



1 February 2019

Dear Parents

Some schools occasionally have an artist or musician “in residence” so that pupils might experience more closely the creative work of artists engaged in their craft, and so that they may learn from experts in their field. I am looking forward to next week when Channing will have an entire theatre company in residence! In recognition of the benefits of learning a modern foreign language, support for our Adelante strategy, and our commitment to performing arts, the Cervantes Theatre Company - whose own theatre is in Southwark (www.cervantestheatre.com) is going to be “in residence” in the Arundel Centre. We have guests coming from far and wide (including some who are flying in!) to see the acclaimed production of “La Casa de Bernarda Alba” by Spain’s leading 20th century dramatist and poet, Federico Garcia Lorca. Fingers crossed the weather does not prevent the audiences from making their way to what promises to be an excellent show. There are very few tickets left: follow this link <https://boxoffice.cervantestheatre.com/CervantesTheatre.dll/>

We have now completed all the interviews for the 11+ process for entry to Channing in September 2019. I meet all the candidates and they ask me some interesting questions. One frequently asked question is “What do you like most about being a Headmistress?” and I have to say, meeting all these youngsters has to be right up there: in an age of political uncertainty and division, and endless social media pressure, I find it both reassuring and uplifting that we have a new generation of young women, eager to learn, positive, enthusiastic, articulate, ambitious and frankly, a lot of fun! I am only sorry I don’t have places for all of them (well, almost all...there were one or two who made it clear we were a very long way down their list of preferred options!). Our greatest ambassadors and advocates are you and your daughters, so if you have friends who receive an offer and who might be in two minds about the benefits of a Channing education, you know what to do!

Perhaps send them a link to this newsletter? You may not believe me when I say that the reports that follow are just a few of the highlights of the week, but ‘tis true. There is so much we could share but simply don’t have time for. Let me just say that the highlight for me this week was catching the last quarter of the U15 Netball Plate competition on Monday (see report below). It brought back memories of my sons’ basketball careers, and the extreme excitement/tension/stress when teams are evenly matched and the scores flip one way, then the other. The play was end-to-end, and frankly, the opposition were huge! But our players were tenacious, determined, and worked so well together to secure a last-minute win. And my blood pressure has only just returned to normal. Well done, girls!

I know lots of people enjoy a romp in the snow and I hope you might find a patch or two to play in this weekend. My thanks to everyone, however, who made it in to school today, especially the Bursar and his groundmen who were on site before 6 a.m. making the paths safe.

I hope there isn't a polar vortex coming to Highgate anytime soon. Please take care on your journeys to and from school.

Have a good weekend.

Best wishes

Mrs B M Elliott

Headmistress

Channing in the snow



CHANNING CONFIDENTIAL

We are always looking at ways to improve our communication systems. Could I remind parents that if they have something of a confidential or sensitive nature (pertaining to their daughter) that they need to discuss, they can always make an appointment to speak to me or Mr Underwood, the Deputy Head.

Girls Enjoying Success

History News

On Monday a group of 20 Sixth Formers and 4 staff enjoyed a wonderful trip and screening of Mary Queen of Scots at the Crouch End Cinema! A great evening was had by all!

Australian High Commission

On Wednesday evening, Channing girls were the guests of the Australian High Commission. On arrival we were able to take in the fantastic architecture from the grand chandelier (of Gringotts Bank) to the spectacular (Australian) marble staircase spiralling up. We were addressed by 6 diplomats to gain a much greater understanding of what life is like as a diplomat, the different ways to become a diplomat and how they found what job they were interested in. We also learnt about the Foreign & Commonwealth Office and lastly, the floor was opened up to questions. This was such an incredible opportunity that all the Channing girls, teachers and parents will always remember. Thank you to the Channing parents who kindly arranged this event for us! 'It was absolutely fantastic' was the overall conclusion!



Musical Theatre Evening

On Monday we had a whistle stop tour of Musical Theatre in the Arundel Centre that included show stopping solo numbers (taken from shows as diverse as *Calamity Jane*, *Oklahoma*, *My Fair Lady*, *Hairspray*, *West Side Story* and *Grease*) sung by students in readiness for their Music Theatre examinations later this term. If Nura Bentata, Salma Ansari, Sophie Dain, Freya Calder, Alia Khalouf, Saskia Kirkegaard, Sophie Bremen, Alice Gray, Charis Bone, Ria Menon, Georgina Grossman, Scarlett Durling, Julia Conti-Gemes, Lara Dailey, Talia Nabarro, Matilda Sumners and Rebecca Fenner can impress the examiner in the same way as they enchanted and delighted the audience I can't wait to see the results! The Brunner Show Choir brought the show to a close with a fabulous foot-tapping medley from *La La Land*.

Do listen to the show by clicking on this link to Soundcloud (or paste it into your browser).

<https://soundcloud.com/channing-school/music-theatre-evening-2901-19>

TeenTech

Yesterday, a group of Year 9 and 10 TeenTech students gave an engaging and interactive talk to our Year 6 pupils. The TeenTech students have been working on scientific innovations, aimed at making the world a better place and are hoping to reach the finals of the TeenTech awards with their creations. They spent the morning inspiring the Year 6 students with their projects, which included: wireless charging for electric cars and an app that aims to reduce food waste. Ms Marmar, TeenTech Coordinator, enthused the Year 6 students to brainstorm ideas of how they think science can be used to make life more fun, safer or better. The TeenTech senior students then acted as mentors to the Year 6 girls, which resulted in inventions such as a smart pillow with heat sensors and another team who thought up an idea of how to tackle plastic waste. Through this activity the Senior and Junior schools hope to work collaboratively to promote more women in the field of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. Good luck to all our girls in their scientific ventures.



Netball News

The U15 Netball team played in the round of 16 in the Independent Schools Netball Cup Plate competition against Bedford Girls School. It was a tense match with both teams competing evenly throughout the match. In the last quarter Channing were 4 goals behind but they managed to fight back to eventually win the match 52-50. The team will now compete in the quarter final stage against Eastbourne College.

Year 7 played against South Hampstead High School at Channing.

A Team lost 4-11

B Team won 3-0

C Team lost 4-7

Well done to Mia Levy, Poppy Waltasaari, Amel Ofili and Maddie Horsell for their excellent match play!

Volleyball friendly vs St Thomas More

On Thursday afternoon, two Channing volleyball teams played a friendly match against St Thomas More School. The A team played a strong match which saw some fantastic rallies and superb serving from both sides. For many players in the B team, this was their first ever competitive volleyball match - and certainly not their last one! The afternoon was a great success and a wonderful opportunity for all teams involved to put their skills into practice.

News from the Junior School

Sports News

Last Thursday **Y5** had a netball and football fixture against Sarum Hall. The netballers are growing in confidence and started the game by taking the lead and never looked back. The final score was 4-0. The footballers had their first outing and there was much excitement. They battled hard and, although they lost, Miss Bolton was pleased with their determination and perseverance.

Yesterday, we travelled to Belmont for a Cross Country meet. In cold and muddy conditions the girls all ran extremely well. Notably, Lucy Johnson finished 4th in the Y6 race!



Channing were also given the chance to play at the Tottenham Hotspurs football tournament on Friday 25th January. It was a freezing cold day and understandably it took the girls a while to warm up. The quality of their defending was apparent throughout but unfortunately they were unable to put the ball in the opposing net. The girls drew their first game 0-0. The next game was a tough one, without Catherine Stobart and her spectacular diving saves the score would have been a lot higher than 3-0. Our last game was tight right until the last second. We missed a few golden opportunities to score and the other school was able to take their only chance to slot past our goalkeeper. Despite the results, the girls played excellently, demonstrating great skills and teamwork. Well done to all the girls who represented the school: Catherine Stobart (c), Amelie Conway, Eve Cronkshaw, Libby Mirchandani-Whiteside, Francesca Poulton, Scarlett Santi, Tanvee Sharma and Lauren Warshaw.



IG Chinese New Year Assembly

On Wednesday morning, IG performed an excellent assembly all about Chinese New Year. They shared some Chinese customs and traditions for celebrating the New Year. The girls explained that 2019 is the Year of the Pig. Those born in the Year of the Pig are honest & helpful, problem solvers, they forgive others easily and do not get into arguments. They then performed the story of the Chinese Zodiac, in which each year was allocated to a particular animal that took part in a race. The girls sang a beautiful song about Lanterns and performed a fabulous Chinese Fan Dance.



Year ICR Assembly

Year ICR did an amazing class assembly about their topic on toys. They acted out the story of Lost In The Toy Museum and added many facts about toys and forces. They finished with a wonderful dance to 'You've Got A Friend In Me'.



Lion King Workshop

Ahead of the hotly anticipated KS2 Production of 'The Lion King' this year, the pupils in Year 6 eagerly participated in a Lion King workshop on Thursday last week. Miss Conway and visiting musical director, Jenny Gould, encouraged the girls to work on their stage presence and voice projection skills, singing African chants from the show, as well as drumming rhythms and African dance. All the girls left feeling excited and eager to begin the audition process and then undertake their rehearsals in earnest.



Euston Foodbank

Year 4 Form Captains delivered 107kg of food to the Euston Foodbank on Wednesday. Thank you to all parents who contributed. Your kind donations will help many people in need.



Walk-a-thon

On the 13th of January Morgan Dropkin and her family and friends participated in a 5k walk-a-thon, which she organised, along with her mum, in order to raise money for the charity KidsTime Barnet. This charity provides a safe space for families who experience parental mental illness to talk about their issues, and allows the children and parents a chance to socialise with others in a somewhat similar situation to them. These workshops also give the families a chance to learn more about mental illness.

Please see the JustGiving page - linked below. Morgan and her family will greatly appreciate your support for this important cause. Thank you!

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/5k-for-5k>

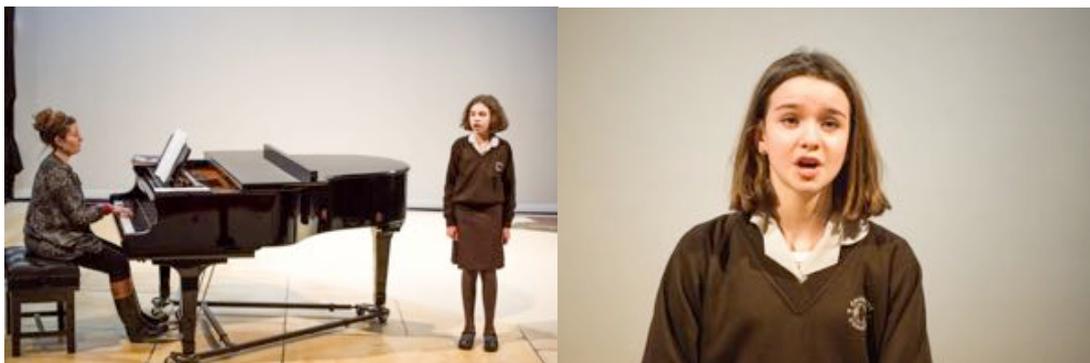
Music at Lunchtime

Hot on the heels of Monday's Music Theatre Evening, today's Music at Lunchtime was a purely 'Vocals Only' affair that featured Annabel Brod, Eloise Neil, Freya Randall, and Alice Gray. They all sang magnificently!

If the burgeoning strength of our Vocal Studies department is anything to go by we can look forward to a truly rousing 'Hallelujah' Chorus at the Choral Concert later this term!

You can listen to the audio by clicking on the link below (or pasting it into your browser).

<https://soundcloud.com/channing-school/sets/lunchtime-concert-010219>



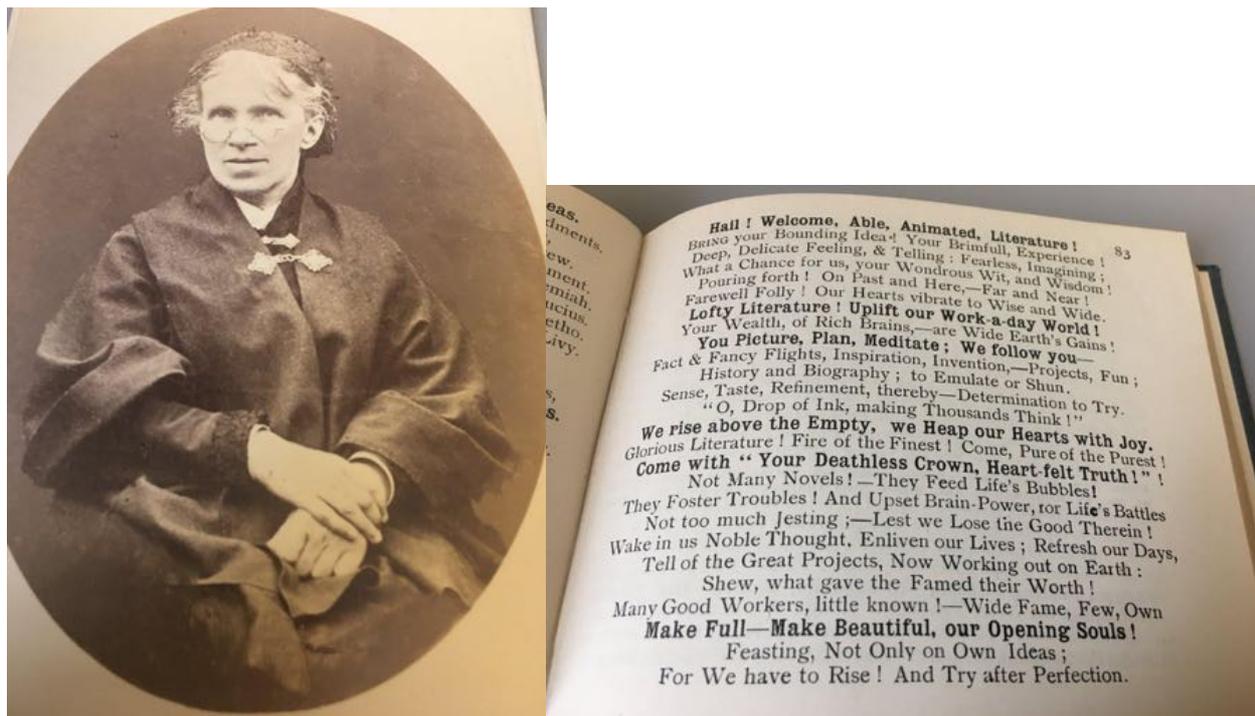
Alumnae News

Throwback Thursdays will bring you news straight from the Channing Archives, every Thursday!

It's amazing to see and learn what some of the students, teachers and friends of Channing were doing many years ago.

If you have any literature, programmes or photos of the school from your time as a student, please contact the Alumnae Department at alumnae@channing.co.uk.

From [@ChanningSchool](#) archives as part of [#ThrowbackThursday](#) and to coincide with National Storytelling Week, [@sfs_uk](#), we have been enjoying reading some of the works of one of our founders, Miss Matilda Sharpe. [#GirlsEnjoyingSuccess @GSAUK](#)



Curryball Returns!

Just a reminder that the long awaited Curry Ball will return to Channing to welcome in the new year, on Tuesday 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](#), and the Development Department will contact you with further details shortly.

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

Best Wishes,

Channing Development Department

Week Ahead

Monday 4 February

14.30 Matinee The Cervantes Theatre: La Casa de Bernarda Alba in The Arundel Centre

15.00 - 18.00 Senior School Athletic Championship at Lee Valley

19.30 The Cervantes Theatre: La Casa de Bernarda Alba in The Arundel Centre

Tuesday 5 February

Chinese New Year

Safer Internet Day

Year 9 DPT/Men Vaccinations

14.30 Matinee The Cervantes Theatre: La Casa de Bernarda Alba in The Arundel Centre

15.15 - 20.00 Year 12 French Debating Competition at St Paul's Girls School

18.30 - 20.00 Senior School Dads Curry Ball, NSH

19.30 The Cervantes Theatre: La Casa de Bernarda Alba in The Arundel Centre

Wednesday 6 February

Year 7, 8 and 9 School Play Auditions

11.35 - 12.25 Year 10 Careers Carousel, FH

14.30 Matinee The Cervantes Theatre: La Casa de Bernarda Alba in The Arundel Centre

15.55 - 18.30 Year 12 & 13 Geography Trip to Royal Geography Society

16.00 Year 7, 8 & 9 Football vs SHHS at Channing

19.30 The Cervantes Theatre: La Casa de Bernarda Alba in The Arundel Centre

Thursday 7 February

Year 9, 10 & 11 Intermediate Maths Challenge

19.30 The Cervantes Theatre: La Casa de Bernarda Alba in The Arundel Centre

Friday 8 February

Senior School Music Theatre Exams

14.30 Matinee The Cervantes Theatre: La Casa de Bernarda Alba in The Arundel Centre

19.30 The Cervantes Theatre: La Casa de Bernarda Alba in The Arundel Centre

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