



29 March 2019

Dear Parents

It is often difficult to find the right balance between informing the community of the need to be vigilant on the way to and from school and frightening everyone to such an extent that they become over-anxious and fearful.

Mindful of the horrendous rise in muggings and knife crime, particularly in London, we invited the police to come in and speak in assembly. Channing pupils once again heard the message that they need to take care, more care than many of them seem to think is necessary. We were all reminded that walking along the pavement staring at a phone makes us an easy target for a thief, and any time we have headphones on, we are inevitably less aware of our immediate environment. As you will know, this is a message we often repeat, and the police gave a sense of authority and gravity to the sensible advice.

It seemed a cruel coincidence to receive the following message, which I know many of you have also received at home. Thank you to the many parents who also forwarded it to us.

*Police have been made aware of an incident on Dartmouth Park Avenue, Camden NW5 around 4pm on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2019.*

*A lone 14-year-old girl was approached by an unknown man who took hold of her and attempted to pull her along the road. A vehicle was seen nearby which is of interest.*

*No arrests have been made to date. The police investigation is ongoing but we remind students, parents and schools in the area to remain vigilant.*

Any information relating to the incident please call the police on 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Police in Camden will have extra reassurance patrols in the area this afternoon and for the rest of the week.

Do messages become diluted the more we repeat them? I sincerely hope not. We have spoken to our pupils and would urge you to tell your daughters (and sons) yet again, that they are placing themselves at risk if they walk along any road looking at their phones or with headphones on. Look after yourselves, too.

The Easter holidays are fast approaching and Sunday is Mothers' Day, the annual celebration of mothers. I have to admit that being a mother is THE most challenging - and rewarding - job I've ever had. My relationship with

my own mother was not always straightforward (we were way too alike!), but my goodness, I miss her. She had a special way with gravy, and I miss my regular calls to be reminded of her secret recipe.

Congratulations and good wishes to mothers everywhere!

Have a good weekend.

Best wishes

Mrs B M Elliott

Headmistress

## Girls Enjoying Success

### Maths News

On Wednesday 27 March Catrin Papanastassiou Jenkins 9SP, Anna Saacke 9SP, Maria Privalova 8G and Ammarah Akontoh 8SP competed in the regional final of the UKMT Team Maths Challenge at West London Free School. They spent the entire day doing mathematical problems and challenges. Our team of mathletes came 13th, Channing's best ever performance! Well done!



### Bletchley Park Trip

On Monday 25 March 2019, Year 9 visited Bletchley Park as part of Maths Week. The students deciphered codes, enhanced their cyber security, touched the Enigma machine and toured the gardens and buildings. Volunteers guided us with stories of true events, of how people working at Bletchley were not allowed to share their experiences and had to keep their responsibilities top secret, until many years after the war, thereby helping to save at least 15 million lives! It was a very moving and informative day for everyone.



## Year 9 Trip to the National Museum of Computing: a student's view

We visited the National Museum of Computing at Bletchley Park. The tour began with a demonstration of how the Enigma machine was used to decipher German messages during WW2. We saw the enormous machines like Colossus, mechanical computers that sped up the process of code cracking and helped to win the war. We moved on to see how computers (still enormous) were used as huge accurate calculators. Then we saw the development of personal computers from the 1980s to the present day. There was a room full of old computers running retro games which they enjoyed playing. We then experienced a classroom of the 1980s where they used BBC Micros to program computer games like Snake. Later we used Artificial Intelligence to try out the Turing test. The visit gave us an insight into and appreciation of the astonishing development of computing power over the years.

## Sports News

On Tuesday 26th March the Year 7 Netball Team went to Redbridge Sports Centre to compete in the London Youth Games. We were very proud to have the opportunity to represent our Borough of Haringey in the competition.

The team was off to a good start beating Gumley 5-0. Unfortunately the next game did not go in our favour, losing to Bromley High 13-2 (who went on to win the competition). The next group game was our chance to move into the running for a medal but unfortunately, with a nail-biter of a finish we lost to Waldegrave 4-3. We played 3 more games which we won and this placed us 17th out of 33 schools competing.



Well done to all the students who competed and a special mention to Eloise Johnson for her sharp shooting and consistent play throughout the tournament.

## Geography News

The Geography Department and Senior Geography Society were delighted to welcome Professor Loretta Lees to deliver a lecture on Gentrification in London.

Professor Lees is Professor of Human Geography at the University of Leicester. She is internationally known for her research on gentrification/urban regeneration, global urbanism, urban policy, urban public space, architecture and urban social theory.

The 100+ Channing students and guests heard a hugely captivating and challenging talk outlining the history and geographies of gentrification in London, showing how the process evolved from being led by pioneer gentrifiers in the 1950s and 60s to being led by the state today. Professor Lees finished by connecting this to new debates on planetary gentrification.

The Senior Geography Society would like to thank Professor Lees for taking the time to visit the school.

## Chemistry News

On Tuesday 26th March, four Year 9 pupils (Charlotte Claypoole, Beatrice De Leval, Catrin Papanastassiou Jenkins and Renee Shields) travelled to the University of Cambridge for a Salters' Festival of Chemistry.

Charlotte has written this summary of their day:

Once we arrived at Cambridge University's Chemistry Department we had an introduction welcoming us to the festival and informing us on what we were going to be doing, which was two practicals and a talk on the Periodic Table. We investigated a pill for pain relief called Pain-eez, which had been rumoured by police to be just paracetamol. They thought that the powders had been bulked up by adding starch or sodium bicarbonate to the Paracetamol. Our job was to work out if the police were correct. Bea and I tested paracetamol, starch, and sodium bicarbonate with iodine, universal indicator, and potassium permanganate. In addition, we also tested pure paracetamol, Pain-eez, Pain-eez-plus and Super-pain-eez. We then compared our results and our conclusion was that Pain-eez-plus is supplemented with starch, Super-pain-eez is supplemented with sodium bicarbonate and all samples contained some paracetamol. We had lunch in a lecture theatre and then made Paracetamol using 4-aminophenol and water. We stirred it and added ethanoic anhydride. After 10 minutes, we used a vacuum filtration system to take the solid out, dry and clean. We then purified our product by recrystallisation and used Thin Layer Chromatography to investigate the effectiveness of the reaction. Finally, we used Infrared Spectroscopy to compare our product to real paracetamol. Our product was quite similar. We also compared our IR spectrum to 4-aminophenol, which is what we used originally to make paracetamol. We then had a very interesting lecture about the Periodic Table with lots of demonstrations. We learnt about university life and what Cambridge University is like.



## Classics News

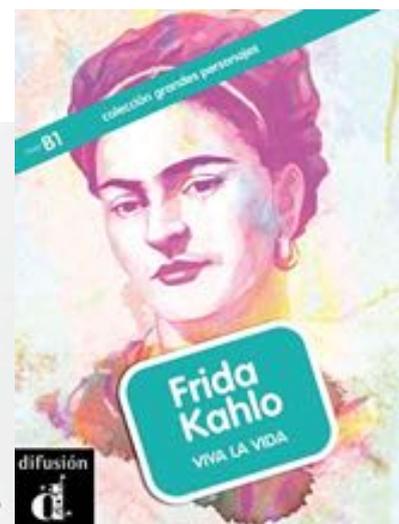
Mrs Elliot (Head of Classics) and Ms Taylor took the Year 11 Classical Civilisation class to the British Museum. It was great to be able to see in person the Elgin marbles, Panathenaic amphorae and Theseus kylix which they had previously only studied in their books and on screens. A particular treat was that the Bassae frieze, often closed due to staffing shortages, was open for us to gaze at Achilles defeating Penthesilea and some Amazons getting the upper hand over Greek men. Mrs Elliot was very impressed by the students' artistic and cultural analysis - it was wonderful to spend a late Friday afternoon with such enthusiastic Classicists!



## MFL News

Years 7-13 are encouraged to take part in this year's Adelante Reading Challenge, which runs until Friday 24 May. As well as giving their language skills a huge boost, participants will earn house points and the chance to win one of three fabulous prizes: a £55 voucher for the London Paella School, a £50 voucher for Iberica restaurants or a £25 book voucher. There are some great books to choose from in the library ([KS3](#), [KS4](#), [KS5](#)) and the Mary Glasgow magazines count too! To find out more, pupils can look on Firefly > Library > Adelante > Adelante Reading Challenge.

Please do encourage your daughters to get involved!



## News from the Junior School

### Art News

Year 5 and Mrs Luxford had a great treat last week when they were invited to join Mr Gittins in the ceramics studio at the Senior school!

They learnt how to transfer their own design into a tile and look forward to seeing the finished product once it's been fired and glazed.

Before they left they were also treated to a tour of the art department and were awestruck by the standard of artwork they glimpsed. Thank you very much to Mr Gittins, Teresa, the Art Technician, and everyone who made them so welcome.



### Sports News

6 runners from Years 5+6 took part in Highgate's Cross Country race on Monday. It was a fast and very competitive race throughout. All the girls ran extremely well, boosted by their 7:45 am Wednesday morning cross country trainings. Francesca Poulton came 2nd in her race which was a great achievement. The other runners were Rosie Birney, Imogen Hicks, Tilly Shatz, Natasha Hough and Lucy Johnson.



## Spanish Assembly

This morning, the Junior School attended a Spanish Assembly. The girls from KSI and KS2 Spanish Clubs planned, prepared and presented an end of term Spanish Quiz where Sharpe, Goodwin, Waterlow and Spears teams answered Spanish questions to win House Points. Everyone had a fantastic time and Waterlow team were the winners with 12 House Points!



## Alumnae

To celebrate World Theatre Day on 27 March, we remember [@ChanningSchool](#)'s rich history of Performing Arts - The Fairy Group performing a scene from 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' in the early-1920s.

[#GirlsEnjoyingSuccess @GSAUK](#)



## **Week Ahead**

### **Monday 1 April**

12.40 - 13.30 SS Year 9 DofE Secondhand Expedition Kit Sale

15.30 - 17.00 Year 12/13 OCR A-level Geography Webinar: Skills for Exam Success

### **Tuesday 2 April**

9.00 - 15.34 Year 7/8 English Trip to Alexandra Palace Book Awards

### **Wednesday 3 April**

8.45 - 16.00 SS 3 Year 12 pupils to attend Chemistry Schools Analyst Competition at Reading University

16.00 - 18.00 SS Music Rehearsal Sixth Form Concert, AC

18.30 - 19.30 SS Music Sixth Form Concert, AC

### **Thursday 4 April**

4 Year 8 pupils to attend Salters' Festival of Chemistry at UCL

11.35 SS Officers Assembly

13.15 Sixth Form/ Staff Netball Match, MUGA

14.00 Mark Reading, NSH

15.00 SS Term Ends

**Join the conversation**



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