



### Dear Parents

It was a real pleasure to host my first tea party of the academic year last week with six of the new Reception girls. I will be looking forward to these every week as they give me the perfect



opportunity to get to know the girls better over cake and juice (how could you go wrong?). The girls are all clearly enjoying being at school and enthusiastically told me about their favourite things so far which included: playing outside, listening to stories, drawing, lunch, making new friends and their teachers. Additionally, I gave them the chance to ask me questions; these always make me smile and sometimes even make me laugh out loud: 'Miss Hamalis, where do you sleep at night? There's no bed in your office?', 'Do you like chocolate or sweets more?' I am looking forward to watching these girls as they embark on their Channing journey.



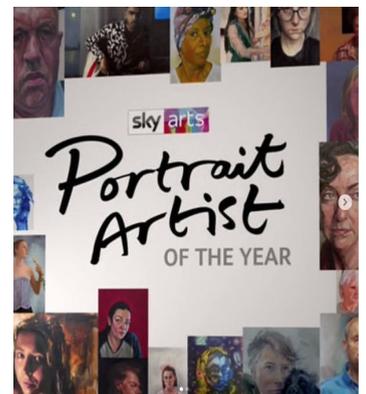
To see a few more photos of my first tea party and all of the other great things going on at Channing, follow us: [Channing Instagram Account](#), [Channing Twitter Account](#) and [Channing Facebook Account](#).

### Staff News



Congratulations to Miss Clancy, Y3 Form Teacher who got married over the weekend!

Well done to Mr Fellows, our Art and DT Coordinator for being shortlisted for 'Portrait Artist of the Year'. The series starts on 14 October and is airing every Wednesday at 8pm on Sky Arts which is on Freeview - Channel 11. His heat is the sixth episode and you can watch it on Wednesday 18 November. How lucky are the girls to have him as their Art and DT Teacher? #PAOTY' (Portrait Artist of the Year)



We warmly welcomed two new Teaching Assistants to our team, Mrs Mechik who will be supporting Y1 and Y2 and Art and Design Technology and Miss Mace who will be supporting Y5 and Y6. We will also welcome a further Teaching Assistant, Ms Agnew after half term.

### Communication

As you are aware, due to government guidelines, we are restricting the number of adults in school, thus only our staff are allowed onto the school site. Please note that the girls need to bring in their musical instruments; if they need help, the staff will support them.

Please continue to send your emails for teachers and/or myself via our School Secretary, Ms Killic: [JSOffice@channing.co.uk](mailto:JSOffice@channing.co.uk) She (wo)mans this email address from 7am - 4pm. If you have to send an urgent email, please email our



Receptionist, Miss Bodell: [JSReceptionist@channing.co.uk](mailto:JSReceptionist@channing.co.uk) who answers emails from 4 - 6pm. Please be mindful not to email the Senior School Office in error. Whilst we are unable to have face-to-face meetings, if required, we can arrange a telephone call or GoogleMeet.



### Harvest Festival

We are delighted to be holding our annual Harvest Festival Assembly on Monday 5 October which all girls will attend either virtually or in person. We warmly welcome donations for a local food bank to help to support homeless and struggling families. We know that it is a particularly difficult time for many families and therefore how helpful our donations of food and toiletry will be.

*There will be large containers by the entrance gate/door at drop off and pick up times all this week. Thank you to the Channing Association for arranging the delivery and many thanks in advance for your generosity.*

### Channing Association Second Hand Uniform Sale

A huge thank you to everyone who donated uniform last week. The Channing Association (CA) is busy cataloging everything and expects to get a listing out for you to order from in the next 2-3 days. The listing will be sent via email from the School Office and orders can be placed on WhatsApp to a central phone number to be confirmed on the day. Cash will be collected once successful orders are confirmed. Please do not contact the school to place orders. Your reps will also notify you via WhatsApp on the day the email is coming out so you know when to look out for it. This term proceeds will be shared between the CA and Macmillan Cancer Support in lieu of the usual coffee morning. Happy shopping!



### School Photos

Nice Smile Photography came to take some wonderful individual and sibling photos of the girls on Thursday. Your daughters have all been given a letter containing your unique QR code for you to register and access your photographs. Please note:

- Register as soon as you can and you will receive a message when the photos have been uploaded. (This will happen approximately one week after the photos were taken)
- You will receive free postage the first week after the photos are released
- Six weeks after release, the images are archived



### Covid 19 symptoms

If your daughter is displaying Covid 19 symptoms as outlined by the government 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.

The symptoms are:

- a high temperature - this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back
- 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 of smell or taste - this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

### Covid 19 Tests

If your daughter is displaying Covid 19 symptoms, you need to 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](#)

We recognise that many of you whose children have been asked to self-isolate because they are displaying symptoms which could be Covid-19, have been concerned about the difficulty in obtaining NHS tests in a timely manner. We made the decision last week that as a School we will accept the results of private Covid-19 tests; this was approved by Public Health England (PHE) over the weekend.

PHE have published three criteria which can be used to ensure that a private test is of a sufficient standard. In order for the School to be able to accept the result, we would ask that when you report your daughter's test result to the school you also confirm that:

- Both the sample collection kit and the Covid 19 test (that tests the sample) had a CE mark
- The laboratory is accredited via the UK Accreditation Service
- The laboratory is reporting the results to PHE, as it is a statutory notifiable disease.

We will not ask to see a copy of your child's report but we will ask you to confirm the above by email. Should we receive any further advice we will notify you as soon as possible.

Your daughter **does not** need a test if she has a runny nose, is sneezing or feeling unwell and she has no Covid 19 symptoms. Only the person with symptoms should get a test. You do not need to get a test for anyone else in the household unless they also have any of the three symptoms listed above. All members of the household need to self-isolate whilst waiting for the test result.

If the person with symptoms' test comes back positive, other members of their household should continue self-isolating for 14 days and only get a test if they develop coronavirus symptoms. If a pupil in a bubble tests positive for Covid 19, anyone who is advised to self-isolate does not require a test unless they subsequently develop symptoms. No one else in the same bubble as the symptomatic person needs to take any action unless advised by the school. We have detailed guidance and access to a Department for Education and Public Health England helpline for advice and support. Contacts of a person who has tested positive must follow the guidance carefully and in full, which means they must stay at home for 14 days. This is because it can take several days following contact with an infected person before an individual develops symptoms or the virus can be detected. Students should only book a test if they get symptoms.

The NHS has produced some guidance to help parents understand when their child cannot attend school:

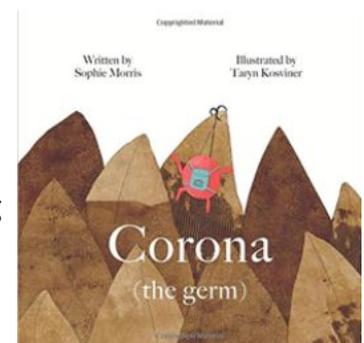
<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

### Supporting Your Daughter through the Pandemic

We are, of course, supporting the girls through this challenging and unprecedented time. We know how important their wellbeing and mental health are and the staff are there to talk through their concerns.

Your daughter(s) may find the book, 'Corona (the germ)' written by a Channing alumna, Sophie Morris, helpful in order to process their feelings. I have purchased copies for the girls to read at school. All UK proceeds will go to organisations supporting families affected by the pandemic:

<https://amzn.to/34MTZji>



### #Music Matters

At long last it really feels like we are slowly getting back to some semblance of normality- even if it does mean music lessons are taking place behind a screen. All our Visiting Music Staff will be back this week, the Year 1 String Group has started and many new pupils are about to embark on wonderful adventures be it with a Saxophone, Cornet or Mini Bass!

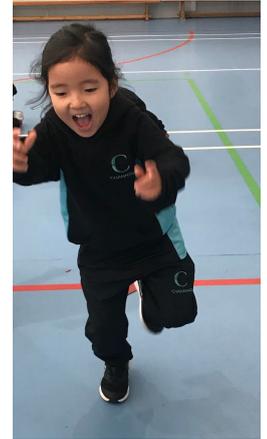


Excitingly, we also have two Music Assemblies this half term on Thursday 15 and Friday 16 October from 8:45-9:15am. There are nine spaces available in each; don't worry we have more more planned! These will be live concerts with only the girls who are performing in the Hall so all are able to be socially distanced. The concerts will be streamed to the rest of the school and recorded for

Firefly so you can watch at your leisure. If your daughter learns an instrument externally and would like to perform, please do email Miss Pepper at [juniormusic@channing.co.uk](mailto:juniormusic@channing.co.uk) with the relevant details.

### Spotlight on Sport

We are delighted that the girls in Y4N are enjoying their weekly swimming lessons, especially as they missed their Y3 swimming provision entirely due to school closure. We wish to ensure a good standard of swimming proficiency for our pupils at the end of Y4 in order to enable them to competently participate in Watersports activities in Y5 and Y6. As such, to ensure parity across the year group, the pupils in 4N will continue to swim for the remainder of the Autumn term, whilst pupils in Y4R will continue to have twice weekly PE lessons at School.



During lockdown, the girls participated in the Amateurs Athletics 5 Star Award Scheme. Since returning to school, the Year 1 girls have been revisiting some of the Athletic Challenges. So far they have done: Long Jump, Javelin, Shot Put and Triple Jump; Discus and Hurdles will follow. We have been impressed with their efforts!

Polite reminder: We have been very lucky with the summer weather so far but as we head into the colder and darker months, please remind your daughter(s) to have both her uniform and PE kit in school on the days she has PE. We will remain outside rain or shine. For all PE enquiries email: [jspe@channing.co.uk](mailto:jspe@channing.co.uk)

### SPECIAL CONGRATULATIONS

Well done to **Daniella G (2M)** and **Hannah G (1P)** for performing beautifully at a piano concert.

Well done to **Darcy D (6W)** who recently passed her Grade 5 theory examination - no mean feat for a Junior School pupil! Miss Pepper told me that in 'her day' you could use either 'O' level Music or Grade 5 Theory to enter for Grade 6.



### Summer Reading Challenge Update

Before the summer holidays, the girls were given a reading challenge to take part in. The aim was to raise money for the charity Lumos, which was founded by J K Rowling and helps children living in institutions to be reunited with their families. A huge thank you and congratulations goes to everyone who took part. This week, we have had even more donations and our updated total is £91.80.



Well done to the following girls, who also took part in the challenge:

- Up to 10 books: **Hannah A (1P)** and **Aliana D (2M)**
- 11-20 books: **Emma F (6E)**
- 21 - 40 books: **Emilia M (4R)**
- Over 40 books: **Araiya N (4R)** and **Naomi D (1P)**

### Girls Enjoying Success Awards

Well done to:

- **Shriya S (2E)** for writing fantastic acrostics poems about castles and herself.
- **Luombe G (3C)** for producing a fantastic storyboard for 'The Egyptian Cinderella'.
- **Amina A (3F)** for her work on teeth which was been beautifully presented and contained lots of exciting information.
- **Charlotte C (3F)** for producing an informative poster about her teeth and sharing it with the class.
- **Myla M (4N)** for being so resilient in Cross Country Club and keeping going.

Yom Tov to those of you celebrating Yom Kippur today!

*Please see 'Dates' below.*

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

### Channing Girls Enjoying Success

DATES		
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SEPTEMBER		
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Monday	28	Yom Kippur
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OCTOBER		
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Mon - Fri	5 - 9	Harvest Festival Week - see details above
Thursday	8	Virtual Y6 Introductory Talk and Q&A with Mrs Hughes & Miss Hamalis: 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

November		
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Tuesday	3	Flu vaccinations
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