



Dear Parents,

I will be honest, it feels rather strange to be writing Word from the Head on International Women's Day in Mrs Hughes' absence. As I told your children in assembly this morning, they do not need a man lecturing them about the importance of this day and I highlighted that me doing so would be patronising at best. The same is true for this newsletter. It does feel right, however, to start by thanking all of the staff and pupils who were involved in marking this important day, in particular the Charities and Inclusion Officers and Reps and all of the teachers who cycled on our stationary bikes to raise money for [Smartworks](#), our school charity this year. If you are still keen to contribute please feel free to do so through this [link](#).

Having reflected on my own role on International Women's Day, I hope you will forgive me for addressing this newsletter to the dads, granddads, brothers, uncles and other male members of your family. It won't surprise you that someone who works in girls' education and believes firmly in its merits also feels strongly that men have a responsibility towards equality that goes beyond platitudes and well meaning gestures. I remember well a few years ago when I was on a cycling trip with my wife and rode down a cycle highway in South London which was surrounded by nature. I commented at the time that I would love to live close to a path like this and commute to work every day in this environment. My wife disagreed. Her reason: the lack of street lighting which made this path unsafe to be alone on. That hadn't even occurred to me. The moment stayed with me and highlighted the privilege I have enjoyed all my life. I have never worried about being out late at night in a poorly lit area, I never took off my headphones because I wanted to be more aware of my surroundings, never held my bunch of keys in my hand in case I needed to use them against someone. I have never scanned a road for open shops that I might step into if I am approached by someone inappropriately or feel in danger. I have never been called 'darling', 'sexy', 'sweetheart' or any such names by a stranger, have never been told to 'give us a smile' or was shouted at for not doing so. I also never had anyone expose themselves in front of me with the intent to make me uncomfortable. I owe my wife an enormous debt of gratitude for educating me over the years about this privilege that I live with and I feel deeply sad that the same is not true for her.

Further to the everyday sexism and misogyny that women have to deal with is the fact that the world we live in has been designed by men, for men. I was shocked to find out that the transport system was designed for the needs of men and rarely considers that women might have other needs. The same is true of much of the medical sector where we see better research into male physiology, and even drugs that are largely tested for male recipients, even if women take them.

So this is a plea to the men reading this: let's do better. It is important that we recognise our privilege. Many of us are in circumstances where we can and should make a difference. In our jobs we can think about the impact on female colleagues or clients and whether they have needs we have not considered. We can educate other men around us. We often talk about all of us having daughters, mothers and sisters. Actually, we also have brothers, sons and dads, all of whom need to be part of the solution. Far too many of us look away when we encounter poor behaviour such as jokes that are simply not funny or objectifying comments towards strangers and acquaintances alike. We all know it is happening and if we all stopped accepting or passively condoning it, things

would change for the better. Our reaction should not be defensive, protesting that it's 'not all men', but to listen and to aim to do better.

Moving away from thoughts about International Women's Day, I hope that those of you who are celebrating Mothering Sunday this weekend are able to spend time with the important women in your lives. I would also like to wish our Muslim community Ramadan Mubarak. If any of your children are fasting during this important time, I would ask that you inform your relevant form tutor or Head of Year so we can make sure they are supported.

With best wishes for the weekend,

Mr Freddie Meier
Deputy Head

Notices

Channing at St Joseph's Concert, Thursday 14 March

Parents are warmly invited to the Senior School's Channing at St Joseph's event, which will be held in the splendid setting of St Joseph's Church on Thursday 14 March at 7.30pm.

This year's programme of choral and orchestral music includes Bob Chilcott's 'A Little Jazz Mass' and Christina Perri's 'Jar of Hearts', sung by the joint choruses of Cantemus Chorus and Conabor Choir. The Chamber Choir sings Sarah Quartal's 'Songbird' and Cecilia McDowell's 'Would like to meet', with all choirs being accompanied by orchestra. Our Senior String Ensemble will be playing Finzi's 'Romance' and a flute concerto by J S Bach, featuring Emily B on flute. The Symphony Orchestra will frame the concert, opening with the 1st Movement from Sibelius' 2nd Symphony and a lively Danzas Cubanas as a finale!

Please note that if your child is a member of any of the ensembles mentioned above they will be required for the FINAL REHEARSALS and the concert.

FINAL REHEARSALS

Wednesday 13 March 4pm - 6.30pm Founders' Hall
Thursday 14 March 1.40pm - 4.30pm St Joseph's Church

Following the rehearsal on the afternoon of the concert students will not be able to return to school. All performers will be required to return to St Joseph's Church by 7.10pm on the evening of the concert, which should finish by 9pm. Students will be expected to wear Concert Dress unless they are in Year 7, who should wear smart school uniform.

Tickets are priced at £8 for adults (children under the age of 18 are FREE) and are available now by clicking on [this link](#).

Channing Association News

North London Book Fest, Alexandra Palace 21-24 March

We have planned a lively and diverse programme including big names like Natalie Haynes, Robin Ince, Lemony Snicket, Michael Rosen, Costa-winner Stuart Turton, and Peter Hain - but also some exciting debut writers including Leo Vardiashvili who featured on Front Row recently and Jay Owens with *Dust: The Modern World in a Trillion Particles*, revealing the hidden consequences of environmental devastation caused by the relentless pursuit of profit and power.

There will be panels ranging from conversations with parenting experts to an exploration of creativity and AI with Robin Ince and Andy Stanton, plus a special Night of Crime and Thrillers. There will be workshops and talks from some of the very best children's writers.

For 50% off book fest events in the Theatre please use NLBFCLOFF50

For 20% off book fest events in the other spaces please use NLBFCLOFF20

Tickets can be booked via the Alexandra Palace website:

<https://www.alexandrapalace.com/whats-on/north-london-book-festival/>

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.

ABRSM Practical Music Examinations - SUMMER TERM

20 -23 May 2024

APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

We will be holding Summer Term Practical music examinations over two or three days during **20 - 23 May 2024** 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. (Please note: regrettably, Year 6 pupils will be unable to take their examination in the Summer Term, as they are away on a residential trip the week the examinations take place in May.)

We do need parental consent before we enter candidates, therefore parents need to scan the QR code shown and complete the online form by **4pm on Tuesday 19 March** at the latest. Regrettably, we will be unable to process late applications.

Who Should I contact?

Please see below updated contact information for the Senior School;

 [Who should I contact - 2024.pdf](#)

London Landmarks Marathon - Sponsor our Deputy Head, Ms Newman


Our Academic Deputy Head, 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>



ABRSM Examinations

Examinations are scheduled to take place during **20th-23rd May 2024**



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

Consent forms must be submitted by 4pm Tuesday 19th March. Regrettably, late entries cannot be accepted.

Channing Parents' Information Evening in Conjunction with Wellbeing Week 2024

Andrew Hampton, The *Girls On Board* Approach, Tuesday 19 March 2024 6:00 - 7:00pm. More details can be found here: [Parents Webinar for Wellbeing Week 2024.pdf](#)

STEM Week Timetable

[Timetable for STEM week 24 STUDENT VERSION.pdf](#)



Girls Enjoying Success

CHANNING

Sports News

Cheerleading

The Eagles senior cheerleading team have been undertaking a fundraising task since the start of the year. They have been raising funds for the amazing charity Freedom for Girls <https://www.freedom4girls.co.uk>. They have raised over £1000 for this great cause. Well done everyone!

Netball

On Monday our U16's played a 7-a-side match away at South Hampstead. A couple of early errors presented the ball to South Hampstead close to our own goal of which they took full advantage to take an early two goal lead. However the team rallied well and with Mimi H commanding possession in the central midfield, we got back into the game. Another error gave South Hampstead a third against the run of play but despite having the majority of possession we found it difficult to create clear goal scoring opportunities. At the end our opponents scored a fourth to run out 4-0 winners.

Thursday saw our Under 13's play a Haringey league match away at Park View. Against a very physical home side the Channing team quickly took charge of the game with their superior technical ability. Goals from Siena R, Milla C, Scarlett P and Anoushka C gave Channing a 7-2 win. Special mention also to Ayla A-R in goal who made some fantastic saves to keep us in the game. This result consolidates Channing's second place in the league with one fixture remaining.

Music News

Music Theatre Evening

On Thursday 22 February 55 candidates took their Music Theatre examinations at school. The Music School was absolutely buzzing with so many famous Broadway and West End showstoppers! The previous Thursday we had an 'Evening of Music Theatre' in the Arundel Centre showcasing 18 of the candidates singing one of their songs. Millie W was first on stage with a glorious opening performance of 'Many a



New Day' from Oklahoma. Alaia P then continued the Rodgers and Hammerstein corner with a delightful rendition of 'My Favourite Things' from our favourite musical! Eliana continued with the beautifully sung title song, 'The Sound of Music'. 'Chitty Chitty Bang Bang' was



next and Izzy C delighted with the lovely 'Hushabye Mountain' from that musical. Iris F-C then gave a sublime interpretation of 'Over the Rainbow' before Grace O'S gave a poised and poignant rendition of 'Castle on a Cloud' from Les Miserables. 'Mamma Mia' featured next in a touching performance given by Sylvia B of 'Slipping through my fingers'. Clearly a star in the making, Issy P wowed with her interpretation and staging of 'Quiet' from Matilda. Agi T's heartfelt

'Matchmaker' from 'Fiddler on the roof' was delightful and Maya B gave her all in a fabulous rendition and staging of 'I feel pretty' from West Side Story. 'I want to sing in opera' is a wonderfully comic song, the spirit of which was captured superbly by Leahnora de T-L before we moved on to the very emotionally portrayed and superbly acted 'The movie in my mind' from 'Miss Saigon' sung by Scarlett D. This paired beautifully with Georgie G's touching performance of 'What I did for love' from 'A Chorus line'. Bella K positively smouldered with her bewitching interpretation of 'Smoke gets in my eyes' from 'Roberta'. We returned briefly to 'Les Miserables' for Anna R-B's poignant portrayal of the classic 'Empty chairs at empty tables'. Chloe L's representation of 'In his eyes' was very convincing and prepossessing. Stevie B's performance of 'Pulled' from 'The Addams family' matched the previous 'Jekyll and Hyde' song and Stevie was most impressive. The evening closed with a joyful number from 'Hairspray' - 'I can hear the bells' sung with great confidence and excellent staging by Alice M. Well done to all our performers and to all our candidates that took their examinations last week. We are looking forward to a stellar set of results! Do watch the concert [HERE](#)

Music at Lunchtime

Last Friday's lunchtime concert was short but sweet! We started with Hannah D in 12PB performing a stunning rendition of 'Bill' from the musical Showboat, her execution was both clear and controlled. Well done Hannah! Next Millie W in 8MH took to the stage with her moving performance of 'On my Own' from Les Miserables by Schonberg, she was amazing and captured the feeling of the song. After this, for a double Schonberg whammy Eliza C in 12PS stunned us all with her fantastic singing and emotion of 'I'd give my life for you' from Miss Saigon. To close off this lunchtime treat we were serenaded with a string quartet of Imogen B and Elizabeth S



on violins, Hana D on viola and Darcy D on cello, playing 'Allegro ma non tanto' by Beethoven . This performance was delicately precise and left our audience in awe of their talent, great job guys! Do listen [HERE](#)

by Eliza C and Hannah D, Year 12

Music Success

Elizabeth S in Year 11 is performing as the soloist in a performance of Prokofiev's Violin Concerto in a concert given by the North London Sinfonia on Saturday 23 March at Palmers Green United Reformed Church. It is a delightful programme and the Prokofiev will sparkle with Elizabeth as soloist. Details of the concert can be found at <https://www.nlsinfonia.org/>

Drama News

Students in Year 12 Drama and Theatre Studies performed 2 extracts from contrasting plays last week. 'Like a Virgin' by Gordon Steele and 'Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead' by Tom Stoppard are 2 plays showcasing the polar opposites of comedy. The first is a naturalistic look at two teenage girls' dreams of stardom and the other an absurdist musing on existential questions - and what would happen if the minor characters from Shakespeare's 'Hamlet' were suddenly centre stage. The two set designs were also starkly different, one with minute details and set dressing, the other using live video feed and set in a purely monochromatic world.



Sixth Form News

It has been a busy week for the Sixth Form with a number of opportunities for enrichment of their studies and acknowledgment of International Women's Day. On Monday, during Sixth Form enrichment, Mr Boxall delivered a fascinating lecture to Year 12 about female composers such as Clara Schumann. He encouraged the students to look beyond the male dominated more well-known classical composers and to learn more about the female composers



he discussed and believed deserved more attention. Year 13, as part of their 'Preparation for University' series of events set up by Mr Martini-Phillips, were given a talk by Jo Baldwin, Director of Fiscorum Financial Intelligence all about handling finances at university and beyond. Students were given expert practical advice and suggestions. Parents of Year 13 feel free to grill them on what they learnt and expect them to be better at managing their money!

On Thursday, as part of our International Women's Day focus, the organisation 'Befriend your boobs' gave a talk and workshop to all sixth formers about identifying, preventing and treating breast cancer and raising understanding of the increased risks for certain ethnic groups. The sessions were led by Dr Michelle Ferris and Dr Simone Shelle, and supported by medical Students Nikita Sood, Anabelle Permutt and Abena Amponsan. The practical and extremely well informed nature of the workshop gave the students a raft of essential information.

Mr Martini-Phillips



Art News

Year 7 Photography club took to the streets of Channing to conduct some documentary photography for International Womens' Day. Here are some of their shots

International Women's Day News

To celebrate **International Women's Day**, members of our Inclusion Society have created a piece of collaborative art and decorated our entrance foyer. Students photographed dozens of the Channing community's hands creating the heart sign, the sign of IWD's campaign, 'Inspire Inclusion', and stuck these onto purple card to create an enormous heart.

To raise awareness about **International Women's Day**, Channing Staff are collectively attempting to cycle 300 miles in a relay on our static exercise bikes. We are raising money for our chosen charity, **Smart Works**, who help give women the confidence they need to reach their full potential, secure employment and change the trajectory of their lives.



Our Charity Officers are helping to generate sponsorship from our students - if you would like to help us reach our fundraising target, with even a small donation, you can sponsor us here:

<https://www.cycleforsmartworks.org.uk/fundraisers/channingschoolsupportingsmartworkslondon2496>

English News

Debating

The Senior Debating team took part in the Regional Final of the English Speaking Union schools' mace debate hosted by Eltham College. This is the largest, longest running debating competition in the country and it is a fantastic achievement that they got this far! Evie M, Molly S and Catrin C proposed the motion, 'This house would legalise physician assisted euthanasia'. The quality of the debates was exceptionally high and the judges deliberated for over half an hour. Our team were first runners up, coming second by a very small margin. They represented the school with poise, confidence and style. I would like to congratulate them on their success and team spirit. We look forward to next year's competition!



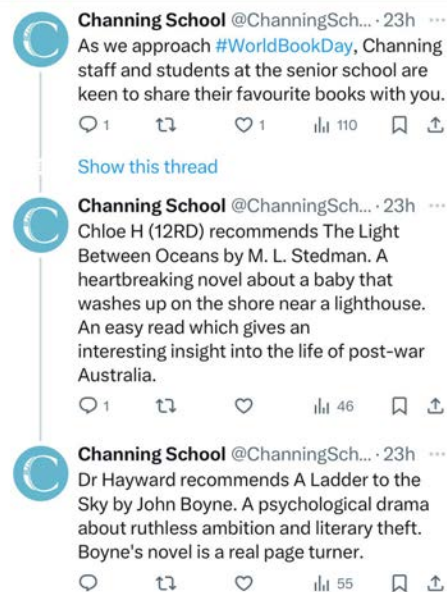
The Big Book Swap

Students have been invited to participate in a school-wide book swap. Here's what you need to know:

1. Find a book that you really enjoyed. The book must belong to you (so, not a library book, an heirloom, or belonging to someone else in your family).
2. Wrap it up in whatever paper you have lying around (newspaper, old wrapping paper etc.)
3. On a Post-it, explain in a few words who might like this novel and the genre. **No spoilers. No book title.** For example: About four teenage girls, growing up in Civil War America. A classic.
4. Bring it to school on **Monday 25 March** when our reading registration will be Big Book Swap time. Even better if you bring it to school asap and then you won't forget!
5. Monday 25 March: swap your book with someone else's! Unwrap. Read. Enjoy.

World Book Day

To celebrate World Book Day, students and staff have been sharing their book recommendations. Head over to the Channing Twitter page if you're looking for your next book, need some inspiration, or would like to share your own recommendations.



Geography News

Yesterday Year 8 went on their first Geography Field Trip to Battersea Power Station. They were investigating 'sense of place' and 'sustainability' at Battersea Power Station and putting into practice their knowledge and skills from class into the field. We arrived at Battersea on the Uber Boat watching it come into view as we cruised along the Thames. The students enjoyed the Lift 109 experience



exploring the views over London from the top of the chimney at 109m high. Now back at school we will analyse the results from the data collected, draw conclusions and evaluate the whole investigation. A highlight of the day for the students was the chance spotting of Gordon Ramsey in one of his restaurants! Thank you to all the staff who accompanied the trip.

STEM News

Biology Ellery Programme

This week the Year 7 students investigated the use of enzymes in the production of fruit juice.



Using apple pulp, they added pectinase, cellulase and a mixture of both enzymes and none to measure the volume of juice produced. Students competently followed the procedure and accurately predicted that the combination of enzymes would give the largest volume of apple juice; pectinase causes the separation of the plant cells, providing a larger surface area of cellulose cell wall for cellulase to digest. The juice produced still contained the enzymes at the end, and so next week we will investigate how we can retrieve the enzymes at the end of the investigation.

Problem Solving Club

This week in Problem Solving Club we were tackling “Make a Number” questions.

Students were able to use some or all of the numbers to make the target number and use any of the symbols; $() + - \times \div$. Here is an example, can you solve it?

Use the numbers

50, 1, 1, 1, 2 and 7

They worked in teams of 4 (plus a sixth form helper) to see which group could find the most target numbers.

to make

20

It was a close match but the winning team managed to solve an amazing 7 problems!

KS3 Science Question of the Week

This week's KS3 Science question of the week was ‘What is DNA?’. Pupils were encouraged to not only research, but also make models and take pictures of this as part of their entries. Once again we had some fantastic responses, with pupils putting a lot of effort into writing their answers, and also finding relevant diagrams/making models. This week 2 commendations were given out as we had 2 stand out responses. Firstly to Nancy S who made a model and a youtube video explaining what DNA is - [here is the link to the video](#). Secondly to Lily A who wrote a brilliant explanation and also made a DNA friendship bracelet. Well done both! A merit was also given to Scarlett C who also sent in a very detailed answer and diagram.



Maths In Action

Last Friday 48 Year 10 students took part in a series of Maths lectures at Maths in Action at the Emmanuel Centre. Sophie Maclean started the day off by looking at the link between maths and music and why some chords sound better to the ear than others. The students then heard from Alison Kiddle about the maths of luck and why you are more likely to be struck by lightning than win the lottery. Our very own Mr Thomas was the last man standing when guessing whether Alison would throw a heads or tails. The students were then transported through space to think about scale and the maths and physics behind measuring distances of stars and galaxies. After lunch, Matt Pritchard treated students to an exclusive behind the scenes tour of the creative process and maths of some of his best optical illusions and tricks. Tom Crawford finished the day discussing how to take the perfect penalty among other things. The girls thoroughly enjoyed their day and left with many new ideas about where maths could take them beyond school.



Maths Success

Well done to Evangelina U in Year 9 who is leading the competition to complete the most of Mr Bowman's maths challenge questions which have been set for Years 9 and 10. A special mention goes to Siana C in Year 10 who has also completed a number of these challenges which extend the girls beyond the curriculum. New sets of questions will be coming soon for Years 8, 9 and 10 and it would be great to see a few more taking on the challenge.



Physics in Action

Year 12 physics students attended Physics in Action this week. Greg Foot started the day exploring what happens as you dive further into the dark ocean. The students were then transported to Mars where they delved into the fascinating realm of Martian exploration. Dr Caroline Shenton-Taylor spoke about searching for hidden nuclear material. The day finished with Nic Harrigan explaining how quantum computers can change the world and Leah Morgan posing questions about the power of the future and fusion energy. The students found the trip enjoyable and useful and they highly recommended it for future years.



Young Enterprise News

Are you looking for a Mothering Sunday gift? Tealightful have secured a last minute pitch at **Archway Market this Saturday 9 March**. Do pop along and buy a teacup candle if you are in the area.

The following **Saturday 16 March** you will find both Tealightful and All About The Bow in **Brent Cross Shopping Centre all day**. Do please come along and give them your support. All About The Bow will have some exciting new products on sale for the first time.

In the meanwhile do donate any tea-cups and ribbons you no longer need via the senior school or follow the teams on their social media:

All About The Bow:

https://instagram.com/all.about.the.bow?igshid=OGQ5ZDc2ODk2ZA%3D%3D&utm_source=qr

Tealightful:

<https://www.instagram.com/tealightfulthings/>

Mrs R Williams
YE Centre Lead



Partnership News

Year 7 DT Club

Our Year 7 students finished decorating their clock faces and fixed mechanisms into place. The finished products look splendid!

Erica of 7RL said: *'I've been doing DT Club at St Aloysius College for the last six weeks. It's been a fun experience and I have learnt lots of skills using new equipment. I was very lucky to have this opportunity and I would definitely recommend this club to the next Year 7s.'*



Year 7 Baking at LSU

This Tuesday after school, 10 Year 7 Channing pupils went to La Sainte Union School to bake gooey chocolate brownies with LSU pupils. Much fun was had by all with one LSU pupil commenting *"It felt like I was on a cooking show!"* Pupils, of course, were able to take the fruits of their labour home to share with their families for pudding.

Year 9 Reading

This was the second week for Nuha, Jemima, Caye and Lydia. They read with 8 different pupils and handed out reward stickers to them all. Lydia P listened to a story about Ronaldo for the full 15 minute visit - well done Lydia!

Year 9 Cooking at St Aloysius

This was the last week of the 7-week cooking course that has been run by Mrs Hibbert and held at St Aloysius' cooking classrooms. The pupils from Channing and St Aloysius made pizzas this week and were given certificates for their involvement in the course. Thank you to Mrs Hibbert and her team for providing this opportunity for our pupils!





Year 10 Communithea

It was a quieter than normal communithea this month, but highly enjoyable to see our friends. Our regular attendees came and enjoyed the wonderful spread of cakes, sandwiches and hot drinks thanks to the fabulous catering department. Thank you to Ella, Ruby and Leila who volunteered.

Channing Archive

To celebrate International Women's Day today we would like to share these pictures from an artefact entitled Pocket Book and Other Sketches belonging to one of the School's founders, Miss Matilda Sharpe from 1854 and 1855.



Towing Path Hampton Court 1854



Hampton Court 1855