

Dear Parents

This week I am very proud to announce that the school has declared a Climate Emergency. The declaration was made at the start of the week in assemblies on both sides of the road by the Sixth Form Sustainability Officers, Lola and Grace, together with some of the Eco Reps from younger year groups. Their presentation was compelling and clearly demonstrated the thoughtfulness of our students and their awareness of the issues across the school.

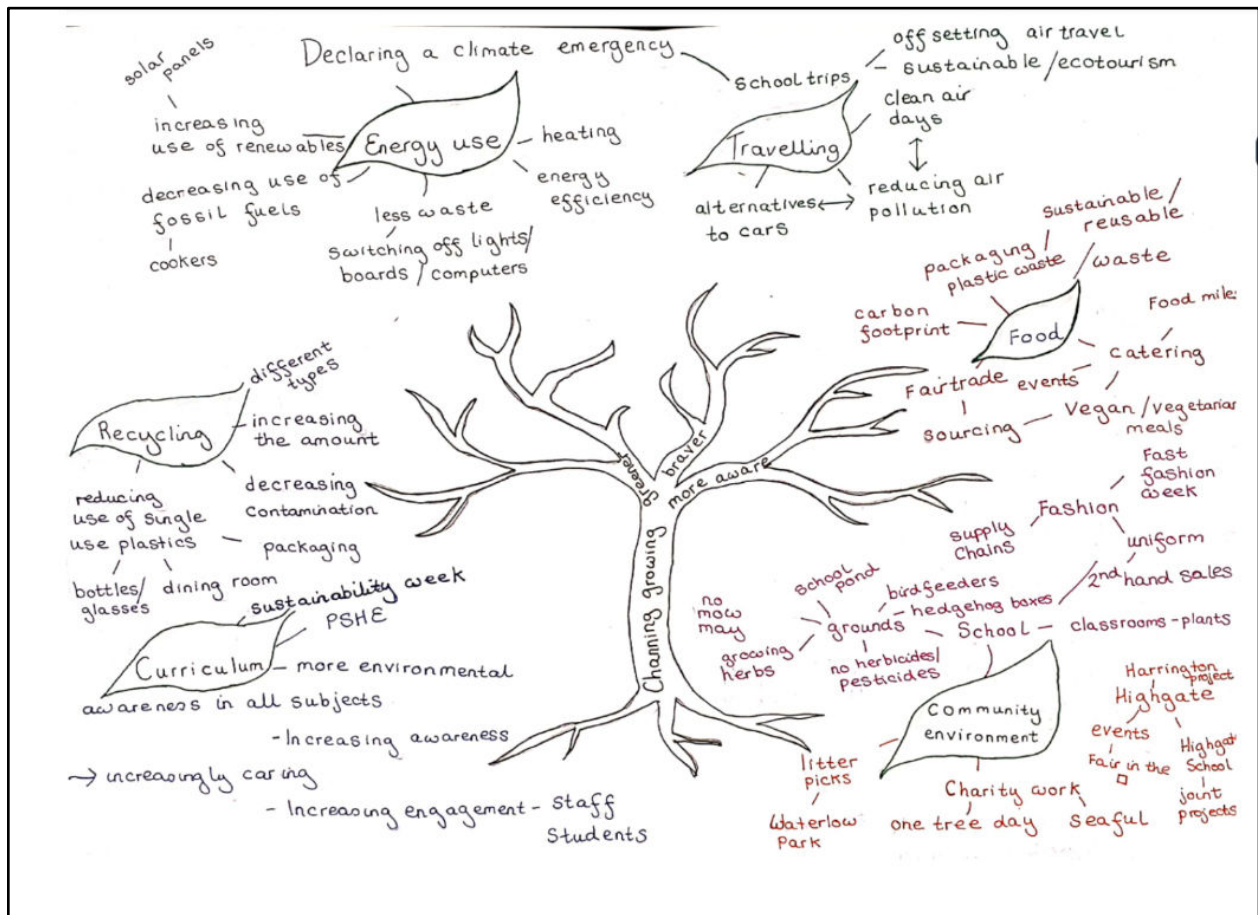
A climate emergency declaration is an action taken by national and local governments, universities and now schools to acknowledge that humanity is in a climate emergency. By declaring a climate emergency at Channing the school is recognising formally that climate change is a serious threat to the world, and the declaration commits us to act quickly to mitigate some of the consequences which we are already seeing. We are announcing that, in our small part of North London, we want to make a difference.

Declaring a Climate Emergency is no small undertaking and this announcement follows many months of discussion and planning, triggered by the Eco Reps watching COP27 on the news and desperately wanting to be part of the solution. Students and staff heeded calls to action from the likes of Sir David Attenborough: *"We're at a tipping point... If we have not taken dramatic action within the next decade, we could face irreversible damage to the natural world and the collapse of our societies. We're running out of time, but there's still hope"* and UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres: *"Now we know what must be done... by everybody, everywhere, every single day, doing everything we possibly can."*

The process involved the Eco Reps hosting discussions, first in form times, then with me and Miss Hamalis. The group then presented their case to the School Governors in June with the aplomb you would expect. These two videos, produced by the Eco Reps from the [Junior School](#) and the [Senior School](#) explain why they want to declare a climate emergency; they are both well worth a watch.

So what does declaring a Climate Emergency mean for Channing? It is both recognition of the human causes and global consequences of climate change and a practical commitment to put environmental issues high up the agenda across a range of different areas. We know it is going to, and already is, affecting all our futures and Channing wants to be part of the solution rather than the problem. By making this declaration we also recognise that climate and eco-anxiety is on the rise, empowering our staff and students to do something about it.

We acknowledge that climate change is not the only environmental problem, and that waste, litter, air pollution, plastic pollution, loss of biodiversity and deforestation all interlink with climate change. This is beautifully articulated in the Channing Climate Tree, which has been designed by the Senior School Eco Reps. The trunk contains the summary statement *Channing: Growing Greener, Braver and More Aware*. The leaves show the different interconnected areas of school life where we are focusing our attention.



Last term we made good progress towards making Channing a more sustainable environment. We launched our Walk to School Day clean air competition, planted bee friendly flowers, improved our recycling system at school and a number of other sustainable endeavours. All these initiatives enabled us to achieve our Green Flag award, which recognises Channing's accomplishments in completing a number of eco-challenges.

There's plenty more work to be done this year, much of which will be focused around our sustainability week from 27 November - 1 December. This will coincide with COP28 and we hope to mark the occasion by publishing the calculation of Channing's carbon footprint to better understand how we can begin reducing our carbon emissions at Channing on a journey to net zero.

The Eco Reps used the opportunity of Tuesday's assembly in the Senior School to remind everyone how to use the recycling system at school. Every classroom has a paper recycling bin, clearly labelled with posters reminding pupils that all indoor recycling at Channing is paper only, and that this also means no staples or Sellotape or stickers on the paper. In a small but meaningful change, there are also now recycling bin lids on every bin to encourage people to take a moment to think whether what they're throwing away is really recyclable. Cans and plastic bottles can go in the outside recycling bins and, new this term, there is also a battery recycling bin at Reception outside the School Office. Plastic film recycling bins for rubbish such as crisp packets and soft plastics should be making an appearance later this term.

I am really pleased that we are making this public commitment to our future. I know that beyond the day-to-day practicalities, for example in thinking about recycling, the school environment and how people get to school, there is a lot of hard work ahead. Our declaration of a Climate Emergency means that we must consider environmental factors in all aspects of our procurement, including food and energy supplies. Mr Hill, our Bursar, is a huge supporter of the Eco team and is looking forward to making these changes over time.

The fact that the initiative was student-led is a source of particular pride for me, and I must congratulate Mrs Walker, our Sustainability Coordinator, for her highly encouraging but light touch approach to this work. She has empowered and motivated our students, channelling their enthusiasm without controlling their actions, and I look forward to working with her, Mr Hill and the student team over the coming years on our journey to net zero.

This exciting news leaves little space to report on much else this week, other than to say that our very first Sixth Form STEM trip is now well underway in Copenhagen and they are having a highly educational and exciting time. Tune in next week for a full report on their activities!

With best wishes for the weekend and Chag Sameach to those families observing Sukkot,

Mrs Lindsey Hughes
Headmistress

Notices

Second Hand Uniform Sale - Friday 6 October 3-4pm, Senior School Dining Hall

The CA is running a second hand uniform sale on Friday 6 October 3-4pm in the Senior School Dining Hall. If you need to pick up some extra uniform now that school is back please come along. The sale is open to parents and pupils and we prefer cards but do accept cash as well. Most items are priced at £5 or £10 each.

If you have any good condition, gently used uniform your daughter has grown out of and you would like to donate please leave it at the school office until Friday 6 October. Please only donate uniform items, we cannot accept donations of second hand casual clothing or shoes/coats.

Quiz Night - Thursday 12 October 7pm

Fancy yourself a pub quiz expert? Like a night out with great food and drinks and good company? Think you could pass your daughter's end of year exams?!

Please join us for a fun evening of quizzing, food and drinks (and maybe the odd exam question) on Thursday 12 October in the Senior School dining hall. Arrival drinks and food from 7pm, quiz starts 7:45pm.

Tickets £30 including complimentary arrival drink, food and quizzing. Cash bar throughout the night. Teams of 6 to 10 accepted. Haven't got a team yet? Let us know when you buy your tickets and we will add you on to one.

Tickets available at: <https://buytickets.at/channingseniorschoolchanningassociation/1010499>

Year 8 and 9 Events

We are hoping to run social events for the children in both Years 8 and 9 this year. Suggestions so far include ice skating and bowling/karaoke. If you have any ideas for an event your daughter would enjoy please get in touch with your class rep or one of our Ambassadors on Classlist.

2023 Fireworks Event

Tickets for our 2023 Fireworks Event, on Saturday 4 November, are nearly sold out at bit.ly/channingfireworks2023 so don't delay!

There will be Hot Dogs, Burgers, Sri Lankan Curry and Churros on sale (non meat options also available) as well as Beer, Wine, Mulled Wine, Sweets and Glo Accessories.

Gates will open at 5:30pm with the firework display starting at 6:45pm. The DJ and dancers are back this year to help get the fireworks party started and keep it going until we close at 8.30pm!

Coming up this term

6 October, 3pm - Second Hand Uniform Sale, Dining Hall

9 October, 7pm - Channing Association AGM, Sixth Form Centre

12 October, 7pm - Channing Association Senior School Parents' Quiz - Details above

4 November, 5:30pm - Channing Fireworks, Stanhope Road Playing Fields



ABRSM Practical Music Examinations - AUTUMN TERM 4-6 December 2023 - APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

We will be holding **Practical** music examinations during **4-6 December 2023** for candidates in both the **Junior and Senior Schools**. These examinations are also open to candidates who have practical music tuition outside of school, providing their teacher has stated that they are ready to take an ABRSM **Practical** examination this term.

We do need parental consent before we enter candidates, therefore parents need to scan the QR code [here](#) and complete the online form by **4pm on Thursday 12 October** at the latest. Regrettably, we will be unable to process late applications.

Who Should I Contact?

[Who should I contact September 2023.pdf](#)

Year 11 Concert


Everyone is warmly invited to attend the Year 11 Concert, which will be held in the Arundel Centre on **Thursday 5 October at 6.30pm**. This is an opportunity for our GCSE music students to display their excellent talents as soloists on the stage of the Arundel Centre. As a rousing finale, they will perform as a single ensemble, a medley of popular songs that they have arranged and rehearsed themselves. Do please come and support these exciting young musicians next Thursday.

There is no need to reserve tickets for this event.

Lunchtime History of Art Talk


Students in Years 10-13 are invited to attend a lunchtime talk in the AC on Tuesday 10 October from 12.50-1.30pm. The speaker is Mariska Beekenkamp-Wladimiroff, founder of Art Historical London, which delivers art lectures and tours around the city. She will be exploring depictions of animals in art and teaching us how to decode their symbolic meanings.

"As centuries passed, a language of symbols developed so that artists could tell stories with deeper and more intricate emphasis, instantly understandable for an audience which did not always share the same spoken language and which was often illiterate. In this half hour talk we'll be looking at how many artists have made use of the symbolical value of certain animals and their behaviour to describe the people depicted in the work of art or even take their place. To know the symbolism associated with these animals greatly helps in the interpretation of works of art, the enjoyment of art and any museum visit!"




ABRSM Examinations

Examinations are scheduled to take place during **4-6th December 2023**




Please scan the QR code and ask your parents to complete the electronic consent form.

Consent forms must be submitted by 4pm Thursday 12th October. Regrettably, late entries cannot be accepted.



THE HISTORY OF ART
DEPARTMENT
PRESENTS...

ANIMALS & THEIR SYMBOLIC MEANING



A LECTURE BY MARISKA
BEEKENKAMP-WLADIMIROFF
FROM ART HISTORICAL LONDON
YEARS 10-13 ARUNDEL CENTRE
12.50PM TUESDAY 10TH OCTOBER



CHANNING

Girls Enjoying Success

Music News

Music at Lunchtime

Last Friday's recital was mainly instrumental and began with a really musical performance of Rachmaninov's famous 'Vocalise' played in the violin by Yasmin L. Hettie F in Year 7 then gave her Arundel Centre stage debut playing with great skill the first movement from Mozart's Sonata in F on the piano. Georgie V, one of our regular performers really showed us how the recorder should sound with her rendition of Handel's Sonata in A minor. Kezia C Has wowed us previously on a Friday lunchtime and today was no exception with her moving performance of Milhaud's 'Modéré' played on the alto saxophone. The recital finished with Mei-Xing Le-C singing and playing the guitar. This was a fabulous and haunting performance of Hozier's 'Arsonist's Lullaby'. Although not a stranger to the AC stage, this was Mei-Xing's first appearance on a Friday lunchtime. If you were unable to come, do listen [HERE](#)



Drama News



Chicago rehearsals have stretched our students (literally and figuratively) to master new skills, recall choreography, work on characterisation and sing harmonies... all at the same time! Here are a few shots from behind the scenes this week. Watch out for our spectacular posters around school and social media campaigns. Roxie is ready to rock Channing!



Sports News

Condover Netball GSA Tournament - Year 8 & 9

It was a good start to Day 1 at the GSA Netball Tournament for **Year 9**. They won their first game 12-9. After this, however, things unfortunately didn't go according to plan. The team were riddled with injuries and we ran out of legs during the remainder of the day. We didn't win another match which unfortunately placed us in the Plate competition. On the plus side, after some sleep the team worked together on Sunday to win all of their matches and came home with the Plate trophy for their efforts! This placed us 16 out of 22 schools in the U14s. A special mention to Lily W for her all-round sporting prowess, Eleanor C for scoring the highest number of goals, Isabella L for her defending under the post and Gaby S for being the bravest.



On Day 1 of the GSA Netball tournament, the **Year 8** team needed to shake off their nerves before they started winning some matches. They had some tough competition but began to work well as a team. They performed very well beating St George's Ascot, The Abbey School Reading, Edgebaston High School and the Maynard School. This meant that they progressed to the top competition group on Sunday and they were playing for the trophy. After some tough matches and some close games the U13s proudly placed 10th out of 27 schools.

U14 Netball Fixture

The U14 Netball team played their first fixture against City of London School for Girls on Wednesday. It was a great afternoon of netball and the team played with great energy and enthusiasm. We came away with one win out of the three matches and a drive to develop as a team for future fixtures.

U19 Independent School Netball Cup Match

The U19s had the first round of the Independent School Cup competition on Thursday, where they faced Beechgrove Academy School. They started off the match well, winning the first two quarters by 10 goals. In the second half Beechgrove started to creep back into the game and by the third quarter we were only up by 8! The fourth quarter was goal for goal with only 2 to 3 three goals in it. Our girls were starting to get fatigued but managed to work through and stayed focused. In the end they won 42-39. Congratulations to all the students that played. Good luck in the next round!



Haringey Cross Country Championships

On Tuesday 12 pupils across Years 7 to 10 represented Channing at the Haringey Cross Country Championships. There were over 120 pupils racing from various Haringey Schools and all our students performed excellently. We are very proud to have come 2nd in the Year 7 age-group and 4th in the Year 8 age-group. Huge congratulations to all our runners. A special mention goes to Mia C in Year 10, who placed second in her age group and 10th overall, and Thomasina R and Siena R, both in Year 7, who placed 5th & 6th in their age group and 18th and 19th overall.

Football

On Monday our U13 Channing football team took on the Brompton Academy Girls in a knockout round for the ESFA cup match. The strong Brompton side battled it out against our Channing team in a competitive match. It was 0-0 at halftime but Channing looked like the more threatening side with Siena R, Milla C, and Victoria G creating chances in front of the goals. A solid defence line including Amelie K, Iyla R, Elsa L, Charlotte K, and Josie E kept a clean sheet going into the half time break.

Brampton scored early in the second half, but that did not stop Channing, who equalised not long after, with our two Year 7s combining with a beautiful through ball from Liliana B through to speedy Siena R for a one on one with the goalkeeper and slotting it into the back of the net. Channing continued to fight on and looked like scoring but were unable to convert before the full time whistle.

This resulted in a penalty shootout, the best out of 5 shots. Josie E stepped up as goal keeper and made two vital saves to secure us a slot into the next round of the cup. A fantastic effort by the U13 team and congratulations to all the students who played. Good luck in the next round!



STEM News

Maths

In Maths this week the Puzzle Club students put their skills and maths knowledge into action at Open Evening. The Year 8 students, in addition to answering prospective students and parents' questions, took part in a number of problem solving tasks and created Menger cubes which help to illustrate fractals.



Meanwhile 8CWi are currently in the lead for the Puzzle of the Week competition. Here is last week's Puzzle of the Week.

Channing Maths Puzzle of the week

Cuckoo Clock

Clark has an antique cuckoo clock. It's a lovely clock, but it runs too slowly; it loses 9 minutes of time every hour. Ana visits her friend Clark one day, and notices that the cuckoo clock is exactly on time at noon on Tuesday.

When is the next time Clark's clock will be exactly on time?

Visit to Imperial College London

On Friday 22 September aspiring Year 12 computer scientists and mathematicians visited Imperial College London for an “informative and fun day”, as described by Saoirse W, who came second in the end of day quiz and won a water bottle prize. It was jam-packed with many bespoke activities: to start the day, students received talks from academics regarding how computational models can be used to

predict the quantity and size of wildfires; after this, we got to try it out ourselves in the department's own computer labs using skills taught to us (such as writing code to animate the trend of wildfires in the U.S.).

Closing this insightful day, PhD students gave talks describing the intersection of Java and lava where one student outlined how she was using machine learning to predict the location of underground reservoirs. It is

safe to say that we all came home inspired by the proliferating utility of a computer science degree.

Tabitha J, Year 12

Science Club

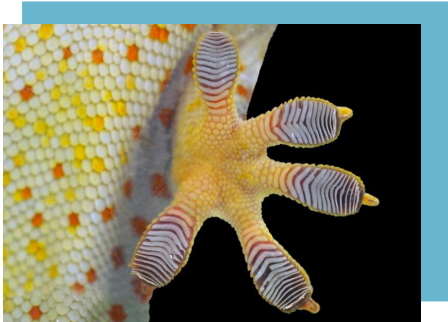
In the science club this week the students did some fire writing. They drew pretty patterns on filter paper with a solution of sodium nitrate, before drying it. A glowing splint was then used to make the paper glow and smoulder to reveal the patterns that had been drawn.

Next week we'll be making slime and investigating the properties of this gloopy (or not so gloopy) substance.



STEM Careers Club

This week we discussed the ethics and wider considerations of scenarios related to animal welfare that a veterinarian might face. In particular we investigated the issues and legislation relevant to injured dogs that have been used in racing. Students in Year 10 and 11 are welcome to attend the club and those interested in Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Medicine will find the current sessions relevant for this career.



Anatomy Club

This week the students dissected a lizard. This was a tricky dissection as the animals are quite small. They first studied the external anatomy, looking at the eye and nose holes, and the organisation of teeth in the mouth.

Next, using microscopes, the students saw the ridges that act like suckers, on the lizard's limbs, allowing them to "stick" to different surfaces. On opening up the animals, the students noticed that the inside of the skin is black, as lizards are cold blooded. They also inspected the heart, stomach and intestines.



Next week, we will be dissecting a starfish!

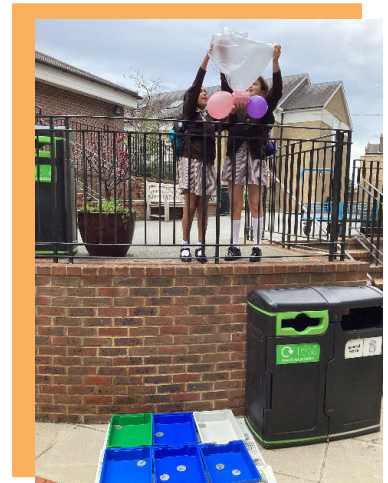
Partnership News



This week Channing hosted 38 pupils from Brookfield Primary School, St Joseph's Primary School, Parliament Hill School and St Aloysius' College at a whole range of clubs and activities. Alongside our pupils they took part in Debating, Latin, Reading, Multisports, Robotics, Young Enterprise and Science.

Science Partnership Club

In the Science partnership club this week we had groups of pupils from the Junior school, as well as pupils from Brookfield Primary school working with the Sixth Form helpers to make egg parachutes! Pupils then tested their parachutes by dropping them from a height. The winning team was the team whose parachute took the longest time to fall, and whose egg did not crack.



Robotics Club



Also this week, students from St Aloysius joined the Channing girls for the first session of the STEM robotics club. Students were tasked with building and programming robots using the VEX robotics kits. The students worked well in pairs and we look forward to seeing how their robots progress over the next few weeks.

More to come next week!

Channing pupils, please look out on your Google Classroom for partnership clubs sign up sheets.

English News

Creative Writing Club

This week in Creative Writing Club, we explored what material possessions can tell us about a person, using a selection of items brought in by Ms. McGovern. These included such treasures as a curious little glass bottle, tickets to the funfair, a long velvet coat, and a sparkly, star-shaped hair clip. We used these items to create one-paragraph descriptions of a character of our choosing. Natalie's description of a mysterious soothsayer from an unspecified time period hooked us all, and we particularly liked her use of simile. We look forward to seeing what else our talented students can produce!

She sat comfortably in her draped chair. The cloth was worn and loose threads hung down over the fading carpet. Before her stood a table, also covered with rich, purple velvet. Her shoulders held an ancient cloak, embroidered with a strange design that lay over her head, wisps of hair escaping from her white plait like smoke from a chimney. Her dark outfit contrasted against white skin that crumpled like paper. The black dress was made from the kind of material that reminded her of a curtain - the type that swished as she moved around in her shaded velvet tent. The dress was accompanied by a sequined black bag, no doubt bought for a ha'penny from the second hand shop nearby. A crystal ball sat before her on the table. Every so often she would pick up a little glass bottle in her gnarled hands, before pouring the mysterious contents into the glowing light.



T&L News: Using research-based evidence to help you support your child

Our students are getting fully up to speed with our shared understanding of expectations and routines. [Here is a reminder of the 4 non-negotiables.](#) Numbers 1 and 2 ('arrive to lesson on time' and 'be ready to learn') are crucial behaviours to maximise the opportunity to learn. It is remarkable how quickly and efficiently a class can arrive, enter a room, settle and get stuck into some new learning within minutes.

We want students to engage in productive and high-quality work that interests and challenges them right away, and over time we want them to make a habit of this, so they expect to be actively and meaningfully engaged any time they enter our classrooms. We want them to know we are prepared and value their learning. They will not be passive; there will be very little downtime. We expect your child to be consistently ready to start work quickly.

A useful conversation for parents to have is around how your child starts lessons; are they on time, are they organised, do they start work immediately and how easily do they recall information from the last lesson?

Alumnae News

With the spot of warm weather earlier in the week reminding us of the joys of summer, we wanted to share this picture from the summer term in 1950 of some of the pupils enjoying themselves at Finchley Baths.



*Gill Held, Rosemary Jill,
Jackey Held, Ann
at Finchley Baths*