



NEWSLETTER 12 – 4th December

Message from Head Mrs. Richardson

This afternoon Age UK Barnet collected the gifts so generously donated by Mount House families, and at this time of year when Christmas plans are dominating our thinking, it has been wonderful to see the way in which our families have thought of others. Gifts have been carefully selected and beautifully wrapped and I am sure will be very much appreciated. There is still one more week for students to take gift tags from the Giving Tree, with the beneficiaries this time being the Young Barnet Foundation.



We have a very busy week ahead of us, and are very much looking forward to the fun which will undoubtedly be generated and you can find more details in this newsletter.

We think also of the Year 11 and U6 students who are working very hard indeed as public exams nudge closer, especially the Year 11 cohort with mock exams in January – but we do hope that everyone will also find some time to have a complete rest over the Christmas period.

Sarah Richardson





SCHOOL NOTICES

Lost Property / Second Hand

There is a large amount of lost property lying around the school. This has been collected today and placed on the stage in the Hall. Please ask your children to check the stage during break / lunch from Monday 7th – Friday 11th and take away the items that belong to them.

Anything that is left on the stage on Monday 14th will be sold as second-hand uniform or given to charity.

TRANSPORT

There are several changes to the school's transport service coming up:

Monday 7th – Thursday 10th December: the coaches will leave at 17.15

Friday 11th December: the usual time of 16.15

Monday 14th December: the coaches will leave at 17.15

Tuesday 15th December: the coaches will leave at 17.15

Wednesday 16th December: coaches leave at 12.45.

Lent Term Transport

From January, there will be a further change to the schedule. All after-school clubs will take place on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, therefore on Mondays and Fridays the coaches will leave school at 16.15.

New shuttle bus

In addition, we will be sending out a Form to fill in online next week if you are interested in a shuttle bus that will leave school at 16.15 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays and go to a limited number of stops (Hadley Wood, Cockfosters and High Barnet). This Form will be sent out to all parents in an email. The shuttle bus will be offered from January, subject to a minimum number of students booking the service. Details of next term's extra-curricular and academic enrichment programmes will be made available at the same time.

Coach Protocols

Once again, we ask that all students wear their masks on the coaches. Students also need to remain seated and sit in their bubbles. If you need a reminder about the coach protocols, they can be found at the end of the Transport Registration Form on the website ([link](#)).

Wellbeing Space in the Café

From Monday 7th December the café will become a designated wellbeing space, at lunchtimes, with board games, card games and mindful colouring. Please make full and appropriate use of the space and follow the year group timetable below.

Monday	Year 7 supervised by 6 th Form Guardians
Tuesday	Year 10 and 11
Wednesday	Year 9 supervised by 6 th Form
Thursday	Year 8 supervised by 6 th Form Guardians
Friday	6 th Form



WELCOME TO MOUNT HOUSE Mr van Leeven

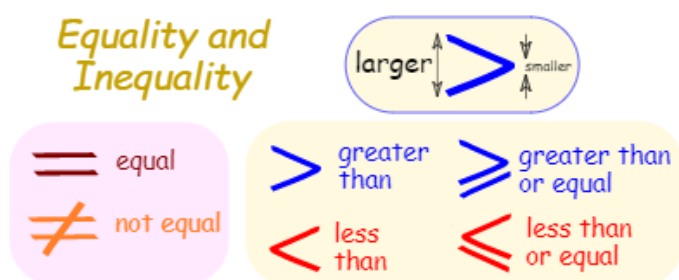
Mr van Leeven, originally from Amsterdam, enjoyed a successful career in scientific research before making the move into education, four years ago. He joined Mount House this week as a Science, Maths and Sports teacher.

Mr van Leeven is also a senior coach at Southgate Hockey Club.

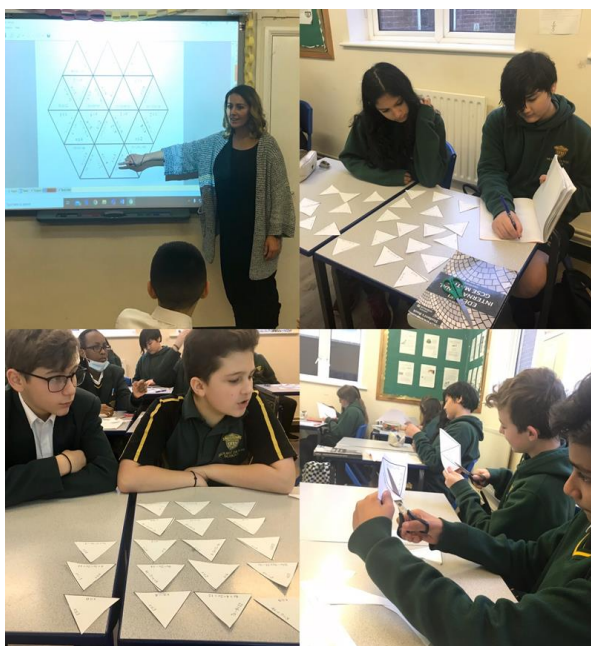


FOCUS on MATHS with Mrs Gur

Year 8 have been learning the topic Inequality; how to present them on a number line and solve them. An inequality compares two values, showing if one is less than, greater than, or simply not equal to another value.



We finished the topic with a bit of fun, a jigsaw puzzle! Working in pairs, they had to match questions and answers on triangle pieces to end up with a large hexagon shape at the end. There was a House point prize at the end for the team that made the most progress with the hexagon which was won **Carys Jeevanjee** and **Raphael Sarabi** - well done to them both!





YEAR 7 MUSIC with Mr Whitehouse



As you are well aware Year 7 are nearing the end of their trumpet course in music classes. The project has been great fun and it has been a pleasure to see them engaging with this great instrument. Look out for a recorded trumpet performance of each class next week!

I am aiming to develop a brass ensemble at Mount House and would like to encourage as many of our Year 7 as possible to continue learning the trumpet.

Please let me know if your child is interested in continuing to learn the trumpet so that I may consider the options available for further lessons. Email me to confirm at whitehouses@mounthouse.org.uk

SPORTS with Mrs Hillcoat – Hyde

This week during gymnastics lessons Year 8 students have been building up our technique with the trampette. We have looked at some vaulting and diving forward rolls which have been brilliant to see. Well done to **Anna Collington** who was the Year 8 Star Performer this week.





We have been delighted that Mr van Leeven has supported the Games Programme and look forward to him sharing his expertise on the hockey and football pitch in future weeks.

It has been brilliant this week being able to get back to Southgate Hockey Club to use their amazing facilities, although the weather was not the best it was great to see everyone enjoying their time in games. The year 9 Star Performers were **Ava Athwal** and **Luke Naumovic**.

ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT and CO-CURRICULAR CLUBS are BACK!

All Clubs have all resumed post Lockdown. There is something for everyone so please check the Co-Curricular Schedule here and also Academic Enrichment Clubs [HERE](#). In addition Chess and Scrabble Clubs have started running at various times in the week. See Mr McCormick if you want to take part.



The Lent Term schedule for Co-curricular and Academic Enrichment Clubs will be available next week.

HOUSE OF EQUALITY from Mrs. Da Rocha and Mrs. Allman



The House of Equality is a club run by students to bring awareness of the fight for all forms of equality to the school community and beyond. We ran a competition to design Tote Bags to highlight important messages relating to Equality which will be sold to raise money for an Equality organisation which will be decided by the school community in the New Year.

Special thanks go to Mrs. Baird for supervising some of the Art students, **Mia Bushnell, Wasif Siddique, Muhau Mweene, Temidayo Yussuff, Elizabeth Hi, Hailey Boakye, Keren Mulat-Weldemeskel and Vani Patel** whose designs were used and to **Ailsa Rae, Isabella O'Rourke, Danielle da Rocha, Sienna Colleta** and Mrs. Agyepong who have volunteered to do the printing.

If you would like to support House of Equality by purchase any of these Tote bags, please kindly email the school administrator schooladminofficer@mounthouse.org. and place an order with the design name and quantity you would like.

We will also have a stall at the Christmas Fayre on Wednesday 9th of December where the students can purchase the bags.



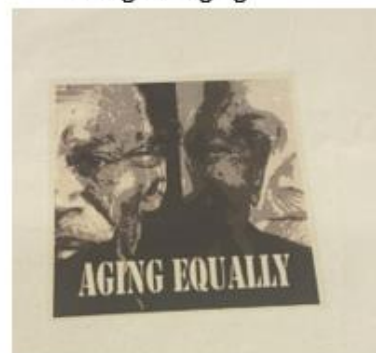
Front side of all bags



Design 1 'Character'



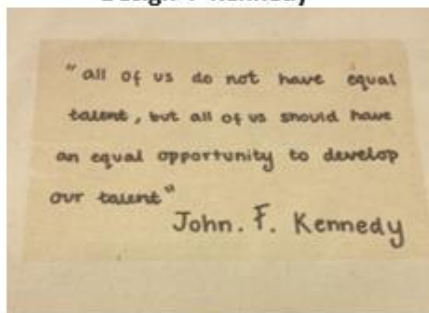
Design 2 'Aging'



Design 3 'Sunset'



Design 4 'Kennedy'



Design 5 'Love'



CHRISTMAS AT MOUNT HOUSE

Christmas Fayre: Wednesday 9th December

We are delighted to be able to run an internal (students only) Christmas Fayre this year, which will be divided into three bubbles around the pond at school lunchtime on Wednesday. We have lots of stalls and would like to ask parents to donate various items if possible – all proceeds to the Noah's Ark charity.

The entrance fee to the Fayre will be 50p, and most of the items for sale will be either 50p or £1. So please send in the students on that day with plenty of 50p and £1 coins (not notes) so that there is as little handling of money as possible.

Please also bake and donate a cake for the bake sale. No nuts, please.

Please donate a small item for the Tombola – e.g. chocolates, biscuits, sweets, games, toiletries

We will have a table where you can donate food items for the local food bank. Please send in the students with packets of food: pasta, rice, cereal, tinned meat, fish, vegetables and fruit, soup, biscuits, tea & coffee, etc. This will be taken to the food bank on the last day of term.



Form Room Decorating Competition 7th – 14th December

On Monday 7th December, the world-famous Form Room Decorating Competition will begin. It's a high-stakes competition involving every form in the school, led by form tutors, and will be judged by the Head on **Monday 14th December**.

The prize is... drum roll... a non-uniform day for the winning forms on 16th December (the last day of term). There will be three categories:

1. Classiest decorations
2. Novelty value decorations
3. Environmentally-themed decorations



Christmas Bauble decorating Friday 11th December

On Friday 11th December at lunchtime, there will be a bauble decorating activity, led by the Student Council and the Art Department. Details to follow.

Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day – Tuesday 15th December

On Tuesday 15th December, all students and staff will enjoy a special Christmas Lunch in their bubbles, with a slightly extended lunch time. Also, on this day the whole school, including all staff and students, will have a non-uniform 'Christmas Jumper' day. There are rules!

1. You must wear your best Christmas jumper
2. You must bring in a donation (recommended amount £2) to Noah's Ark Children's Hospice
3. You must take care not to spill gravy down your jumper.

Mount House School Christmas Concert

We are looking forward to filming our Christmas Concert on **Thursday 10th December** at St Mary's church. **For selected choir members performing from 4pm their pick-up time will be 5.45pm** from School, and the relevant parents have been informed. There will be a special Christmas treat provided for all those students singing from 4-5pm! The film will be shared with the Mount House community on Wednesday December 16th.

Mount House Christmas Cards in aid of Noah's Ark Children's Hospice – READY TO COLLECT!

Please collect any cards you have ordered from Reception – they look lovely!





'Giving Tree' for Christmas in aid of Age UK Barnet and Young Barnet Foundation

Today our 'Giving Tree' presents to support older isolated members of the community were collected by **Age UK Barnet** today. The team also collected all the beautiful Christmas Cards created by Year 7. The team from Age UK were hugely appreciative of all the gifts and cards and explained what a difference they would make to the community.



There are some labels still available on the 'Giving Tree' for gifts to give the **Young Barnet Foundation** who support disadvantaged children. The presents with their laminated gift tags must be placed underneath the Christmas tree in the school reception by **09:00 on Friday 11th December**. (Please can gifts that are being donated to Young Barnet Foundation be left unwrapped).