



NEWSLETTER 5 - October 2nd

Message from Head Mrs. Richardson

This week saw the first 'Speakers' Corner' assembly of the term, with Katie Gallagher (Year 10) talking about feminism. Making a speech in an assembly to the whole school is not only a little nerve-racking, but needs really careful thought and preparation, so that the message is accessible for Year 7s as well as interesting for the Upper Sixth and everyone in between. Katie did a fantastic job and she has set the bar very high for the next Speakers' Corner event. My thanks too to Jemima Carroll (U6) for offering the introduction and vote of thanks.



The extra-curricular programme is growing in momentum, and rehearsals have begun for the Mount House entry to the Shakespeare Schools' Festival. Mount House will be performing Macbeth, and I am grateful to Mrs Dawson and Ms Kelly for all their hard work in navigating the limitations of Covid to enable students to have these wonderful opportunities. I hope that more and more students will join in with extra-curricular activities— leaving our comfort zones to try new things is enormously important, as well as being a great way to meet new people and make new friends. If students have ideas for their own clubs and societies, I know that Mrs Hillcoat-Hyde and Mr Phillips will be more than happy to support their introduction, so do please encourage students to make suggestions.

While School life continues at full pace, I would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone that half term begins at 4pm on Tuesday 20th October. Please note that there will be no extra-curricular activities on Monday 19th and Tuesday 20th and the buses will leave at 4.15 pm on those days.

I wish you all a relaxing weekend.





CO-CURRICULAR and ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME from Mrs Hillcoat-Hyde

It has been great to see more students sign up and attend clubs and societies this week.

Following auditions, the Drama department have started rehearsals for Macbeth, which involves students throughout the school. Mr Whitehouse continues to run a number of Music clubs allowing students to work with their peers whilst sharing their talents. Board Games continue to be popular amongst the student body, with Chess taking place on a Monday lunch time and Backgammon on a Friday lunch time.

Download the **Co-Curricular Programme** and **Academic Enrichment Programme** information clicking on the links above.

Please can we take this opportunity to remind you that students should sign-up to clubs using SOCS (Schools Online Communication Service). If you have any questions, please contact;

Mrs Hillcoat-Hyde (Co-Curricular Programme): hillcoat-hyden@mounthouse.org.uk

Mr Phillips (Academic Enrichment Programme): phillipst@mounthouse.org.uk

ART CLUB



Last week in Art Club our students painted Pop Art self-portraits.

Mrs Somerville



Mona Vaseghi Y8



Alice Reekie Y8

HOUSE OF EQUALITY

A highlight within the Academic Enrichment Programme this week was the House of Equality session that took place. A number of students had the opportunity to talk and Year 13 have written a report:

This term Mount House has introduced a new club called 'House of Equality'. This is a group of diverse students in Year 11 and Sixth Form, who discuss issues regarding equality around the world. This includes women's rights, racial equality and LGBTQ+ equality etc.

This half term, we decided to focus our attention on Black Lives Matter and Black History. As it is Black History Month we are celebrating black culture, history, businesses etc. through presentations, speeches, group discussions and more.



Our short-term goal is to raise awareness throughout the whole school and educate others to what is happening in the world. Our long-term goal is to bring these issues forward into the curriculum, as we believe these issues aren't spoken about enough in schools. We have several other ideas and goals we would like to accomplish as we move forward and progress as a community.

Tinuade, Rachael, Antonnia and Jemima

Leaders of House of Equality



CAREERS AT MOUNT HOUSE with Mrs Christou

At Mount House we prepare our Sixth Form students for their life after school. Set out below are details that have given to our Sixth Form.



RUSSELL GROUP VIRTUAL EVENT – WEDNESDAY 7TH OCTOBER – 12-6PM
 Once you have registered, you can explore all 24 Russell Group universities, download documents, chat directly to staff and ambassadors and take part in live webinars led by university representatives.

VIRTUAL FAIR AND APPRENTICESHIP SEARCH – WEDNESDAY 4TH NOVEMBER – 12-6PM

Visit stands for different universities, colleges and apprenticeship providers. Download documents, view videos, visit their website and chat to representatives live with any questions you may have.

UCAS VIRTUAL EXHIBITIONS – SUBJECT AREAS AND DATES VARY

Biological and physical sciences	16th October
Social Sciences, humanities and teaching	23-24 October
Maths, engineering and computing	2-3 November
Creative Subjects	13-14 November

USEFUL CAREER WEBSITE

www.targetcareers.co.uk The TARGET careers website has lots of information and resources available for free.

STUDENT HEAD OF HOUSE

We are coming to the end of our first Interhouse competition 'Show me what your House is made of', trying to showcase what all our Houses have to offer. All students have been working very hard over the past couple of weeks to create amazing pieces of work. Key stage 3 are creating a physical live performance, key stage 4 are creating a visual art piece that reflects their house and key stage 5 are creating a video that showcases everything their house has to offer.





Rushmore House students have been working really well in their Year groups and have come up with lots of fun and creative ideas for each project, and I am very excited to see the outcome. All the entries must be in for the 13th October when the whole school will be able to see the amazing work that's been produced by all the Houses.

Good luck to everyone and make sure you are all staying safe by wearing your masks in the hallways and washing your hands! Have a good weekend.

Ella Ryland, Student Head of Rushmore

MUSIC AT MOUNT HOUSE from Mr Whitehouse

We offer the opportunity for students to enjoy a wide range of lessons on instruments and vocal coaching. If you would like your child to sign up to music lessons at Mount House with any of our peripatetic teachers please complete the form on our website that can be found [here](#) and send the completed form to Mr Whitehouse whitehouses@mounthouse.org.uk. Hard copies of the form can also be found in Reception.

This week we feature **Laura Bookbinder, our woodwind teacher**, who has over 25 years of teaching experience plus conducting and coaching various wind bands and ensembles. She teaches a wide range of musical styles from classical to jazz and uses some very enjoyable teaching repertoire. Laura tailors every student's learning experience individually. So, whether they want to work for exams or just learn at their own pace, every lesson will be a rewarding and productive experience.

Although flute is her main instrument, she also plays saxophone and clarinet. Laura plays for many musical theatre productions, has recorded albums at Air Studios and performed in many well known venues including The Royal Albert Hall and Ronnie Scott's Jazz Club.



TRANSPORT & SCHOOL COACHES

Beech Hill will be closed from the 5th October until the 16th November for road works. Please take this into account when travelling to and from school.

Please notify reception and/or email coaches@mounthouse.org if your child is not taking the bus on a particular day because they have left school early. This is to avoid delaying the bus for the other pupils whilst we search for the missing pupil.

It is mandatory for all pupils to wear masks for the entire journey to and from school, in order to protect themselves, their fellow pupils and the bus drivers.

If you would like to book a place on the coach, please fill out the booking form [here](#) and send it to coaches@mounthouse.org.uk. There are a few spaces left on all three routes (Canons Park, Friern Barnet, Enfield).

STUDENT ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

Please be advised that we know of one student who is ill with Chicken Pox in the School.

The following link provide additional information:

https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/sites/default/files/Guidance_on_infection_control_in%20schools_poster.pdf

If your child is absent from school if they feel unwell please inform reception on **daily basis** on email reception@mounthouse.org.uk to confirm they will be absent.

Please can you also fill out all the details of the illness in this form <https://forms.gle/f3LAdR6hkwKGjffo8>

SPEAKERS' CORNER

Our first speaker this year was Katie Gallagher in Year 10 on Monday 28th September.

Her excellent presentation to the whole school assembly was on the key issues associated with gender inequality and feminism in the UK and around the world.

Her speech outlined the recent fight for women's rights from the suffragettes and the Fawcett Society to emergence of radical feminists such as Feminista.

She explained the gender pay gap and the continued inequality faced by many girls and women in the home across the world. Katie spoke eloquently and with passion. Well done Katie!



Speakers' Corner returns on Monday October 12th.

LITERACY TIPS from Mr Nancarrow



Weekly Literacy Tip: the importance of reading writing aloud

One of the best ways to improve your daughter or son's writing is to encourage them to read over their writing once they have finished it. They might be reluctant to do so, convinced they are finished and unable to spot their own errors. However, if they read their work aloud then it is more likely they will 'hear' rather than see their errors: missing words, awkward expressions or overlong sentences, for example. When they have completed a piece of writing, encourage them to read their writing to you and listen together for any errors.

LATE ARRIVALS

Please ensure that if your child is late arriving at Mount House they remember to sign the late register with Mrs Lamsley in reception. It is very important that all late arrivals are monitored and that all pupils have correctly registered their attendance.

LOST PROPERTY

A purse was found on the bench in Cedar Lawn. Please claim it from Mrs Lamsley in Reception. All other lost property can be found on the stage or in the cubby holes opposite the English classrooms.

SPORTS AT MOUNT HOUSE from Mrs Hillcoat-Hyde

Batting and fielding has been a focus throughout the school this week with students taking part in a variety of cricket and rounders based activities and games.



The PE Department is looking forward to House competitions taking place next week.

Basketball Club was popular amongst the **Year 7 & 8** boys and it was great to watch them play against each other. **Emir Yurtseven** was the star player scoring from a number of shots. Lunch time clubs continue to grow in numbers and students have enjoyed taking part in badminton and table tennis.

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

There is a space available on the school's Governance Committee for a KS5 parent (Sixth Form). If you are interested in this role then please email Mrs Richardson on schooladminofficer@mounthouse.org.uk by Tuesday 20th October.

More information can be found at https://www.mounthouse.org.uk/about_us/governance/

UPCOMING KEY DATES

Student Council meeting –October 9th 5.15-7.15pm
Year 11 Parents Evening – October 15th