



11 January 2019

Dear Parents

Happy New Year! I hope you all managed to enjoy the festive season and are starting 2019 with enthusiasm! With the dark mornings and evenings, ongoing gloom and doom in the news, it would be easy to slip into a negative frame of mind. A new year, however, always offers an opportunity for a fresh start, so whether you are having an alcohol- or meat-free January, or simply aiming to make this year better than the last, I wish you every success.

Today has been 11+ entrance exam day and we welcomed hundreds of eager 10 and 11 year olds to Channing this morning for our new-style test. Gone are the Maths and English papers of old, and instead, a series of timed, multiple-choice challenges, which looked pretty tricky to me! The aim of the London 11+ Consortium schools is a noble one: to reduce the anxiety surrounding entrance tests and the amount of preparation (tutoring!) required to perform well.

The first round of 4+ testing has been taking place this week at the Junior School, too. This is why the future is bright! So many wonderful youngsters, all keen and ready to learn. I used to be a bit cynical about “testing” four year olds, and some who are still only three, but I was enlightened some years ago when I attended one of the assessment days. The very experienced staff at the Junior School set a series of tasks and activities and observe how these small children go about undertaking them. It is fascinating and illuminating: at 4+, we are looking for a girl who is “ready to learn”; at 11+, we are looking for ability and potential on top of that.

Apart from selecting the next generation of Channing pupils, there is so much to look forward to this term. This year’s school play, ‘Arabian Nights’ is next week. Please do come and see our students in the dazzling setting of the Arundel Centre, next Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday. Follow this link for tickets:

<https://www.channing.co.uk/events/arabian-nights/>

I’m delighted to report the safe arrival of the English Department’s Mrs Leigh’s son, George, on New Year’s Eve. We welcome Ms Alice Couborough to Channing to teach some of her classes as maternity cover, and welcome back to Teaching Assistant, Ms Fahmida Sarkar and Ms Ana Moloney who will be teaching some of Year 1 and Year 5 classes at the Junior School.

We also welcome Adina Marcu to Channing. Adina joins Elaine Ingram in the Senior School Office, so when you call, you will now have either Adina, Elaine or Ebony to deal with your queries.

Scroll down for news of our first major event of the new year, the annual Certificates Evening, when the A level and GCSE certificates are presented to Channing students, applauded by proud parents and staff. I have to say that the class of 2018, now establishing themselves at universities from Edinburgh to New York and Cambridge to Birmingham, Manchester, Bristol and Durham, to mention but a few, all looked so well! It was wonderful to hear their stories and to know that their Channing years had given them such a strong foundation...and that they go on "**enjoying success**".

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes

Mrs B M Elliott

Headmistress

Girls Enjoying Success

MFL News

Congratulations to Sasha Butler in Year 7 who was our final Linguist of the Month for 2018.

Her commitment to and talent for Spanish make her a very worthy recipient.



Music News

Many congratulations to all our pupils that took ABRSM examinations at the end of last term. Clearly our candidates had worked very hard and have achieved excellent results with a very high number of Distinctions! Of particular note in the Senior School is Kate Pennington's Distinction for ARSM (diploma) Cello. This is a remarkable achievement for a school age pupil, and doubly so as Kate gained an ARSM for singing in the previous term. Additional highlights include: Charlotte Woolley grade VIII Violin with Distinction, Sophia Sutliff 143/150 and Adele Ryan 142/150 for their very high marks at grade I piano and guitar respectively, Constantina Papadopoulos' 138 for grade VII Bassoon, Yasmin Byng's 140 for grade VI singing and Emily Poncia's 136 for grade VII singing. At the Junior School, Yutao Wang's (Y5) 136 for grade IV Cello and Zainab Alam's (Y6) Distinction for grade V Violin are excellent achievements and notable distinctions were also gained by Junior School pupils Charmari Feeney, Gabriella Pawley, Alice Mountain, Alice Rogers and Amelie Cedar. Well done, musicians!

In addition, Otilie Whiteman in Year 8, who took her examination externally, achieved grade VII with Distinction for Violin.

Medical Discussion Group

On 8th January the Year 12 and 13 Medical Discussion Group welcomed Dr Sayer to talk about being a GP. In an absorbing talk she highlighted her career in medicine, and the advantages of being a General Practitioner. Dr Sayer discussed the wide diversity of patients and their needs that she encounters during her working day, and under her careful guidance, students discussed real case studies and made decisions using the four pillars of medical ethics. We are very much hoping that she finds time in her busy schedule to return to Channing later this year to share more of her advice and knowledge.



Sports News

The Year 7 Indoor Athletics team took part in the first match of the Haringey Championships this week at St Thomas More School. The girls ran, jumped, threw and relayed themselves into 4th place with the second match taking place in two weeks time. The team is only a short margin behind the top three. Congratulations to the team on their impressive performance!



Certificates Evening

On Tuesday, we welcomed the GCSE & A Level classes of 2018 to our annual Certificates Evening, a wonderful event to celebrate the achievements of all our students in public examinations. Our guest speaker was Channing Alumna, Rebecca Worboys, former Channing head girl and now the youngest economic advisor at the Cabinet Office. Last year's Year 13 students came back to be presented with their A level certificates and to catch up with their friends' news of first terms at university, Art College or gap year adventures.

Year 12 students provided a wonderful musical interlude before joining their peers to receive their GCSE certificates.



Rebecca (Class of 2007) spoke with real passion about her life experiences over the past twelve years, and expressed her gratitude for the many advantages she felt she had been given by Channing. She and her sister Meriel were also astonished to see the fabulous new facilities, and both said how lucky the current and future generations of Channing girls are to be at the school in 2019.

Also accompanying Rebecca were her parents, longtime Channing Association supporters, and not least, 8 month old Sebastian, Rebecca's son.

Congratulations to all the classes of 2018 and all the best for the future!



Curryball Returns

The long awaited Curry Ball will return to Channing to welcome in the new year, on Tues 5 February 2019 from 6:45 - 8pm in the New Sports Hall (NSH).

For those who have not yet had a chance to take part, this event is held once a term at the Senior School for fathers who like to meet up, play football and enjoy a curry at a nearby restaurant.

All fathers are welcome to join, whether a newbie or veteran(!). It's a great atmosphere and a fun way for all to get involved in the Channing community.

Should you wish to join the next match on 5 February, please complete this [google form Dads' Curry Ball](#), and the Development Department will contact you with further details nearer the time.

Should you have any queries in the interim, please do not hesitate to contact Jade Francis in the Development Office on the details below.

T: 020 8340 2328

E: development@channing.co.uk

Calling all MUMS and FRIENDS who enjoy a Curry and keeping fit!

A new year and a new venture! Curry Ball was originally established in 2014 for Channing dads to be even more involved in the school community, as well as provide a chance for them to meet fellow dads and keep fit.

Very much in the spirit of Girls Enjoying Success, we thought it only right to invite mums, Channing Alumnae and friends of Channing to play a friendly netball match, followed by a curry and beer, (or glass of vino), at a local restaurant.

We would like to host a Curry Netball match on Tuesday 5 March 2019, from 6-7:30pm (warm up and rules review from 6-6:30pm), in the New Sports Hall. What better way to keep fit and get even more involved in the Channing Community!

Refreshments and snacks provided throughout, as well as a welcoming and jovial atmosphere!

Please complete the google form here [Mums' Curry Ball](#) , to register your interest and prospective menu choices.

Further information to follow nearer to the time. Should you have any queries in the interim, please do not hesitate to contact Jade Francis in the Development Office on the details below.

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Notice

Please will all students and their families take great care when travelling to and from school , especially in the dark. Be vigilant and keep a close eye on your possessions. The advice is **NOT** to have phones visible. There have been several muggings recently in the area: please do be careful.

Week Ahead

Monday 14 January

14.30 - 17.00 Senior School Drama Play Technical & Dress Rehearsal

Tuesday 15 January

13.30 - 15.30 Senior School Play: Arabian Nights Matinee Performance

19.00 Senior School Play: Arabian Nights Evening Performance

Wednesday 16 January

19.00 Senior School Play: Arabian Nights Evening Performance

Thursday 17 January

19.00 Senior School Play: Arabian Nights Evening Performance

Friday 18 January

13.40 Year 11 Careers: Employment Law Talk with Catrina Smith

Join the conversation



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