



## Dear Parents



What a delight it was to welcome all the girls this morning! It was lovely to see their happy faces and hear their laughter around the school. I was particularly proud of the new Reception girls as they were full of cheer as they followed their fairy trail down to their new classes with their teachers; due to health and safety restrictions, parents and carers were unable to take them as they usually would. I am very much looking forward to watching them embark on their Channing journey.

I cannot express just how pleased I am that we are all together in the school building. Being together, particularly in the physical sense, makes us stronger as we all work together as a team. Today, in our socially distanced assembly, we compared our fantastic community to a jigsaw puzzle and reflected on the fact that we are all an important piece in the jigsaw and we fit together perfectly.

Some of the Y6 girls helped me by putting together a special Junior School Jigsaw. We identified sixteen pieces of the jigsaw that represent sixteen parts of our community:

- 336 Children
- 14 Form Teachers
- 16 Teaching assistants
- 7 Specialist teachers
- Librarian
- ICT technician
- School Secretary
- Receptionist
- Caretaker
- Gardener
- Catering team
- Nurses
- Mummies
- Daddies
- Nannies
- Head of the Junior School



## The Channing Promise

The Channing Promise was developed by the girls themselves, for every member of the school, including Governors, teachers, pupils and support staff, to ensure the school remains a happy and positive place to be.

- We treat everyone with respect and kindness.
- We try to think of others and be aware of their feelings.
- We enjoy the freedom to act, think and be heard in a supportive environment.
- We try our best to contribute toward a positive atmosphere.
- We make the most of the opportunities we are given.



I also reminded everyone that to help us to be our best selves and contribute to the jigsaw puzzle, we **all** need to follow **The Channing Promise**. This can be found on our website:

<https://www.channing.co.uk/about-us/our-aims-and-ethos/>

## Staff News

I had the pleasure of touring our new Headmistress, Mrs Lindsey Hughes around the Junior School this afternoon to see the girls and staff. If you haven't already, I would highly recommend watching the interview with the two Head Girls from the Senior School: [Mrs Hughes and Head Girls](#)

We warmly welcome our new School Office staff, Ms Kilic, School Secretary and Miss Bodell, Receptionist. You can contact the School Office via [JSOffice@Channing.co.uk](mailto:JSOffice@Channing.co.uk).

After saying farewell to two of our Teaching Assistants, Miss Johnson and Mrs Dain over the summer, we have appointed two new Teaching Assistants. Mrs Akram who will be supporting the teachers in Y3 and Y4 and Mrs Paterson who will be working in Reception and Year 2.

To find out more about our fantastic staff and put a face to a name have a look at the staff bios: <https://juniorchanning.fireflycloud.net/junior-school-staff>

### **Travelling to and from School**

Please read the Government guidance on safer travel when considering your journey: [Safer Travel Guidance for Passengers](#). If possible, I would advise that you park and stride. Additionally, please be mindful of where you park and ensure you park in a safe place. Unfortunately, this morning it was reported that Channing parents had parked in front of the contractors' gate which is a safety hazard as it prevents safe access and exit in the event of an emergency.

### **School Events**

School events can be found on the Schoolbase calendar and are also listed in the Dates list at the bottom of the weekly Bulletin. We appreciate your support regarding events, especially as due to health and safety considerations, some may be virtual. Details regarding our annual Curriculum Evening, now called our Welcome Evening, will follow.

### **Religious Holidays Form**

If your daughter will be absent from school for religious festivals, at any time during this academic year, we would be grateful if you would complete the form: [Religious Holidays Form](#).

### **Health & Safety**

We appreciate your concerns and in line with the most recent government guidance and by building on the measures that were put in place in the Summer term, we have been very busy preparing for a safe return for all pupils and staff. Please be assured that health and safety, as you would expect, remains paramount. Our plans have considered guidance from the government and the Department of Education. They employ a hierarchy of controls that are intended to create a system where the risk of transmission of infection is substantially reduced. We have updated our robust risk assessments and comprehensive guidance for the staff; these include procedures for cleaning hands more often than usual, ensuring good respiratory hygiene (promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach); cleaning frequently touched surfaces; and minimising contact and mixing. In addition to the after hours cleaners, there will be two cleaners on site who will regularly clean toilets, surfaces and areas around the school. Please see further information about what we have put in place in the Bulletin I sent to you last week: [Bulletin Friday 28 August](#)

### **Have you returned from a country not covered by the travel corridor agreement?**

If your daughter has returned from a country not covered by the travel corridor agreement in the last two weeks, she must undertake 14 days of self-isolation before returning to school. Please see here <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-travel-corridors> for a full list of those countries affected by the need to quarantine.

Please note that the requirement to self-isolate for a full 14 days cannot be shortened by being tested for Covid-19. Please do not send your daughter to school if she should be in quarantine, even if she is symptom-free and has had a negative test result.

In addition, please do not send your daughter to school if she displays one or more of the symptoms of Covid-19:

- a high temperature - this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)

- a new continuous cough - this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense or taste - this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

### **Sickness Policy**

If your daughter is displaying Covid19 symptoms as outlined by the government (as above) and she has been in school during the day, you must inform us immediately and not bring her into school the following day. If your daughter displays symptoms whilst at school, she will be isolated and you will be called to collect her and any siblings within 1 hour. We will ask this girl's parents to ensure they organise a test and notify us immediately of the result. Further guidance: [getting tested](#) and [Get a free NHS test today to check if you have coronavirus](#). If this child tests positively to Covid 19, all members of the 'bubble' will be asked to remain in isolation for 14 days. For further information: NHS Test and Trace: if you've been in contact with a person who has coronavirus.

### **Birds & Owls**

We will offer Birds and Owls before and after school; however, due to government guidance we have had to make some changes so you are now required to sign up in advance. Please complete this form [Birds & Owls Sign up](#) for the first half of Autumn term which will start on Wednesday 9 September.

#### Early Birds (Before School)

The girls can be dropped off at the main gate/'old' dining hall between 7.30am and 7.55am. They will be given a healthy breakfast and a choice of activities. The girls will be able to stay until their class entry time. There is no charge for this.

Year 5 & 6 will need to come into the school and down the stairs to the new Fairseat Hall. Please can they bring a book, or a little activity such as knitting or sewing that they can get on with independently.

#### Mini Owls (After School)

This runs from 3.05pm-3.50pm (3.30pm on Fridays). The girls will be taken by their Form teacher ten minutes after their pick up time. There will be no charge for girls who are waiting for their sister(s) to finish school.

#### Late Owls (After School)

This runs from 3.50pm - 5.50pm (4.50pm on Fridays). From 4.30-5.15pm (3.30-4.15pm Fridays) there will be a structured activity for the girls and the girls will be offered a snack of soup or a sandwich.

The girls can be picked up either before 4.30pm (3.30pm on Fridays) or after from 5.30pm (4.30pm on Fridays). Normal charges apply. You will need to collect your daughter from the 'old' dining room in the Stable Block.

### **Extracurricular Clubs**

Clubs will resume on Monday 14 September and we are thrilled to be able to provide a range of after-school clubs to girls from Years 1 - 6. Due to external club leaders not being able to come onto the school premises for this half-term, we can offer the opportunity for your daughter to attend a club led by the Junior School staff.

All clubs are offered to individual year groups so that children remain within their 'bubble' for the session. Each club can consist of a maximum of 20 girls, with the exception of Year 3 Recorder Ensemble (15 girls) and Year 4 Mixed Instrumental (10 girls). The dismissal location for each year group will be the same as their morning drop off and afternoon pick ups at the following times:

- **Years 1 - 4:** 4.00PM
- **Years 5 & 6:** 4.10PM

Girls in Years 1 and 2 will attend Waiters before their clubs begin, which will be held in their classroom.

Below is an outline of the extracurricular club programme. Please register your interest for **one** club on Schoolbase, in your daughter's year group from **Tuesday 8 September 9PM - Thursday 10 September 12PM**. Please [click here](#) for written instructions on how to access the Parent Portal, written by Peter Williams, our SchoolBase Manager. For support regarding SchoolBase, please email [schoolbasesupport@channing.co.uk](mailto:schoolbasesupport@channing.co.uk)

Once we have generated a list of children who would like to attend the clubs, names will be chosen at random. By the end of the week, you will be able to log into the Parent Portal to check which club your daughter has been allocated. In order to avoid clashes, please consider the Music Activities listed below before registering interest in other clubs.

As with all of the current protocols and procedures, our club provision is constantly under review and we will communicate, via the Bulletin, should there be any changes.

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Year 2 3.30PM - 4.00PM</b>	<b>Year 5 3.40PM - 4.10PM</b>
	Tennis	Cricket
	Cosmic Yoga	Spanish
	Meditation and Mindfulness Yoga	Art Club
		<b>Year 5: Vocal Ensemble (3.40PM - 4.30PM)</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Year 3 3.30PM - 4.00PM</b>	<b>Year 6 3.40PM - 4.10PM</b>
	Athletics	Football
	Team Building Games	Scrabble Club
	<b>Year 3: Recorder Ensemble (3.30PM - 4.15PM)</b>	<b>Year 6: Vocal Ensemble (3.40PM - 4.30PM)</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Year 1 3.30PM - 4.00PM</b>	<b>Year 4 3.30PM - 4.00PM</b>
	Team Games	Cross Country
	Storytelling and Crafts	Board Games and Card Games
	Drama Through Stories	Book Club
		<b>Year 4: Mixed Instrumental (3.30PM - 4.15PM)</b>
		<b>Year 6: Mixed instrumental (3.40PM - 4.30PM)</b>

### Music Matters

Please click on the link to read about [Individual Music Lessons-Information for Parents](#)

If you have any further queries please contact Miss Pepper, Head of Music: [juniormusic@channing.co.uk](mailto:juniormusic@channing.co.uk)

### Birthday Cakes and Treats

You are very welcome to continue to send in nut-free cakes or treats for your daughter to celebrate her birthday. We can continue to give cakes or treats to the different classes or year group 'bubbles'; however, please ensure that they are separate cakes or treats rather than a large cake that needs to be

sliced. Please also be mindful of the size of cakes; they should be no bigger than a child's hand. Additionally, please do not send in treats for any other occasions without prior permission from your daughter's class teacher. Please remember that as there are girls and staff with allergies, that cakes should not contain nuts or nut-products.



### **Photography and Filming**

Whilst watching every day and special events, in today's world, we tend to get out our phones, iPads or cameras to take photos and/or film them. We must however, be mindful that not all parents have given permission for their daughters to be in photos or films. Additionally, taking photos or seeing phones/iPads can be very distracting for pupils. Many educational settings are banning photos altogether and in many Early Years settings, devices with cameras are handed in on entry.

*Here is our Photography Policy:*

Many parents give permission for THE SCHOOL to take photographs and record performances of pupils which may be used in publicity materials, for press reports or on the website.

Families are respectfully advised that they DO NOT have permission to film or take photographs of other people's children, nor of members of staff.

We are mindful of parents' wishes to have an occasional record of memorable events in which their daughters participate and to that end, we will try to provide "photo opportunities" for the audience at the end of a performance or event.

All photography is strictly forbidden in the Early Years Foundation Stage.

All visitors will be reminded of our policy at the beginning of each event. Please help us to protect and respect pupils: performances may be stopped if unauthorised photography or filming takes place.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

To see the amazing things that the girls have the opportunity to do at Channing, do follow us: [Channing Instagram Account](#), [Channing Twitter Account](#) and [Channing Facebook Account](#).

### **Walking to School and Mobile Phones**

The girls in Year 5 and 6 are permitted to walk home. If you would like your daughter to walk home, we require permission for this arrangement. Please add your consent on the SchoolBase parent portal. Under such circumstances, girls will be allowed to bring a mobile phone to school. Any mobile phones brought into school should be handed to the girls' class teacher for safekeeping and collected at the end of the school day. The school will also need to be informed of any changes to the usual routine even if your daughter is walking independently.

### **Year 5 & 6 e-books**

The girls in Year 5 and 6 have access to reading books in their classrooms and they are also encouraged to bring their personal reading books to school. We also welcome the use of e-books in Year 5 and 6 to foster and encourage a life-long enjoyment of reading. The Year 5 and 6 girls may bring in their e-books as long as the following conditions are met:

- The e-book has no Internet access (which therefore excludes Kindle Fire)
- Parents are responsible for whatever reading material is on the device, ensuring that the text is appropriate
- The school takes no responsibility for damage or loss
- Devices must be fully charged (as there are no facilities to charge them)
- The e-book cannot be lent between pupils

If you would like your daughter to bring in an e-book, we would be grateful if you could add your consent on the SchoolBase parent portal before permitting your daughter to bring in her device.

### **Spotlight on Sport**

If your daughter has PE first thing in the morning, she is permitted to come to school wearing her PE kit, although she must bring her school uniform to change into once the lesson is over. This applies to:

- Monday - Year 1
- Tuesday - Year 3
- Wednesday - Year 6
- Thursday - Year 6
- Friday - Reception

On all other occasions, the girls must change into PE kits at the beginning and end of lessons.

### **Open Days**

Our Open Days are now online. Please let your friends know that they can book this virtual event where they will meet the staff and pupils, take a tour of the school, and learn all about our admissions process. You will have the opportunity to email any questions you may have at the end of your visit which will be answered by the relevant member of staff as soon as possible.

- Junior School Virtual Open Days: **22 September, 6 October and 14 October**
- Senior School Virtual Open Days: **16 September, 7 October and 11 November**
- Sixth Form Virtual Open Evening: **23 September**

Click on the link to [Book a Virtual Open Day Visit to Channing School](#)

*Please see 'Noticeboard' and 'Dates' below.*

**Miss Dina Hamalis**  
**Head of Junior School**

**Channing Girls Enjoying Success**

# NOTICES

**Forest School**  
1M and 2M will start  
Forest School next  
week.  
1P and 2E will start  
this week.

**Early Years & Key Stage 1**  
Please ensure any messages for  
teachers are emailed via the  
School Office.  
The teachers will be spending the  
first two weeks assessing the  
girls' reading levels. All pupils will  
be sent home with their Reading  
Records and a reading book on  
Friday 18 September.

<b>DATES</b>		
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>		
Tuesday	15	Virtual Welcome Evening: details to follow
Tuesday	22	Virtual Open Morning: <a href="https://www.channing.co.uk/admissions/virtual-open-days/">https://www.channing.co.uk/admissions/virtual-open-days/</a>
Thursday	24	Individual School Photos

<b>DATES</b>		
<b>OCTOBER</b>		
Mon - Fri	5 - 9	Harvest Festival Week: details to follow
Wednesday	14	Virtual Open Morning: <a href="https://www.channing.co.uk/admissions/virtual-open-days/">https://www.channing.co.uk/admissions/virtual-open-days/</a>
Friday	16	Non Uniform Day/Charity Day: details to follow
Mon - Fri	19 - 30	Half term