



8 February 2019

Dear Parents

There has been a bit of an international feel at school this week. Not only has it been Chinese New Year (Xinnian kuaile / gong xi fa cai...please let that mean Happy New Year or Best Wishes and not “ you look like a donkey”) but we have have been competing at the highest level in an inter-school French debating competition. See below for reports on a Chinese themed assembly at the Junior School and the senior debaters. Bravo, Channing!

And enhorabuena, felicidades and gracias to Ms Kyle, Director of the Adelante Strategy. This week has seen a great leap forward (Spanish style) for Channing’s ambitious programme to enable all our pupils to be successful, confident and culturally enlightened users of the Spanish language. It is thanks to her hard work and commitment that the prestigious Cervantes Theatre Company took up residence in the Arundel Centre for a week-long run of their widely-acclaimed production of Lorca’s La Casa de Bernarda Alba. Every show has sold out, with visitors coming from across the UK and Europe, including VIPs from the Spanish Embassy. Word is out that Channing is fast becoming a centre of excellence in Spanish, and, with an increasing range of opportunities for all our pupils, we are delighted to be well and truly on the linguistic mapa.

Particular thanks to Mr Simon Gray, our Theatre Manager, who has supported the visiting professionals brilliantly. I hope that if your daughter was lucky enough to see a performance, or even better, take part in the Q and A sessions, that she enjoyed and learned from the experience.

Watching visitors’ jaws drop as they entered the Arundel Centre this week has been very satisfying. I do so enjoy a “against the odds” story, don’t you? Just five years ago, when we were building the Sports Hall, we took the plunge and dug a great big hole where we now have the Arundel Centre. (See photos below of the Headmistress ‘assisting’ the builders) We had to wait for another two years before we had the means to build what is now a magnificent theatre, but we did it! And for someone whose passion in life has been all things Spanish, you can imagine my pride this week.



Continuing the international theme, and languages in particular, we all know that today's technology and digital devices come with a language all of their own - apps, coding, bitcoin and tweeting have all become commonplace terms. Our own Years 10 and 11 Digital Leaders have been conducting research amongst their peers on the way in which they use their iPads and how Channing teachers can support their learning. I am very impressed with their knowledge and advice and will be mindful of it when the school is deciding which direction it takes with future technologies. They will also be coordinating a publicity drive for our Future Technologies Week (4 - 8 March) across both the Senior and Junior Schools, so look out for more information coming your way soon!

Can you believe that half term is just around the corner?

Have a good weekend.

Best wishes

Mrs B M Elliott

Headmistress

Girls Enjoying Success

MFL News

Last Friday, Year 13 Spanish A-Level students visited the Tate Modern to see the Hyundai Commission by Cuban installation and performance artist, Tania Bruguera. Bruguera's exhibition centres around the ever-increasing figure of global migration. This is a theme that we are studying in Spanish at the moment, and is extremely topical due to draconian hostile environment measures brought about by Brexit immigration policy. We were also excited to meet another performance artist and educator from Goldsmiths University who is interested in art as research. We were taken around Bruguera's exhibition, which included a series of subtle interventions in and around the Tate Modern, such as a large heat sensitive floor that used people's body warmth to create a portrait of a man called Yousef who fled Syria to come to London. In a small room nearby, an organic compound in the air induced tears in those who entered, provoking what Bruguera describes as "forced empathy". We then had the opportunity to speak in Spanish with Joselyne Contreras, a curator and researcher, who specialises in Contemporary Art in Latin America. Currently working on her PhD in Curatorial Knowledge at Goldsmiths, Joselyne also works with *Latin Elephant*, a charity which promotes engaging and incorporating migrants in London, especially those of Latin origin. Joselyne and her colleague spoke with us in Spanish about the links that she found between Bruguera's work and Latin American immigration, as well as the current situation for the Latin American immigrants in Elephant and Castle, many of whom combat issues such as gentrification and discrimination due to their first generation immigrant status. The trip was hugely beneficial both in advancing our Spanish fluency, as well as giving us a wider perspective on Latin American groups in London, who were not as well known to us before the trip. We would like to thank Ms Kyle and Miss Mackie for organising the trip. It was a very engaging afternoon and we all learnt a great deal.

Symran Saggar Y13



Visiting Speaker: Dr Michael Thompson

On Monday 4th February, our Year 13 A Level class had the privilege of meeting Dr Michael Thompson from the University of Durham, a renowned expert on the censorship of theatre in Franco's Spain. His evocative presentation gave us the opportunity to enhance our knowledge of how the social unrest in Spain preceding the Civil War affected the world of literature, specifically writers such as Federico García Lorca whose freedom of expression was hindered. This furnished us with contextual knowledge that we can draw upon for our written responses to works in the upcoming exams. The visit was particularly relevant in light of the performances of 'La Casa de Bernarda Alba' taking place in the Arundel Centre this week. This was a fantastic opportunity to expand our outlook of life under Franco which has had a lasting impact on Spanish culture to date.



Audrey Assouly Y13

French Debating Competition

'Il faut tourner sept fois sa langue avant de parler'

- *A European Army should be created*
- *Cars should be banned from circulating in city centres*
- *France did well to ban the use of mobile phones in schools*

These are the three motions which Talia Midgen, Emily Rea, Abigail Summerfield and Juliette Taylor debated in French on Tuesday 5th February in the regional French debating competition at St Paul's Girls' School. Collectively the two teams debated against Eton, Westminster, St Paul's Girls' School, Wycombe Abbey, Grey Coat Hospital and Holland Park and successfully won three out of six debates. This was particularly impressive seeing as some of their opponents were Year 13s. They were judged on the clarity and quality of their arguments, their conviction, fluency, quality of their language and team work. The Year 12s prepared thoroughly both sides of each motion as they were only told on the night whether they would be debating for or against. Their arguments and level of language was impressive. Mme Romero, Mme Rozières and Mme Vaure would like to congratulate them on their preparation and performance which are to be commended. We look forward to seeing them win even more debates next year! Well done!



Sports News

Well done and congratulations to the following girls who competed in the recent Middlesex County Championships in swimming. The county swimming championships were held over two full weekends at Southbury Leisure Centre in Enfield.

- Lily Waite (Year 7) received a silver medal in the individual 50m butterfly; she also qualified for the 100m butterfly finals and came 4th.
- Sophie Bremen (Year 8) came 5th in the individual 200m breaststroke.
- Sophia Bremen (Year 8) and Lily Waite (Year 7) won the bronze medal with their team in the 200m team medley.
- Eva Harris-Brown (Year 7) won the the gold medal with her team in the 200m team medley; she also qualified for the finals in 50m breaststroke and came 6th.

Football

On Wednesday afternoon three Channing football teams played a match against South Hampstead High School. The Year 7 team won their match 3-0 with goals from Ayushi Kekulthotuwa, Tacita Twaddle and Lily Waite. Ayushi was voted Player of the Match for her fantastic interceptions and constant pressure on the opponent. The Year 8 team played a strong match, and were unlucky not to score a goal to secure a win. Unfortunately they conceded a goal in the last minute of the game. Final score: 0-1 to SHHS. Zalie Wise and Aoife Willis were voted Player of the Match.

The final match was played by a Channing team comprising talented footballers from Years 7-10. It was a real pleasure to watch this game full of fantastic combination work which led to a 4-1 victory with superb goals by Ester Eckersley (Year 9), Simran Saggar (Year 9) and two goals by Tabitha Jackson (Year 7). Well done to all players involved!

Geography News

On Wednesday evening a group of A Level geographers went to a lecture at the Royal Geographical Society. It was given by Professor Jeremy Pritchard from the University of Birmingham and was on the Carbon Cycle. This links to the A Level physical Geography topic Earth's Life Support Systems. Next week the students are going to lead a discussion group based on this lecture.



Musicians enjoying success

Many congratulations to trombonist Abigail Ornel in Year 10 who has gained a place in the National Youth Brass Band.

News from the Junior School

Chinese New Year Assembly

Fairseat had some special visitors in assembly on Wednesday. A group of Year 11 RE students came over to give an assembly all about Chinese New Year. They talked about some of the traditions and ways to celebrate as well as about the animals that represent the different years.



Music News

The Junior School had a very Musical Thursday, beginning with a Music Assembly and ending with a Year 5 Performance Platform!

Miss Pepper got the Reception girls to stand and measure themselves against Eve's Double Bass. It was twice as big as them!! Well done to Elena Scala, Eliana Papadopoulos, Shahar Lekach, Eve Cronkshaw, Lucy Davies, Siana Chamalidis and Imogen Bovensiepen who got our day off to a terrific start and to all the girls in Year 5 who delighted us with their performances at the end of the day!



Charity News

The Little Princess Trust

Please sponsor Bella Abrahams in year 5R. She is cutting 30cm from her long hair to raise money for The Little Princess Trust Charity who provide real hair wigs for children who have lost their hair through cancer treatment or other illness. They also fund research into childhood cancers. Please give as much or as little as you wish. With special thanks for your support.

<https://www.justgiving.com/bella-hilary-abrahams>

Alexandra Wylie Tower Foundation

Next week the Senior School will be holding a collection of Sanitary Products, Soaps, Shampoos and other bathroom items. These items will be donated to the Alexandra Wylie Tower Foundation which will distribute them to families and individuals in need in the local community.

This collection will also coincide with Pink Day, a day of remembrance for Alexandra Wylie. Alexandra attended Channing and tragically passed away in her final year. The foundation was set up in her memory and does incredible work with the local community.

The collection is being run as a house competition so please encourage the pupils to bring in any items they can to help their house win and make a difference.

Cancer Research UK - Sponsored

Dog Walk

All funds raised from this event will be used by Cancer Research UK to help beat cancer sooner. Any support that you are able to offer, no matter how small or large, will be greatly appreciated!

<https://www.cancerresearchuk.org>

[/get-involved/find-an-event/woof-walkies-highgate-2019](https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/get-involved/find-an-event/woof-walkies-highgate-2019)

JOIN US FOR A FURRY FAMILY FUN DAY OUT

LET YOUR DOG TAKE THE LEAD TO RAISE
VITAL FUNDS AND HELP BEAT CANCER
AT OUR SPONSORED DOG WALK



Location
Waterlow Park, Highgate Hill, Highgate

Date and time
Sunday 17th March 2019, starts at 11am

For more information contact
cruk.highgate.committee@gmail.com

TOGETHER WE
WILL BEAT CANCER
Cruk.org/Dogwalks

CANCER
RESEARCH UK
WOOF WALKIES



Cancer Research UK is a registered charity in England and Wales (1095814), Scotland (SC039028) and the Isle of Man (10772). The Cancer Research UK logo and Woof Walkies are registered trademarks of Cancer Research UK.

Curry Ball

On Tuesday 5 February Channing dads took to the 'theatre of dreams' to play another daring game of Curry Ball in the New Sports Hall.

It was a dazzling display of football skills, Channing spirit and exemplary sportsmanship. The air was filled with raucous laughter, cheers and thankfully no (lasting) aches and pains - we hope!

Thank you to all the Channing dads who were able to attend; your ongoing involvement in the school is what makes Channing the inclusive school that it is.

Channing Development Department



Alumnae News

Today's [#ThrowbackThursday](#) item from the archives [@ChanningSchool](#) is linked to the theme of internet safety. Pictured are IT lessons from the 1980s and 1970s.

[#GirlsEnjoyingSuccess](#) [@GSAUK](#)



Music at Lunchtime

If last week's Music at Lunchtime was for our dulcet vocalists, this week was the turn of the big and loud brigade, and what a corker on a wet lunchtime it proved to be!

The Percussion Ensemble warmed us with a rousing Quasi Bossa Nova, followed by Gabrielle Dowsey, with a first, a Capuzzi Double Bass Concerto. Katya Butler danced on the cello with a Gnomentanz by Popper. The tranquility was supplied with a sublime Debussy Arabesque exquisitely executed by Grace Wu on the piano. Martha Sayer continued the calm before the storm with her gorgeous clarinet playing of Arthur Bliss' Pastorale. Finally, Abigail Orndel blew us away with a stunning performance on the trombone by Ropartz. Well done all!! Next week we are back in the Arundel Centre and 'Highly Strung' is the theme!



Reminders:

Individual Instrumental/Vocal and LAMDA Parents' Evening

A reminder to the parents of students that have individual instrumental/vocal or LAMDA lessons, that the booking of appointments through Schoolbase for the Parents' Evening on February 27th closes at 8pm this coming Monday (11th).

Channing Chamber Music Evening

Do come along to the Channing Chamber Music Evening this coming Thursday (14th) at 6.30pm in the Arundel Centre and enjoy the heartfelt musicianship from our most senior small instrumental ensembles. The concert should last about an hour, so still time for a Valentine's dinner afterwards!

Week Ahead

Monday 11 February

Tuesday 12 February

Wednesday 13 February

18.15 Senior School Channing Community Choir Rehearsal in The Arundel Centre

Thursday 14 February

Senior School Year 12 Young Enterprise/Careers; City of London Businesses

16.00 - 18.00 Senior School Rehearsal Chamber Music Evening in The Arundel Centre

18.30 - 19.30 Senior School Chamber Music Evening in The Arundel Centre

Friday 15 February

Senior School Mufti Day

Senior School Year 12 Careers: Private Equity House

Join the conversation



ChanningSchool



@ChanningSchool

