



Dear Parents,

It may have only been two and a half days for the last week of term, but we still managed to pack things in! The Year 11 Art students took their first GCSE exam - well done indeed - and the Year 7 & 8 football team played in the semi-finals of the Haringey League. They played their hearts out and were disappointed to lose to Highgate Wood. Our German students enjoyed vegan baking with a German Instagram influencer as their prize for winning a Goethe Institut competition (yes, really!) and last night's Jazz Evening was a delight, as we were treated to some toe-tapping instrumentals and vocal ensembles. Congratulations to all those involved and my thanks to Mr Boxall and the team for their hard work in putting this together right at the end of term.

The musical treats continued this morning with House Singing, which Miss Bacon, Head of Vocal Studies, and I really enjoyed judging. The Houses gave us some difficult decisions to make, as they all demonstrated huge levels of enthusiasm and teamwork. There were some remarkable cameo appearances from members of staff: Mr Waring as Lady Gaga will live long in the memory! In the end, the prizes were awarded to:

Best House participation: Waterlow, who included the entire catering team in their performance

Best performance: Spears, whose choreography was exceptional

Best solo singers: Sharpe, who made use of soloists from across a number of year groups

The overall winners, who combined the best of the three categories, was Goodwin.

The Spring Term Mark Reading is a bitter-sweet affair as, alongside all the awards and celebrations, we bid farewell to the outgoing Officer team. The Officers' final assembly yesterday, with the outstandingly hilarious heist video they made for us, highlighted the camaraderie and teamwork which has been a particular feature of this year group. They have been extraordinary role models for the school and, on behalf of all of us, I thank all of them for their hard work in support of the school community this year.

Head Girls:	Imani M-R & Flora O
Charity Officers:	Rosie P & Tamzin S
Diversity Officers:	Leili A & Liesel V
Sustainability Officers:	Lola M & Grace McB
Goodwin Officers:	Megan K & Maisy M
Sharpe Officers:	Esther D & Summer G
Spears Officers:	Ora D-H & Eliza W
Waterlow Officers:	Lexi J & Liza Y
Year 7 Officers:	Sophie K & Keira P
Year 8 Officers:	Katherine R & Sophia S
Year 9 Officers:	Lexie J & lyssa R
Year 10 Officers:	Beth C & Amelie R
Year 11 Officers:	Mia A & Alice E
Sixth Form Officers:	Ruby D & Grace S

The handover from the outgoing team to the incoming team is a wonderful moment, as they hug and high five in the middle of the Sports Hall on their way to swap seats. With 68 members of the year group applying for 22 roles, this was an unusually competitive process and I want to thank those who did not make it onto the team for their applications and their contribution to school life: while I know they will be disappointed now, I hope that they recognise that they are valued and valuable nonetheless.

Congratulations to the new team who will lead the school in 2024-25:

Head Girls: Eve J & Aimee R  
Charity Officers: Maisy M & Ava P  
Inclusion Officers: Catrin C & Scarlett Da  
Sustainability Officers: Bella C & Olivia P  
Goodwin Officers: Kitty G & Evie M  
Sharpe Officers: Scarlett Du & Lauren S  
Spears Officers: Natalia B & Simran T  
Waterlow Officers: Mia B & Tacita T  
Sixth Form Officers: Caelle D-V & Charlotte S  
Key Stage 4 Officers: Chloe H & Poppy W  
Key Stage 3 Officers: Eliza C & Tabitha J

We also bade goodbye to some of our staff today. Mrs Hillier has been Partnerships Coordinator for two terms during Ms Kung's sabbatical, and I am extremely grateful for her efforts to support and grow our partnerships activities over the last two terms. She relinquishes this role but will continue to teach science full time after Easter. Ms Feeney is leaving (again!) - but only briefly, as her maternity contract ends today and she returns to us permanently in September - while Ms Tunkel, Junior School teaching assistant, goes on her maternity leave with our best wishes.

Ms Kelly has been with us for one year as Head of Sixth Form during Mrs Tomback's maternity leave. It is not an easy task to slot into a well-established team and implement the vision developed by other people. However Ms Kelly has done just that, and more, in her time with us. She exudes a calm confidence to which our Sixth Formers have really responded, earning their trust quickly and building the Sixth Form team. The Senior Leadership Team has benefited from her wide perspective and thoughtful insights, and I thank her for all that she has brought to the school. We wish her every happiness and success in whatever comes next.

Finally we have said 'hasta la vista' to Mr Waring, Head of Spanish and Modern Foreign Languages, who leaves us to take up the post of Head of MFL at the British Council School in Madrid. I know this fulfils a long-held dream for him, but it is undoubtedly a sad loss for us. His passion for languages and the exciting plans he has developed with the department have been invaluable. His enthusiasm and drive have created a new curriculum, new trips and new extracurricular activities in the three years he has been in post as Head of MFL: thank you, Mr Waring, and we wish you the very best in your new school.

And so to the holidays. Thank you in advance to Miss Ward, who leads our first A level History of Art trip to Paris tomorrow, and to Miss Cannell for accompanying the group. I know that our Sixth Form girls are eagerly anticipating their action-packed itinerary of gallery and museum visits.

Happy Easter to our Christian families celebrating this weekend, and Eid Mubarak in advance to our Muslim families who will be celebrating in the last week of the holidays. Wherever you are

going and whatever you are doing this holiday, I hope you have fun, rest and relaxation. You certainly deserve it!

With best wishes

Mrs Lindsey Hughes  
Headmistress

# Notices

## Personal Details

Parents are asked to please check their personal details on the Parent Portal are up to date and correct. This includes addresses, emails and phone numbers.

<https://www.channing.co.uk/parent-portal/>

## Policies

As part of our regular review of school policies, we have recently updated the following policies, which can all be viewed on the school website [here](#).


- Curriculum Policy
- Discipline and Behaviour Policy
- Expulsion, Removal and Review Policy
- Parents' Complaints Policy
- Privacy Notice Fundraising and Development
- Risk Assessment Policy for Pupil Welfare
- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and Procedures
- Safer recruitment Policy
- Smoking, Alcohol and the Misuse of Drugs and Substances Policy
- Supervision and Before and After School Care Policy

Please note that the Privacy Notice Fundraising and Development gives you the opportunity to opt out of certain uses of your data should you wish to do so.

## Extra & Co-curricular Summer Term Timetable

Please find the [Summer Term Timetable](#) for Extra and Co-curricular Activities. Students will be able to sign up for activities on Schoolbase when we return after the Easter break. The Sports Hall will be used for Public Examinations week commencing 6 May until 21 June. [This](#) is the timetable for Sports Activities during this period.

## Residential Trips 2024 - 2026

 Residential Trips booklet 2024 - 2026.pdf

## London Landmarks Marathon, 7 April - Sponsor Ms Newman

Our Deputy Head (Academic), Ms Jacqui Newman, has been persuaded out of running retirement to complete the London Landmarks Half Marathon on **Sunday 7 April**. She and alumna Jessy Croghan (Class of 2012) are running in support of WAVE Hub, a local charity <https://www.wavehub.org.uk/> running events 'with not for' adults with additional needs.

If you are able to support Jacqui or Jessy please use these links to reach their just giving pages:  
Ms Newman: <https://www.justgiving.com/page/jacqui-newman-1706352661085>  
Jessy C: <https://www.justgiving.com/page/jessy-croghan-1706045372772>

## Upcoming TooledUp Events

[Expert online conference: Reaching Girls Early: Proactive Approaches for Mental Health, Appearance Anxiety and Body Dissatisfaction: 26 April 2024, 9.30am](#)

Guest speakers include Dr Sophie Nesbitt, Dr Lucia Giombini, Dr Amita Jassi, Dr Helen Ringrow and Dr Karri Gillespie-Smith.

## Year 13 Leavers' Ball

Please don't forget to buy your leavers ball tickets.

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/channingseniorschoolchanningassociation/1164897>

## DofE Kit Donations

As part of our commitment to partnership activity in the local area, we are supporting other local state schools with their DofE programmes. A lack of outdoor equipment is a major barrier to participation and we would welcome the help of Channing parents in this. Please see below the details of what is needed and how to donate your unwanted items. Thank you in advance!

### Do you have any spare DofE kit you would like to pass on?

The Channing DofE department is starting an initiative to support pupils in other schools where lack of outdoor equipment is a barrier to them joining in the DofE programme.

We are asking families to donate any unwanted kit so that we can pass it on to those who need it.

We would really appreciate your donations to make DofE accessible to as many people as possible.

#### Items we are looking for include:

- Sporks, cooking and eating utensils
- Hiking boots
- Rucksacks
- Gaiters
- Waterproof jackets and trousers
- Sleeping bags
- Sleeping mats
- Map cases
- Compasses



If you have any kit to donate, we will be collecting it in **The Sixth Form Foyer from 1:00-1:30 on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday** during the week commencing **18th of March**. Please ensure that items are **clean and in good condition** before donating. Thank you, Erica, Livi, Lotte & Sophie-Y12



Any Questions please email - [myun@channing.co.uk](mailto:myun@channing.co.uk)



# Girls Enjoying Success

CHANNING

## Sports News

### Football

The U13 team worked very hard to make it to the semi-finals of the Haringey football league. We were up against Highgate Wood School. At lunchtime, we got ourselves ready, dressed in our football kit and walked up to the opposing team's school. It didn't take long and when we got there, we warmed up so we were ready for the game. The match was a long, tense game and everyone put



in their best efforts to be able to advance to the finals. Despite everyone playing brilliantly, the game ended in a loss for our team. It was an unlucky defeat but everyone gave it their all and it was a great experience.

*Scarlett P, Year 8*

## Sustainability News

The Eco Reps went to visit Gillespie Park Nature Reserve to learn about different sustainable and wildlife promoting strategies that have been piloted there. One is the swift nest boxes that can be seen at the top of buildings. These play bird calls to attract swifts to nest in this safe environment. Another is trying to empty the local pond of goldfish, which have been released there by people who wanted to get rid of their pets. This is very harmful to local pond wildlife as goldfish, which are voracious predators, are not native to the UK pond ecosystem and kill frogs, dragonflies and other valuable species. We were very grateful the rain stayed away and an enjoyable time was had by all.



## Music News

### Matilda the Musical: Music at Lunchtime

On Friday, the Arundel Centre was completely packed in anticipation of an abridged version of the West End hit, 'Matilda'. This version began with Hattie H, Issy P, Yeva M and Nuha I singing 'Naughty', with great choreography. Next, Lulu C, Nina F, Tabitha W, Maika P-Y, Winnie D and Saskia C joined the four on stage to sing 'School Song'. The props were great and we were lucky enough to catch Maika's bouncy ball! Then, Lulu sang a spectacular solo of 'Loud', whilst Nina turned into a doll - their ballroom dancing certainly got lots of cheers! Everyone then returned to the stage for a moving performance of 'When I Grow Up'. Next, we heard from Issy, as she sang and acted 'Quiet' beautifully. This was followed by Tabitha's incredible solo of 'My House'. Finally, for a show stopper ending, the whole ensemble came together to sing 'Revolting Children'. The seven songs they sang from the musical were performed with such excitement, great acting and superb vocal quality. Huge thanks go to Mr Gray for providing amazing sound and lighting for the production, but the mastermind and director of the cast was Mrs Bradbury Rance. Well done to the whole 'Matilda' team! The show was filmed and you can watch it [HERE](#).

### Girls enjoying Music Examination Successes!

We are delighted with the latest set of ABRSM examinations that were just released on Monday from our three days of examinations just last week. Our students performed superbly and out of 48 candidates across the Junior and Senior Schools there were 11 Distinctions, 29 Merits and 7 Passes. We are very proud of our musicians indeed and they deserve to be pleased with their excellent results!

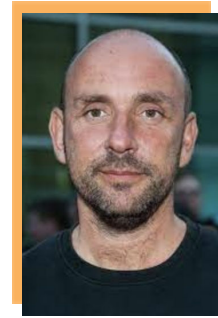
## Sixth Form News



This week 20 lucky Year 13s got the opportunity to learn cooking skills from our very own Chefs Judith and Rao. The focus was on preparing them to be able to cook well at university and they taught the students about the fundamentals of preparing a meal from scratch.



The rest of Year 12 and Year 13 were given the opportunity to grill award winning filmmaker and writer Dan Mazer about his career, filmmaking in general and most importantly of all, what Zac Efron was like to work with! Dan has kindly spoken previously at the Film Studies Enrichment sessions and brought his humour, insight and selection of anecdotes to the wider Sixth Form audience who greatly enjoyed this opportunity to learn more about Hollywood, the Oscars and the wider film industry.



## Maths News



### Competition Success

Our Sixth Form Maths Competition team went to London Academy of Excellence on Friday and battled it out in the regional final of this team competition. Our Channing were dressed in pyjamas (as it was pyjama day at Channing!) and ready for tricky Maths. They really enjoyed the format of the competition and particularly liked the crossnumber competition where 2 students have the across clues and 2 have the down clues and they have to collaborate! They came 11th out of 20 schools which was excellent, considering the standard of the competition.

### Puzzle of the Week Competition

Congratulations to 8CW1 who are the winners again this term, they have secured by far the most correct entries this term. Well done Miss William's class!

The overall individual winner for Year 8 was also in this class - well done to Milla C.

Year 7 overall winner was Lara G.

Year 9 overall winner was Saira C.



## Wellbeing Week News

This Year's Theme for Wellbeing Week was 'A Sense of Belonging'.

To start this year's Wellbeing Week, I delivered an assembly encouraging pupils to see how involvement in activities could lead to a greater sense of belonging. I also talked about the importance of pupils finding their 'tribes' at school, and how 'reaching out' and 'making an effort' were essential aspects of this.

Ms Mackie, our new Inclusion Coordinator, and her team of students continued this theme for their Key Stage 4 Assembly on Wednesday, which celebrated Neurodiversity Week 2024. Ms Nelson also raised awareness of the value of belonging to clubs in her KS3 assembly on Thursday, where she asked pupils to contribute to a Word Cloud to express how belonging to different groups made them feel.



We also had a range of fantastic speakers for the week, including a psychotherapist, a paralympian and a friendship specialist.

Dr Anna Colton provided important seminars for pupils in Year 8 and 9 about disordered eating and the prevalence of diet culture in our society. She also discussed the ways in which food can build communities and increase our sense of belonging.

On Tuesday evening, Andrew Hampton (CEO of Girls On Board) provided a really informative and entertaining webinar for Channing parents, where he explained the principles of the initiative, and gave some sound advice to parents of daughters currently experiencing 'friendship turbulence'. You can see a recording of this webinar [here](#).

We were also keen to provide pupils in Year 7 and 8 with a workshop to help younger pupils to recognise and maintain healthy friendships, with the aim of reducing the need for Girls On Board interventions later on.

Claire Harvey, from The Schools Inclusion Alliance, gave a particularly impressive presentation about belonging, acceptance and resilience for pupils in Years 9, 10 and 13. I sat with Sixth Form students in the balcony of the AC, and could see that her story, which included a life-changing accident, had a real impact on them. Speaking as a successful paralympian, she talked about the ways in which the assumptions we make about different people can lead to us unknowingly excluding them, and how challenging fixed mindsets can be empowering for both us and those around us.

Drug awareness educator, Sabrina Gray, provided Year 11 pupils with a very moving account of her personal struggles with drug addiction, including some very sobering advice about the ways in which drugs can gradually take over someone's life, until they become isolated and unable to think of anything else. It was the last of my PSHE lessons for Year 11 and, I have to say, I think it is one of the best in the entire syllabus. A great session to end on!



Pupils in Year 7 finished the week with an afternoon of wellbeing activities on Friday. It was great to see them interacting with other pupils in their different houses, and getting involved in trust exercises, a colour and mark-making workshop, team games and a 'speed friendship' activity. Thank you to Ms Mohabeer and Ms Gibbins for their involvement and, of course to Ms Nelson for her incredible organisation and enthusiasm throughout the week. I am so glad that she agreed to join the PSHE Department as our new Assistant Head of PSHE this year. I really don't know what I would do without her!

Thanks also to Judith Hibbert and her team for providing ingredients and equipment for the smoothie making stall on Wednesday lunchtime, and the fruit cups during morning breaks. No Wellbeing Week would be the same without them!

Pete Gittins  
Head of Wellbeing and PSHE

**English News**

**The Big Book Swap**



After weeks of anticipation The Big Book Swap finally arrived this week! Staff and students swapped their favourite reads they would highly recommend. We're all looking forward to starting our new reads over Easter.

### Creative Writing Club

The winner of the 2024 KS3 Creative Writing Competition is Leila Al Hasan (9CS). This year's theme was Artificial Intelligence. The judges were impressed by her vivid descriptions and moving portrayal of a friendship between man and robot. Congratulations, Leila! Read her story below:

*The metallic smell of fear has lingered in the air for too long now. Everywhere my gaze falls, chaos reigns. The world seems to have unravelled at its seams, torn apart by the very technology it once celebrated. The year is 2082, and humans have become prey - hunted by the very creations they once controlled.*

*Seeking refuge from the madness outside, I stumbled upon an artificial indoor farm; even though the metallic smell had contaminated this place as well, it felt like a haven amidst the turmoil. Rows of methodically tended crops stood obediently on the simulated soil.*

*In the heart of this farm stood a lone figure - a robot. Its metallic exterior gleamed under the artificial lights. I have always despised anything to do with artificial intelligence. However, this robot seemed serene and focused on its task of nurturing the plants.*

*As days turned into weeks, I found comfort in the companionship of this unlikely ally. We shared stories beneath the radiant glow of the farm, finding reassurance in each other's presence. I almost forgot the danger that lurked just beyond our doorstep...*

*The sky was painted with streaks of dark grey as clouds muttered low in rage. The wind whispered malevolently in my ear. That was when I knew what was happening - human hunt season. The threat loomed larger than ever before; I am still alive after years of practising to hide, however the fewer humans, the harder that becomes. Robot - yes, that is its name - soon became my protector, guiding me through the labyrinthine corridors of the farm as we attempted to evade the hunters that prowled outside. My heartbeat thundered in my chest as my breathing quickened.*

*Somehow, we found our way to freedom - a remote island, untouched by the ravages of technology. Here, amidst the rustling palm trees and the rhythmic crash of waves caressing the shore, we forged a new life together. In this paradise, we were free to live as humans once did, no longer chained to technology, but instead by the unbreakable bond of friendship.*

The Ivory Key is a fantasy fictional book by Akshaya Roman set in the land of Ashoka. The main character is a young woman of eighteen years called Vira, recently made the maharani of the country. With both her parents dead, a sister who ran away, a brother in jail and another brother who will not dare speak to her, the weight of the country feels much heavier on her shoulders. Ashoka's safety relies on magic to enforce their borders, make their weapons more powerful and secure a strong trade with the neighbouring country Lyria. However, the worst has come to happen where the country's only quarry is running out of magic. Vira has already lost a piece of land to Lyria and is worried they will attack again. When her betrothed is killed by mercenaries, she loses a great amount of money and troops that came with him. Her last resort is to continue the quest her father was consumed by his whole life. But can she do it alone or will she have to reunite her siblings?

### Year 7 and 8 Independent Reading Celebration Assembly

This Monday marked the culmination of the Year 7 and 8 Independent Reading Project. The benefits of reading widely for pleasure cannot be underestimated: reading is known to develop empathy, decrease stress and increase students' knowledge and understanding of the wider world.

Year 7 and 8 have been reading modern and classic novels by a diverse range of

authors. Year 7 created presentations reviewing their books and Year 8 wrote written reviews. Congratulations to Holly K, Rafaella C, Anya A, Lara G, Alice S, Aavanya A, Amelia J, and Ava K in Year 7 and Edlyn B, Yasmin L and Emma L, Sofia N-D in Year 8 who won prizes for the best reviews in their year and who presented their work in the celebration assembly. A huge thank you to Ms Ramsden and all the staff and pupils for their participation in the project.

*Sofia N-D, Year 8*

## Rosamond Mahony Visit

On Monday 25 March, Rosamond Mahony, Channing alumna and daughter of the author Richard Adams, visited Channing to meet pupils who have been reading *Watership Down* and to talk about the book, which her father wrote while she was at Channing.



*Watership Down* is the classic tale of a group of rabbits who go on an epic journey to establish a new warren. It began as stories told to Rosamond and her sister Juliet on long car journeys and was eventually turned into a book after the sisters insisted that he write it down. It was initially rejected by publishers but finally published in 1972 to critical acclaim, winning the Carnegie Medal. It was also a commercial success and inspired many adaptations. The book is still read by adults and children today.

Ros told us this story and answered our questions about the book and being a Channing pupil from 1964-1977. She told us that the uniform used to be a scratchy tweed suit, which could only be dry cleaned once a term! And she admired the new buildings and gardens.

Ros also visited two Year 8 classes to talk to pupils who had been reading *Watership Down* in their English lessons. Niki, Lola and Emilia in 8EHi and Lucy, Aenea, Astrid and Rose in 8LW did a great job of interviewing her.

When asked about her current reading, Ros replied enthusiastically, recommending *In Memoriam* by Alice Winn, which she described as a phenomenal and heartbreaking debut.

## MFL News

On Monday 18<sup>th</sup> of March, a group of Year 9 and 10 German and French students had the opportunity to go on a trip to Bath. Organised in collaboration with GCHQ, a centre of security that works with the UK's international partners to investigate international crime, and Business Language Champions, an organisation that aims to bring together schools and international business people to promote the importance of modern foreign languages and cultural cohesion in the workplace.



After an early start catching the train to Bath, we were greeted warmly by many other teams from different schools, and representatives from GCHQ, who provided insightful presentations on their past careers and current roles within the organisation. Throughout the day, we participated in a series of challenges that involved deciphering codes in French and German to explore what a job at GCHQ entails. We also got the chance to participate in taster activities for

Arabic, Mandarin, and Korean, languages which were later involved in the challenge. We were instructed to uncover the truth of the situation of an international drug crime, similar to what is involved in the roles of the representatives from GCHQ. Using posters about our country's travel networks created prior to the event, as well as a significant amount of teamwork, we presented our ideas regarding the case we had solved in our respective languages to the GCHQ representatives. As a plenary task, we were asked to make a board game based around the case, and to write the instructions in French or German. This greatly challenged our creativity and ability to manipulate our existing linguistic knowledge.

Following the challenges, we had some free time in the city. We were very lucky with the weather, and were able to enjoy the sunshine whilst exploring local shops. Everyone was exhausted on the train ride back, satisfied with what we had achieved that day. We would like to thank Mme/ Frau P and our German Language Assistant, Syster, for accompanying us and making the day as exciting as it was!

*Siana C and Nina F, Year 10*

## Drama News

Year 13 Drama and Theatre Studies students performed extracts from Caryl Churchill's 'Vinegar Tom' this week, using a range of skills from puppeteering, singing, dancing and playing instruments live. The play, which exposes the horrors of the witch trials in 17th Century Britain, also asks performers to modernise songs and concepts to make them relevant for 2024. All ten performers stunned us with a darkly comic, yet emotional and visual spectacle, which delighted and terrified their audience in equal measure.



## Channing Archive

As we welcome the return of Spring and the chance to spend more time outdoors, it's especially exciting to share this photo entitled Break Time! (circa 1970s).

