset!



First Aiding for Year 4 and Year 6



Year 4 and Year 6 enjoyed separate and in-depth first aid courses on Tuesday with each one lasting nearly three hours for each form. Under the direction of Matt Upston from St. Luke's Science and Sports College, the girls had a great time and learned a considerable amount about saving lives including dealing with choking, serious bleeding, unconscious people who are still breathing and not breathing. They also watched a defibrillator in use and practised resuscitation with very lifelike mannequins!



As Claudia Eveling from Year 6 reports:

“After learning CPR (Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation) we did choking and you have to ask the person if they are choking and if they want help. If they say yes, tell them to cough five times. Then give them five backslaps and then five abdominal thrusts and carry on doing that.

We also learned how to put someone in the recovery position, not forgetting to check their pockets and roll them towards you. We learned about Drs.ABC which stands for Danger, Response, Shout, Airway, Breathing, CPR. I really enjoyed

our session and hope to do more in Senior School.”



Lovely Year 3 collaborative art

Year Three have been studying the work of Russian artist, Wassily Kandinsky, in their art lessons this term. They have been linking it to their own work in PHSCE and are currently putting a class book together with their own artistic observations. The class came up with some interesting comments to go into their book, along with thoughts about more of his works.

For their wonderful classroom display, inspired by Kandinsky, they used foam

board and acrylic paint with bright colours, carefully thinking about where to place the shapes for this abstract piece of art. Xiran Sun chose "Colourful Dreams" as the title, after some deep discussion....which was fun and insightful!

Forest School back up and running

The Reception girls enjoyed their Forest School session last Friday despite the blustery conditions.

They were treated to an autumn scavenger hunt which gave them a marvellous opportunity to explore the area but the highlight, as ever, were the somewhat obligatory toasted marshmallows on the camp fire!





The teddy bear music lesson

You would think that the bears would have more of a place in Forest School but they took to the indoors this week for a heart-warming music lesson with the Reception class led by Mrs Smith. Each of the girls chose their mystery guest from a bag filled with soft toys and they spent the rest of the session singing along whilst bouncing, stroking and jumping their bears to the music. A great time was had by all!

Wonderful Harvest Celebration in the Pre-Prep

Pre-Prep have been very busy over the past couple of weeks preparing for their Harvest Celebration Assembly. Reception did a wonderful performance of The Enormous Turnip, their debut on stage at The Maynard! This was followed by poetry recitals by Year 1 and 2 and a celebratory harvest song with Mrs Smith. The assembly was rounded off with a light hearted enactment of Click Clack Moo, Cows that Type, which we are sure was as much fun to watch as it was for the girls and staff to rehearse. We are so proud of the girls, and hope everyone enjoyed the show!



Paintballing fun for the Upper 5s



The Upper 5 year group enjoyed a special 'team building' trip to the Skirmish Paintballing at Stoke Canon Woods yesterday evening and it was hard to tell who was more competitive - the staff or the students! Mr Loosemore, Mr Tabb, Mrs Fanous and Miss Gwynne were certainly not holding back which served for some great bouts of shoot outs between the teams and a lot of laughter! A great time was had by all.

A career in the fashion industry - Biz Whizz

It was another full house at today's Biz Whizz, hosted by Rebecca Hooker, the CEO of Committed Clothing Company. Rebecca was recently voted as one of Exeter's 100 most influential women and juggles an incredibly busy life as a CEO, a street dance instructor and a mother. She imparted to the audience her very strong anti-bullying stance that is so inextricably woven into her brand. It was a fascinating talk and one that helped the girls appreciate how a career in fashion can transgress other, meaningful boundaries. "I believe that fashion can mean so much more than something you put on."



Holiday Code Camp

We are proud to be hosting one of the UK's first coding camps during the October half term. The three day course, from Wednesday 31 October to Friday 2 November, will teach boys and girls aged 7-12 years to code, create apps and improve their computational thinking in a fun and engaging way, ready to take on the digital world of the future!

Code camp began in Australia 5 years ago and since then has educated and inspired more than 40,000 children to code over 3 days of incredible excitement, fun and engagement. Every child will create their own app to take away with them at the end of the programme. Code Camp has been sponsored by HP, and has won numerous awards as they've grown to inspire the next generation of tech superstars.

For more information, or if you would like your child to be a part of this incredible learning experience, please go to www.codecamp.co.uk/maynard.

Coding is always more fun with friends so this season Code Camp are offering a group booking discount - book as a group of 4 for £699 (under £175 per child and a group saving of over £200!) Click [here](#) to take advantage of this great offer.

Code Camp will be going on sale later today and is open to all children whether at The Maynard or not - any questions please contact amy@codecamp.co.uk or 07454 022755.

Have a lovely weekend!



Sarah Dunn
Headmistress
