



21 September 2018

Dear Parents

The chill in the air this morning was a reminder that we are approaching the autumnal equinox: the long march towards winter has officially begun. As the days grow shorter, we will be asking everyone to be vigilant on their journeys to and from school.

A sure sign that the seasons are changing is the arrival of your official invitation to the famous annual Channing Fireworks event. This year will be the best yet, so I urge you to note the date and buy tickets for all the family soon. This is a party for the whole school community with great food and music and what is always one of the best displays in the capital. I do hope you will join us. ¡Adelante!

Channing parents are the busiest: the Channing Association not only organises the fireworks - and do let your reps know if you'd like to help out - but the AGM is also on the horizon, on Monday 1 October, with a coffee morning for Year 10 parents in the Senior School Dining Room next Friday. Please do come and say hello! I enjoyed seeing Year 10 and 12 parents on Monday evening as they listened to the Heads of Year offering guidance at the start of Key Stage 4 and 5, and had the chance to meet their daughter's new tutors.

I'm also enjoying getting to know our Year 7 pupils. I try and see four or five every day and just three weeks in, those I have chatted to in 7G seem to have adapted brilliantly to secondary school life. They tell me about their families, pets, hobbies, ambitions and also how they get to and from school. I am impressed when I hear that they take the bus, tube or best of all, **walk**, and always feel a little sorry for those who are driven to school. I know for some families, using a car is the easiest option, but could I urge all car users to think again? Not only because of air pollution - every journey contributes to the toxic fumes and particles we all have to breathe - but for well being in general. Why not drop your daughter at a tube station or bus stop? You'll be doing your bit for the environment as well as encouraging her to be independent and to take some exercise. In addition, there are going to be various road closures in Highgate next week, so make next week the week to make alternative arrangements for the journey to and from school.

The Chair of Governors, Mrs Leslie and I attended a thought-provoking conference this week on “How Governors, Heads and Senior Leaders can work together to set clear educational strategies that support great pupil outcomes.” We both came away with a very clear understanding of the many challenges ahead for the sector and optimistic that Channing is well-placed and well-prepared for the future.

I attended a remarkable Careers lecture this week. Hannah Hill, a Channing alumna (Class of 2009) spoke to a packed Founders’ Hall about her work as a Civil Servant. She spoke of her passion for politics and international relations, the year she had spent in Berlin perfecting her German, and shared her enthusiasm for her work. Her current department? The Department for Exiting the European Union. I asked if we should be optimistic. She said: “Yes.”

May your weekend be filled with light, warmth and optimism.

Best wishes

Mrs B M Elliott

Headmistress

Girls Enjoying Success

Well done to another Channing pupil on her excellent result in Modern Foreign Languages: **Catrin Papanastassiou Jenkins** in Year 9 who has achieved an A* in Modern Greek GCSE.

Congratulations also to **Amrit Swatch** in Year 10 who achieved a distinction in her Grade 5 Clarinet.

MFL* News

This week saw the launch of Mandarin as an Enrichment activity for Sixth Form students and as a lunchtime club for Year 9 pupils.

In line with Channing's focus on modern foreign languages*, the introduction of Mandarin will provide a further opportunity for those keen to strengthen their linguistic portfolio. The classes will be taught by Mrs Sunny Hillier, whom we are delighted to welcome into the Channing community.

Geography News

As part of their GCSE studies the Year 11 geographers went to Flatford Mill last weekend where they carried out an investigation examining the downstream changes along the River Brett. They explored elements of the Bradshaw model including the width, depth and velocity of the river at three different sites. Back in class the students will now start presenting their data, analysing their results, drawing conclusions and evaluating their investigation. It was a fantastic field trip and we were lucky to have a sunny day for collecting the data!



Stubbers!

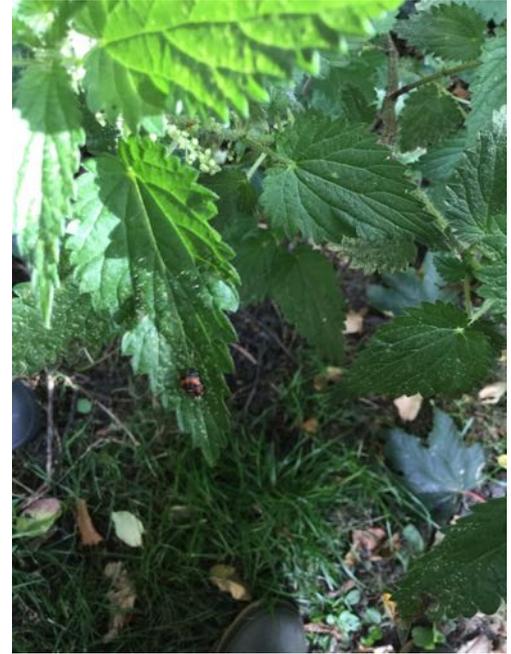
Last Friday all of Year 7 went on their activity bonding day at the outward bound site Stubbers. Students enjoyed learning to raft build, kayak, create their own campfire and den and they also took part in a variety of team building activities. The girls had a great time doing the activities and making new friends and they all showed brilliant teamwork skills!



News from the Junior School

This week Year 1 were Bug Hunting! The girls searched under log piles and rotten wood to find the best bug hideouts! We found earwigs, centipedes, worms and slugs. The spiders were also out in abundance this Autumn! The girls were very excited to collect them in their sample pots and look at them through magnifying glasses.

Before leaving, we made sure that all insects were returned safely. Great bug hunting, Year 1!



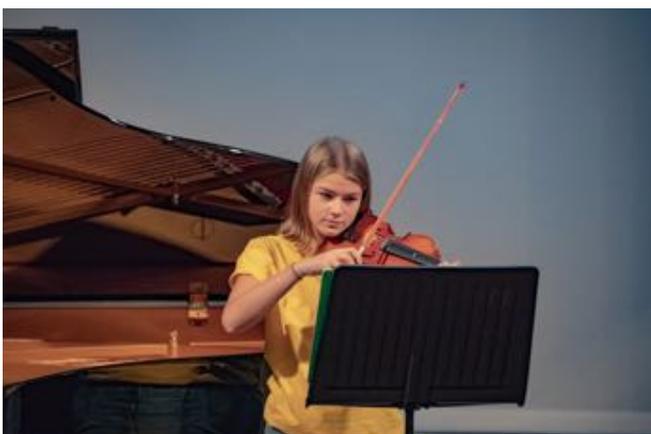
Music at Lunchtime

Well done Charlotte Claypoole, Ava Klass and Zoe Quartey for their performances today, and bravo to five of our Y12 students who performed Abba songs: Juliette Taylor and Emily Poncia sang 'One of Us' and Riana Chandaria and Tilly Sumners sang 'Super Trouper' accompanied by Martha Sayer. Well done to all our performers!

You can listen back here:

<https://soundcloud.com/channing-school/lunchtime-concert-21092018>

Next week it is 'Vocals Only'. Parents are always welcome - 1pm Friday PAB.



Week Ahead

Monday 24 September

European Day of Languages Assembly at the Senior School with guest speaker Baroness Coussins
A Level Geography Trip (evening) to the Prince Charles Cinema

Tuesday 25 September

Wednesday 26 September

18.00 - 20.00 Sixth Form Open Evening PAB

Thursday 27 September

Year 12 Biology Trip to Epping Forest

18.00 Year 7 Tutor Meet & Greet & Study Skills Evening - New Sports Hall

Senior School: Great European Bake Off

Friday 28 September

Year 12 & 13 Art Trip to Sicily

8.30 Year 10 Coffee Morning Senior School Dining Room

Join the conversation



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