



InHouse

10th July 2020

MOUNT HOUSE WISHES A FOND FAREWELL TO MR. DAVIES



A message from Ian Davies, Headmaster

Dear Parents,

At the close of the school year it is always a sad duty to say farewell to students and staff who are leaving the School for pastures new.

This year we say farewell to Dr Chakraborty who has brought great expertise to our Physics Department for one year. We will miss his "can do attitude", his approachability and his ability to inspire the best for each student as an individual. We wish him every success and happiness in the future.

Our Science Department is, however, being strengthened by the arrival of three highly qualified and experienced teachers next September. We are welcoming Mr Peter Brozny, our new Head of Science, Mr Paul Conyers to teach Physics and Mathematics and Mr Charles Cotton to teach Physics.

It is with particular sadness that we say farewell to Mrs Mela, who has served this school in a committed and industrious way for 18 years. Mrs Mela's trademark is professionalism, but her personal care for individual students and her sensitive but firm guidance for students in her care is what will be most missed.

Mrs Mela wrote a few words for me to share with colleagues and students at our final assembly of the year on Thursday, and I share them with you below, while wishing Mrs Mela a long, happy and healthy retirement.

Dear colleagues and students,

I am very sad not to be able to say goodbye to you in person today. You have been a big part of my life for many years and I could not leave without saying what a privilege it has been to work with you all. You have truly been those little rays of sunshine on the dullest of days. Your cheery greetings throughout every day have been so uplifting.

For the last eighteen years of my life this school has been my second family. During this time, I have seen many changes, but the essence of the school continues to be the warm, welcoming, supportive community that makes it the special place it certainly is. The challenges of the last three months of lockdown have been tough, but I have continually witnessed so much resilience and kindness, not to mention some of the lovely work that has been achieved.

So, thank you all for the special memories which I will treasure. I shall miss you and I sincerely hope that this is not goodbye but that we shall meet again very soon.....

I read this message to my husband for his opinion, and he said, 'Don't you have a message for your students, some parting words of wisdom?' I thought, hmmm, no pressure! So, here is my humble offering:

Be inspired by everything and everybody around you. Be hungry for knowledge, stay curious and grasp all that life has to offer you. Aspire to be your personal best, but also aspire to be good and kind. Respect one another at all times. Have a dream, and live every moment of this precious life to the full - and have fun doing it!

God bless and au revoir.

Mrs Mela



We thank Mrs Mela for these inspiring and moving words and hope that all students, especially those who are leaving the Upper Sixth and Year 11 carry those words with them wherever they go in the future.

The Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, will be addressing all school leavers on Friday 10th July at 10.00. His address can be accessed on both Facebook and You Tube, and I hope all of our students will be able to access his thoughts at that time.

I wish all parents and students a very restful and peaceful summer holiday, and a safe return in September, when we expect to see all students on Thursday 3rd September.

With kindest regards,

Ian Davies
Headmaster

Pastoral at Mount House

At the end of what has been the strangest school term on record, I would like to wish everyone a thoroughly enjoyable summer holiday.

I hope you enjoy the change of routine and I would encourage everyone to embrace some new experiences. I would also urge you to get as much fresh air and exercise as possible and maybe try accomplish something that you don't usually have time to complete. I would also be mindful of how much time you spend in front of a screen and try to limit phone use to certain times during the day.

At the beginning of next term, I will be sending all students a survey which is designed to give them and their tutor an idea of their wellbeing. The term wellbeing can be defined as the state of being comfortable, healthy, or happy, and there are a number of contributing factors. For example, sleep, diet, activity levels, connecting with other people and being involved in activities with other people.

There are a number of useful resources online for students and parents with a particularly emphasis on wellbeing. A good starting point is:

<https://www.pearson.com/uk/educators/schools/issues/working-together-to-build-healthy-and-happy-schools/the-wellbeing-zone.html>

If you have any questions, please do let me know.

Have a lovely holiday and I look forward to seeing you in September.

Mr Kerr

Deputy Head - Pastoral
kerrm@mounthouse.org.uk



Mount House Summer Literacy and English School

Please email **Mr Nancarrow** if you would like your children to attend the literacy and English classes to be held over summer

nancarrowp@MountHouse.org.uk

Week	Date (week of)	Year 7 and 8 <u>Mon 9am</u>	Year 9 <u>Wed 9am</u>
1	13 July	Apostrophes: possessive and omissive	Complex sentences and subordinate clauses: structuring ideas in sentences
2	20 July	Plurals: ies, s, ves	Argument structure in sentences 1: statements (sentences) explanation/expansion (compound)
3	27 July	Homophones/common spelling errors: there/their/ they're, alot etc	Argument structure in sentences 2: integrated quotes/evidence
4	3 August	Word Class/Function: know your nouns from your adverbs	Word Class/Function: embellishing sentences
5	10 August	Verbs and Tense	Varied sentence openers: verb, adjectives, prepositions etc
6	17 August	Simple and compound sentences	Building paragraphs and sentence cohesion
7	24 August	Complex sentences and subordinate clauses	Literary Terms for Literary Study

Week	Date (week of)	Year 7 English Club Programme <u>Thursday 9am</u>
1	13 July	Reading 1: information retrieval from texts
2	20 July	Reading 2: inferring from texts
3	27 July	Reading 3: understanding similes, metaphors and personification
4	3 August	Writing 1: showing what we know about what we read - using quotes
5	10 August	Writing 2: describing using simple and complex sentences
6	17 August	Writing 3: describing using adverbs and adjectives
7	24 August	Writing 4: describing using similes, metaphors and personification



PE at Mount House

Our Virtual PE Programme has encouraged all students within Key Stage 3 to develop their knowledge and understanding of the importance of fitness and how to further develop fitness levels. Topics covered have included: components of fitness, methods of training, principles of training, fitness testing and analysis of performance. The topics were drawn together with students producing their own individualised Personal Exercise Programme.

Games sessions have seen students in Years 7 – 10 take part in cricket and athletics. Mr Shah has shared his knowledge, experience and love for cricket during his lessons, which have incorporated specific cricket skills, fitness activities and leadership and nutritional talks. Students have been extremely fortunate to have received this expert coaching and should draw upon knowledge when we return to school and take part in cricket. The PE Department enjoyed teaching athletics lessons, albeit slightly adapted sessions, taking in to account the facilities and equipment that students had at home.

We were uplifted by those students who fully involved themselves within the sessions, sharing their results with staff and each other, and those who took part in the Sports Afternoon. The following students in Year 10 demonstrated a competitive nature when taking part in the Sports Afternoon at school; **Charlotte Wheatley, Poppy Canty** and **Raquel Bahirathan**. In addition, **Ella Ryland, Olivia George** and **Antonnia Townsend** (House Captains) in Year 12 should be commended for their effort and performance. The following students in Years 7 & 8 demonstrated a desire to support their House whilst working from home and recorded some fantastic scores; **Emily Westmore, Andreanna Brueton, Theodore Whitehouse, Ayan Shahzad, Mia Bushnell, George Cotgreave** and **Zoey Umenyiora** - well done and well done to everybody who took part.

Sports Clubs have seen students further develop fitness and skills and across a range of sports. In particular, Wednesday Morning Fitness has seen two students (**Lydia Frost-Tingling** and **Amalya Antwi-Agyei**) take part in all sessions this term which has encouraged them to improve their fitness levels whilst working together and challenging themselves – well done to both students.

Mrs Hillcoat-Hyde

Music at Mount House

School Choir

The singers at Mount House have been busy making great music together through our virtual choir. **Ailsa, Aine, Ruby, Talia, Katie, Dara, Olivia, Mona** and **Thibaut** all contributed recordings to create this stunning arrangement of 'Don't Look Back in Anger' which you can listen to on the link below.

Special thanks go to parents Hannah Robinson and Ade Bushby for laying down template vocal tracks and for mixing the recordings respectively.

<https://soundcloud.com/samwhitehousedrums/dont-look-back-in-anger-by-mount-house-choir>

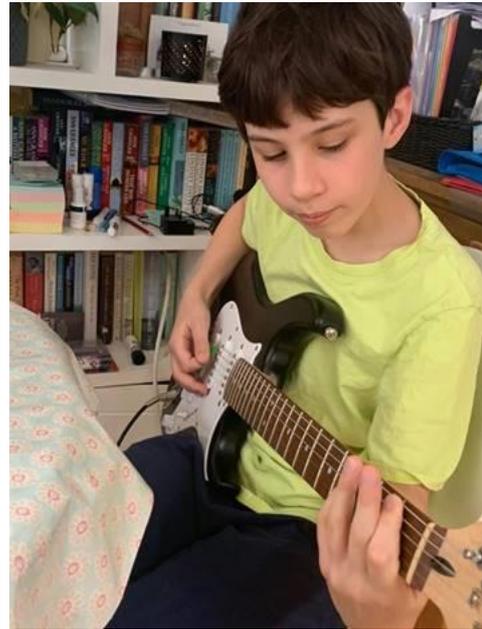


Phantoms Guitar Group

Although they haven't been able to play together at school this term 'The Phantoms' have been very busy playing together in a 'virtual way' with our Head of Music, Mr Whitehouse.

The group have enjoyed creating some great music, learning new tracks and progressing their guitar skills. You can hear **Joel Robinson** and **George Cotgreave** from Year 7 on rhythm guitar with Kimi, Joel's brother in Year 4, on lead and bass guitars perform their brilliant version of 'Teen Spirit' by clicking on the link below.

<https://soundcloud.com/samwhitehousedrums/teen-spirit-by-the-phantoms>



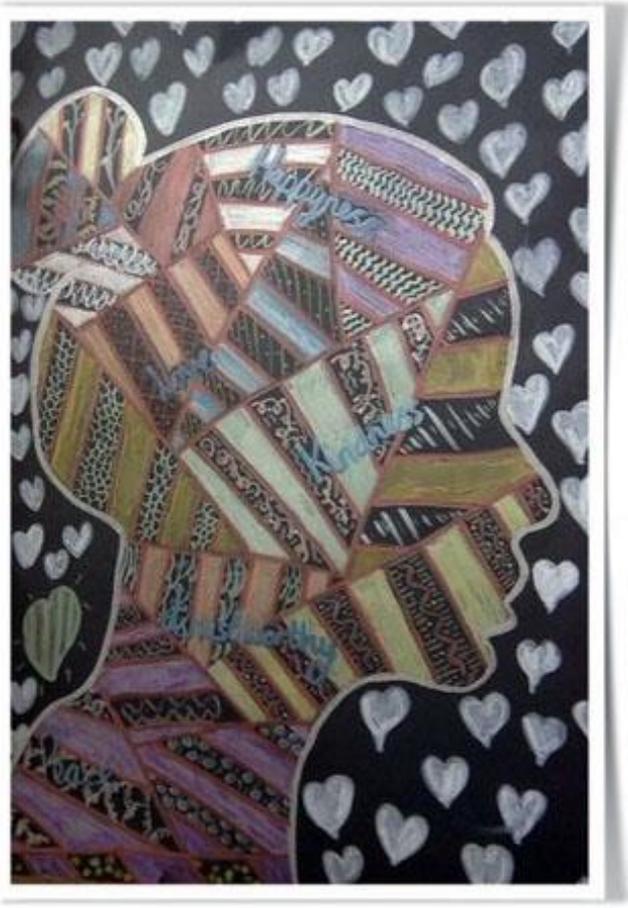
Mr Whitehouse

Art and Photography at Mount House

Me, Myself & I



Andreanna Brueton Year 7



Mariam Demetriou Year 7

Mount House Photography Club

An invitation to the whole school community to take photos for the A-Z Photography Scavenger Hunt over the summer holiday. Send all photos via Teams to Mrs Baird.

<http://mounhouseschoolart.weebly.com/photography-club.html>

Mrs Baird

Mr Ian Davies

Our Head, Mr Ian Davies, was presented with gifts by Deputy Head, Mr Matt Kerr, and Head of Sixth Form, Mr Craig McCormick, from all the staff as a token of appreciation for his exceptional leadership of Mount House School since January, through some very challenging times.

We are hugely fortunate that Mr Davies will remain connected to Mount House School as he will take up his position as a member of the Board of Directors in September.

Co-Curricular at Mount House

It has been fantastic to see so many students involved in our virtual co-curricular programme this term, participating in a variety of clubs with members of staff sharing their passion and expertise from both their homes and more recently from the classroom. The enthusiasm and commitment from our students have made the sessions enjoyable and lifted spirits during lockdown. I hope that students have the opportunity to continue to pursue their interests during the summer holiday.

The Mount House Bake Off was very popular this term, with a number of students meeting on a weekly basis to bake sweet and savoury treats. As the weeks went by the bakes challenged individuals and students developed not only their baking skills but also their presentation skills. I have thoroughly enjoyed the sessions and identifying the bakes that students produced weekly. Well done to everyone involved you have been a fantastic group to work with and I hope you continue to bake in the forthcoming weeks.

Mrs Hillcoat-Hyde

Academic at Mount House

The attached academic calendar attached provides all the key dates for parents over the coming academic year.

During the Introductory Meetings in September, I will go into more detail about the various events.

Introductory Meetings - 1800 - 1900

Consultation Evenings - 1730 - 1930

I wish you and your family an enjoyable summer break.

Miss Sidhu

Academic Deputy Head

Co-Curricular and Academic Enrichment Programme at Mount House

We hope that students have enjoyed taking part in the Virtual Co-Curricular Programme this term. We are looking forward to being able offer our enriched Co-Curricular Programme in the classroom next term and at this stage have planned for as many activities to go ahead as possible. In addition, we are delighted to be able to share our Academic Enrichment Programme with you. Please find copies of the programmes attached.

Students currently at the school will be able to sign up to activities (within the Co-Curricular and Academic Enrichment Programme) and Homework sessions on 'SOCS' our 'Schools Online Communication System' from midday on Wednesday 13th July until midday on Tuesday 1st September (when registers will be generated). Students received their log in details for SOCS back in September 2019 and should have this information recorded in an email. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs Hillcoat-Hyde directly:

hillcoat-hyden@mounthouse.org.uk

Our new joiners, joining us in September should email Mrs Hillcoat-Hyde with the activities they would like to take part in from midday on Wednesday 13th July until midday on Tuesday 1st September (when registers will be generated). Our new joiners will receive SOCS log in details when they arrive in September.

The following link will take you to the homepage for Mount House SOCS where students can log in:

socs.mounthouse.org.uk

(Please be aware that due to the nature of trampolining and only one student being able to go on the trampoline at one time numbers will be limited. However, depending on the demand we will look at rotating students accordingly).

We look forward to the new academic year and student involvement amongst the activities on offer.

Supervised Private Study

Alongside the provision of clubs students have the opportunity to attend supervised private study sessions which will run from 4.00pm - 5.15pm Monday to Thursday. This activity is available for every student remaining in school Monday to Thursday until 5.15pm. This supervised private study programme includes the opportunity to engage with teachers of all subjects who will be on hand to answer questions about any homework set.

Wishing you all a restful summer and look forward to seeing you all next term

Mrs Hillcoat-Hyde & Mr Phillips

