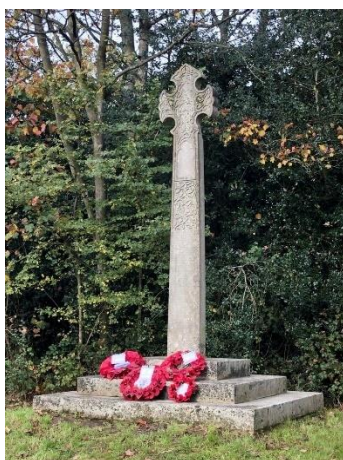




NEWSLETTER 9 - 13th November

Message from Head Mrs. Richardson

On Wednesday, for the first time this term, the whole school was able to gather together outside the main building around the edge of the pond for our Remembrance service. This was therefore a moving occasion on many levels: to be together, to listen to the words of poets and historians, to reflect in silence for two minutes, to hear the sound of the next-door primary school children singing, and to be moved by listening to The Last Post. The scene was lovely and peaceful: the sun shone and a breeze caused autumnal leaves to fall gently from the trees over our heads. The Royal British Legion has drawn the comparison between the experience of the British people during the world wars and our experience during the pandemic – families separated, worry about what the future may hold and heightened levels of anxiety – and their message is clear: it is important that we treat each other with kindness.



For our Monday morning assembly this week, Miss Sidhu talked to the school about stress and how we recognise it, develop strategies to manage it and also understand when we need to ask for help. Within school, there are many people students can approach – their form tutor, older students,



Sheila in reception and Maria in the library and of course all their teachers. During this second lockdown, when many people's lives have once again slowed down and families can enjoy spending more time together at weekends, it is an ideal time to relax and talk to each other about stress, and to reflect together on how to ease it.

We are happy to be back at school together this time around, where we can help and support each other face-to-face as we could not do during the first Lockdown. Mr Kerr will be in charge of whole school assembly this coming Monday, and he will be developing the theme of well-being.

I wish you all a relaxing weekend.

Sarah Richardson

SCHOOL NOTICES

Face Masks

Over the past four weeks when pupils require face masks at School we charge £1 to supply a replacement. We have donated all the money collected to the Poppy Appeal. The new nominated charity for these funds in the forthcoming month will be Children in Need.

Guide to Microsoft Teams

In the event of remote learning all students will need to use Teams as our primary teaching platform. You will have separately received a user guide which can be used to refer to if required.

FOCUS on SOCIOLOGY with Satbir Allman

"I like a teacher who gives you something to take home and think about besides homework. That's what Sociology will offer you."

A level Sociology is the study of society that helps to explain social change, past, present and future, which encourages political and social engagement with contemporary social issues. It is a subject that helps to develop critical and analytical thinking. Sociology is regarded as a demanding and rigorous A Level which combines well with any other combination of subjects. It provides a very good preparation for university, where strong essay writing skills are very important.

A level Sociology teacher Mrs Allman (pictured with her A level students Stefano, Matthew and Kiran)



said "I really enjoy teaching sociology as it provides the space to discuss important topics such as the role of the family, education and crime in society. We encourage our students to discuss topics using strong evidence-based arguments which can become very lively! This allows our students to develop higher order and critical thinking skills helping them to confidently gain entry to one of the Russell Group universities"



SPORTS with Mrs Hillcoat - Hyde

The PE Department have enjoyed teaching netball and football this week during Games. Students in **Years 7 – 10** have had the opportunity to develop skills and have put these skills into action whilst playing matches against their peers.

In trampolining students in **Years 10 and 11** have spent time developing basic and more complex skills and have started to put routines together in preparation for their GCSE PE moderation.

Year 11 took part in rounders-based activities followed by a game of rounders and our **Sixth Form** students had great fun playing Danish Longball.

During the past week **KS3** have been focusing on volleyball. All students have been building their volleyball skill set with special focus on digging, setting, spiking and serving. Next week we will be moving into positional play and into games.

CO-CURRICULAR with Mrs Hillcoat- Hyde



Although clubs before and after school are on hold we are still enjoying the lunch time opportunities available and have seen a number of students take part in badminton, table tennis, cricket and trampolining. We are delighted that trampolining sessions due to take place on Monday after school are able to take place during Tuesday lunch hour during the lockdown period.



A number of students have mastered how to perfect front and back drops and some have taken on the challenge of front somersaults! A number of students in Year 7 have started to gain more control and confidence on the trampoline and have carried out some of the basic shapes, turns and drops.

Luca Guissani was a star on the trampoline demonstrating skills with control and accuracy. We look forward to watching students' progress during the forthcoming weeks.



MUSIC with Mr Whitehouse

All our Year 7 pupils have started to learn to play the trumpet. As well the techniques of playing the instrument they will learn to read music with tempo, pitch and dynamics. We look forward to seeing how everyone gets on with their trumpeting skills over the rest of this term.



ART with Mrs Somerville and Mrs Baird

Year 11 students Sadie, Karen and Esme are all working hard on their GCSE coursework which is progressing well. We are also pleased the we have newly extended art workspace to support our A level students.





HOUSE COMPETITIONS with Miss Gillett

Following the huge success of the House Competition last half term, which was won by Rushmore, we announced the new House competition details of the which will be the creation of videos shown at the Inter-House Assembly on 15th December.

KS3 Challenge – a creative performance of a Christmas song

KS4 Challenge – a Christmas Message to be recorded and sent to your Head of House. It will be the House version of the Queen's Christmas message!

KS5 Challenge - a video performance of Christmas in a different language representing a different country. Each House can choose which country/language to perform.



MOUNT HOUSE on SOCIAL

Join the Mount House School on Social. We post regularly to show a selection of things happening each week.



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