



15 February 2019

Dear Parents

Spring is in the air! Hasn't the sunshine brought some welcome relief from the usual winter gloom?

I had very mixed feelings today about the "Strike 4 Climate Change" demonstration happening up and down the UK. On the one hand, as you would expect, I am always very unhappy about pupils missing their lessons. On the other, as several so eloquently proclaimed: what's the point of studying for a future that looks so bleak? So I applaud this call for action and am proud that Channing pupils are demanding that governments prioritise climate change. I wonder what it will take for global leaders to wake up to the reality of the consequences of their inaction? If we could just persuade Trump/Xi Jinping/Putin and any other persons of influence to think about the planet rather than their own small piece of it...

I wish I were more influential: I have tried, many times, to persuade those members of our community who insist on ferrying Channing pupils to and from school in cars to desist but will they listen? They will not. As I write this, the road outside is bumper to bumper jammed with cars. The sun may be shining but the air is pretty thick with fumes. The smell of burning brake pads is sometimes overwhelming as the traffic crawls up and down Highgate Hill, and I wonder how much damage is being done to children's lungs. And how about MY lungs?

Word reached me of an accident earlier in the week when a big black car tried to do a U-turn - having dropped off Channing pupils - taking out a cyclist and a motorbike in the process.

I suppose it's all part of the same scenario, isn't it? Protest as much as you want about climate change, just as long as it doesn't inconvenience me. Encourage people to use public transport or walk to school, as long as it doesn't inconvenience me. Ask parents not to drive/park dangerously? Go ahead - as long as it doesn't inconvenience me.

Is that what we, the grown-ups, have become? The ME generation?

Four ideals underpin a Channing education: we aim to inspire scholarship, independence, integrity and altruism. We know what we want for our young people, but if we don't model "the change we want to see", we really might be on the road to nowhere. (and preferably, not in a car)

As one parent pointed out: “if all the global ice melts...Channing will be a coastal school with a short walk down the hill to the shore by the Whittington Hospital - quite a thought.”

So this half term, maybe the time has come to listen to our young people and to join them in demanding action.

Have a good break.

Best wishes

Mrs B M Elliott

Headmistress

Girls Enjoying Success

Sports News

Swimming

Sophie Murray (10M) competed in the Middlesex Youth (14+) Championships at the Olympic pool in Stratford and came away with 3 medals from the 4 events she took part in - 2 silvers for 200m butterfly and 400m freestyle, and a bronze for 200m freestyle.

Also just before Christmas, Sophie swam in swimming's English National Winter Championships 2018 in Sheffield, in which Olympians such as Siobhan-Marie O'Connor and James Guy also competed. She was one of only a handful of 14 year olds in the country who had qualified to take part in her event: the women's 200m butterfly. Congratulations, Sophie on your success in the pool!

Athletics

Five students took part in the Haringey Indoor Athletics Championships at Lee Valley Indoor Athletics Centre. It was a keenly contested meet with 8 schools taking part, as well as a wonderful opportunity to compete indoors in such a fantastic venue. Congratulations to all of the girls who took part and especially to:

Millie Crane who won the Year 10 60 metres in 8.4 sec

Zara Coles who won the Year 10 200 metres in 28.4 sec

Alice Metcalf who won the Year 9 800m in 2min 36sec



MFL News

Anna Mitchell in 11M is January's Linguist of the Month. Anna has been awarded this title as she has consistently worked hard and achieved excellent results in French. She has also been top of the **This is Language** leaderboard for the last few weeks showing her commitment to the language. Well done, Anna, and keep it up!



CyberFirst Girls' Competition

Year 8 students have this half-term been participating in the CyberFirst Girls Competition, a national competition organised by the National Cyber Security Centre at GCHQ.

The competition aims to provide a fun but challenging environment to encourage and inspire the next generation of young women to consider a future career in cyber security.

Katherine Sarfaty, 8G, has been selected to enter the second stage of the competition, which involves a four-day residential CyberFirst Defenders course at an undisclosed location! Here, Katherine has summarised what participation in the competition has entailed:

“There were four question types in the competition. Each one was focussed around a different type of problem solving skills including logic and coding, security, ciphers, and mathematics. The answer was called a “flag”. To decode and encode, we used a tool called CyberChef (also known as the Cyber Swiss Army Knife), which is a web app for encryption, encoding, compression and data analysis.

In the security section (my favourite) there were a number of questions with links to websites. One of these websites was seemingly blank at first, but then when I went into the Javascript code of the website and edited it a sentence showed up: “Encrypt the year that GCHQ was founded using an SHA-1 hash.” I looked it up on the internet and the date was the first of November, 1919. I used CyberChef to find the SHA-1 hash of 1919 and put the result into the flag box.

We are incredibly proud of all the Year 8 girls for their endeavours in the CyberFirst Girls Competition, and congratulate Katherine in particular - good luck on the course, Katherine!

Careers News

Talk on Financial Regulation - Sixth Form

Richard Boardman, father of Amelia FIG and Natalia 7SP, kindly joined Economics students again to explain the intricacies of financial regulation. We are grateful to him for coming in again and kindly sharing his valuable insights.

Talk on Allied Health Professions - Year 10

Did you know that you can practise as an orthoptist helping correct children's vision directly after a 3 year degree course? Last week, Year 10 discovered the vast range of potential careers in healthcare, including prosthetics and therapeutic radiography, thanks to Ali, Outreach Officer for the Allied Health Professions.



Young Enterprise students visit the City

Nine students currently competing in the Young Enterprise programme learnt about the range of careers in the field of investment management and the skills needed to succeed - a wonderful morning of insights organised by Quilter. In the afternoon, after hearing practical tips for success, they networked with over 100 City professionals in the beautiful surroundings of the East Wintergarden in Canary Wharf. Our thanks to the Lord Mayor's Appeal and **She Can Be** for organising this excellent event.



Private Equity

Advent International and Level 20 kindly hosted six Year 12 Maths/Economics students today to provide an introduction to private equity and venture capital investment. After a Dragon's Den style activity in the Board Room, students left informed and inspired.



Music News

Channing Chamber Music Evening

It was certainly a case of 'If Music be the food of love, play on' for Valentines' Day as Thursday night saw a fabulous evening of Chamber music. The eclectic mix that made up this programme really demonstrated the wealth and depth of some of the Chamber Music that happens here. From the lively Cremona Strings to the Piano Trio playing a sublime and deeply moving movement of a Shostakovich Piano Trio, the Year 9 String Quartet with Mendelssohn, and another foursome, this time with an offering from Mozart's Oboe Quartet. A String Quintet with Peter Martin's rhythmic 'Intrada', the Flute Ensemble with an arrangement of the ubiquitous 'Marriage of Figaro' and a wind nonet playing Howard Blake, yes, he of The Snowman fame, performing the first movement from his Serenade for Winds. The Wind Quintet brought the evening to a close with two movements from Mozart's 'Gran Partita'. Quite a feat to have now performed every movement from this work. Well done all - a really impressive evening, and only a month until you are all in action again at the Choral Concert.....

Do click on the link below to listen to the audio on Soundcloud.

<https://soundcloud.com/channing-school/sets/chamber-music-evening-14th-february-2019>

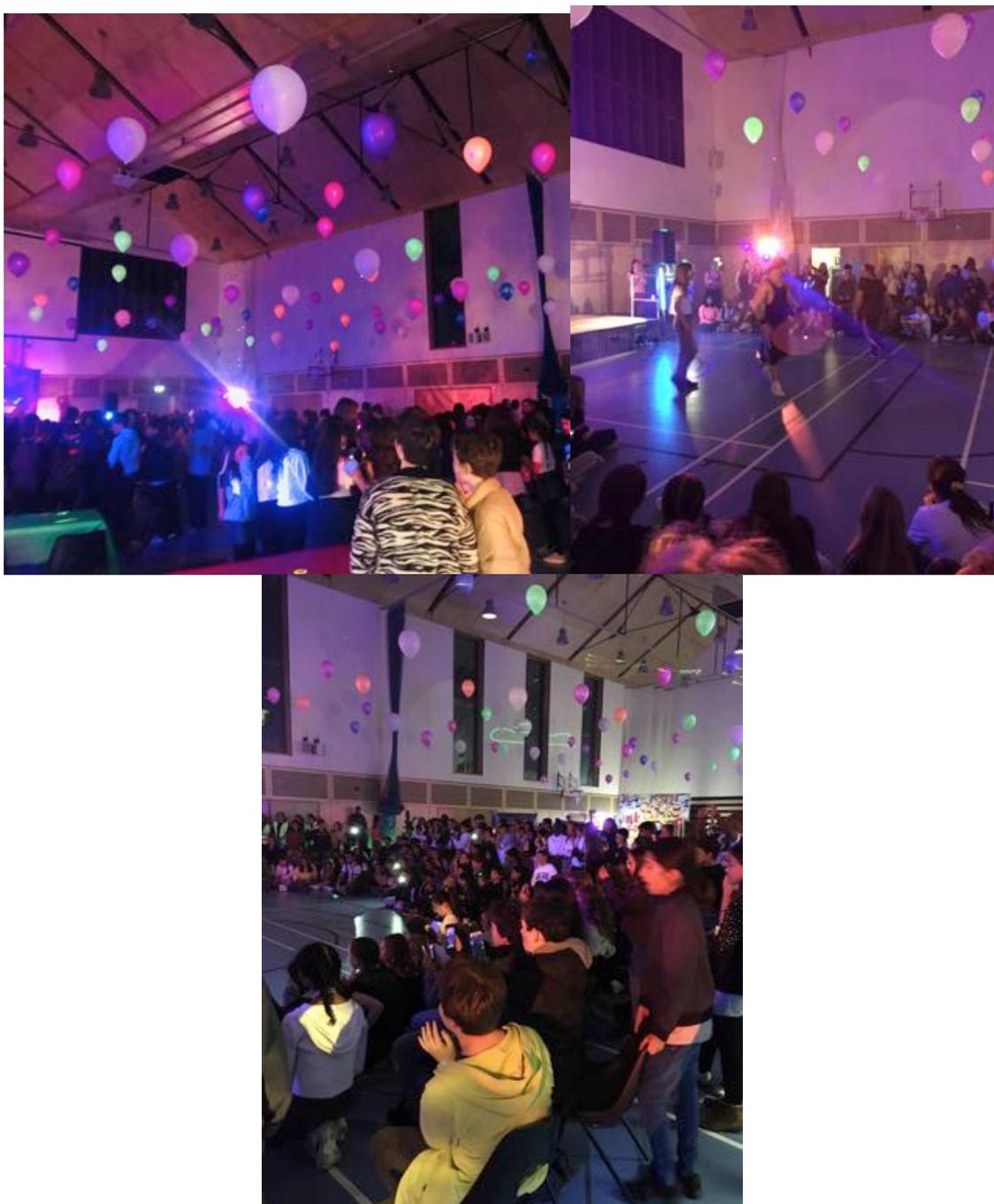


Year 7 & 8 Disco

The party to end all parties, aka the Y7 & 8 Disco, took place last Saturday evening in the Sports Hall. 400 girls and boys, (yes, we let them in for the evening), danced the night away in a totally transformed laser-lit hall. They enjoyed the kind of treats we all ban at home, including LED candy floss, popcorn, a chocolate fountain and pick 'n' mix. Mocktails were mixed and served by the Y9 and Y10 helpers and two amazing professional street dancers performed two very impressive sets. Huge thanks to the organising committee and the parent volunteers, without whom we could not have hosted such an amazing event, the highlight of any Y7 or Y8 pupils' diary.

Best wishes

Channing Association



News from the Junior School

Sports News

On a very soggy Friday afternoon, sixteen girls from the Junior School ventured up to Highgate to play their first competitive football fixture on grass. I say grass but, with the amount of rain that fell, it was mostly puddles and mud. However, the weather didn't dampen the girls' spirits. Each and every member of the squad displayed fantastic skills and teamwork throughout the match. Well done to all those involved.



Netball

On Wednesday, some of the Year 5 netballers took on Sarum Hall. It was a chilly evening but the girls played very well. The scores were spilt with the Channing Blue team winning 3-1 and the Channing Black team losing 2-0. The scoreline, however, does not reflect their efforts. Well done to all the girls who took part.



Reception C Assembly

Reception C showcased their first assembly to the whole school and parents on Wednesday. They thoroughly impressed their audience with their terrific acting skills and by remembering all of their lines. The assembly was a lovely end to our 'Once Upon a Time' topic and it featured many different traditional tale characters who have visited Channing this term. Prince Charming explained during his interview on 'Fairy Tale TV' that he had an important mission. He wanted to find the mysterious owner of a shoe, left behind after the ball at his palace. The prince embarked on a long search in the woods and met many interesting characters who tried tricking him. Luckily he found his true love just in time for Valentine's Day and they lived happily ever after!



Reception CL Assembly

On Thursday Reception CL delivered their very first class assembly and what a performance it was! In class they have been reading lots of different fairy tales and they acted out the story of Cinderella. The girls impressed their parents, staff and all the pupils with their confidence, fabulous dance moves and their ability to say "I love you" in many different languages: a special Valentine's Day treat!



Charity News

Today you might have been able to smell popcorn from the bottom of Highgate Hill as the girls at Fairseat enjoyed their movie experience whilst raising money for **Noah's Ark Children's Hospice**. To add some colour and fun to our Charity Day, each class took turns to add their house colour handprint on the white hoarding in the playground. What a masterpiece!



Community

Highgate Care Home Visit

2M went to visit Highgate Care home on Wednesday. We wanted to tell them all about our topic of the Titanic. We showed them our beautiful portholes that we had made and read some of our very own diary entries as well as singing them a song all about the Titanic. All the residents seemed to enjoy our visit and one of the ladies that we met was a teacher of MFL at Channing in the 1960s!



Highgate Has Heart

**Highgate
has Heart**

AN INVITATION TO
“Beloved Clara”

an exhilarating evening of music and drama
in aid of the charity Young Roots

Concert pianist LUCY PARHAM and
stars JULIET STEVENSON and HENRY GOODMAN
tell the compelling story of the passionate, tragic and
volatile relationship between Robert Schumann and
his pianist wife Clara, born 200 years ago this year.

Friday 1st March 7.15pm, “carriages” 10.30pm
HIGHGATE SCHOOL (Dyne House)
Southwood Lane, Highgate, London N6 5EE
TICKETS £40.00 or £15 for students, or 25 and under
Small booking fee applies
Includes Fizz and Canapes on arrival, Performance and Meet-the-Cast
Cash Bar in interval and Raffle
Main proceeds will go to Young Roots, one of the registered refugee
charities we support, helping young refugees to reach their potential
Book at www.eventbrite.co.uk and
enter Beloved Clara or HighgateHasHeart in search box
www.highgatehasheart.com

www.eventbrite.com/e/beloved-clara-tickets-55893106787

Alumnae: Throwback Thursdays

This week from the Channing archives, a great picture of a musical talents published in the Channing Magazine from 2010-11.

[@ChanningSchool](#) [#ThrowbackThursday](#) this week celebrates all things musical. This photograph is from a concert a few years ago - our tradition of producing great musicians continues! [#GirlsEnjoyingSuccess](#)
[@GSAUK](#)



Mums Netball

Dear All Channing Mums,

Firstly, thank you to all those who have already signed up, via the [Google Form](#), to play a friendly game of netball on **Tuesday 5 March, from 6:30-7:30pm, in the New Sports Hall (NSH).**

If you have not already signed up, there is still time to do so, you only need click on the link above and all your Netball wishes will come true!

Bibs, equipment and refreshments (fruit, nutri grain bars, a selection of fruit and water) will be provided, as well as the expertise of our very own Netball Guru, Mrs Smith, who has generously agreed to give up her evening to referee.

There will be a rules review and time to warm up/have a quick snack, before the game(s) begins, from 6-6:30pm. We ask that you arrive in your leisurewear to ensure a prompt start.

Please use the main entrance at Haigh House where you will be directed to the NSH by reception staff.

For those of you who have expressed an interest in attending the meal afterwards, this will take place at Kiplings in Highgate, at 8pm. For £25, you can choose any starter*, any main course dish*, which will come with rice and naan bread to accommodate all diners, as well as a bottle of beer or glass of wine (* excludes king prawns).

Should you have any queries, contact Jade Francis in the Development Office on development@channing.co.uk.

Music at Lunchtime - 'Highly Strung'

There was nothing 'Highly Strung' about today's 'Music at Lunchtime' concert; everyone looking very colourful sporting pink for Alexandra Wylie Day and Roses for Rosie Peto and just about to break up for a well-deserved half term. This relaxed, happy feeling was reflected in the programme; Concordia danced along with Three Reels, Irish and Scottish! Lorna Goldman had a particularly busy time playing both the Double Bass in Concordia and as a soloist. She then followed this with a Guitar solo! Antonie Benkert also performed a 'Fantasia in E minor' on the Double Bass. With other delights provided such as Ursula Warshaw (Guitar) accompanied by Mr Cousins they played a truly wishful arrangement of 'Somewhere over the Rainbow'. With Beatrix Davis (Violin) 'Take Five', Simran Tulsiani (Violin) with yet another Dance, but this time a Cossack one, and Yasmin Byng (Violin) ending with Romance Oubliée you can see why it was such a delightful, bright start to the holiday! Do click on the link below to listen to the audio on Soundcloud

<https://soundcloud.com/channing-school/sets/lunchtime-concert-15th-february-2019>



Reminders:

Individual Instrumental/Vocal and LAMDA Parents' Evening

Apologies for the confusion, last week's WFTH gave an incorrect date for the Instrumental/Vocal and LAMDA Parents Evening. We can confirm the correct date for this is **Thursday 28th February**.

Weeks Ahead

Week 18-22 February

Half Term

Monday 25 February

Year 13 Mocks

Tuesday 26 February

14.00 - 18.00 Year 11 Science: TeenTech Awards, Buckingham Palace

Wednesday 27 February

Year 9/10 Science: TeenTech

18.15 - 19.30 Senior School Channing Community Choir Messiah Rehearsal, AC

Thursday 28 February

17.00 - 19.00 Individual Instrumental/Vocal & LAMDA Parents Evening, AC

Friday 1 March

15.15 - 18.00 Year 12 Drama Performances Component 3 Technical Rehearsal, AC

Join the conversation



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