

INFORMATION ABOUT EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUBS

Key Stage 4 & 5 Revision Sessions/Clinics

Key Stage 4 & 5 revision sessions/booster sessions/clinics/practical opportunities will give students the opportunity to focus on key topics/areas within the subject that are covered within the GCSE/A Level syllabus.

Key Stage 4 Study Skills

These bi-weekly drop in sessions give an opportunity for individuals to revisit concepts for knowledge to help consolidate and develop understanding and skills needed to improve through an interactive approach independently or with peers.

Maths Support – Key Stage 3

This is an opportunity for students in Years 7 – 9 to seek additional support within Maths linked to previous learning and in particular topics covered during the course of the year.

HPQ

This will be an opportunity for Higher Project Qualification students in Year 9 to meet with their Supervisor to discuss their project progress and ideas. Supervisors will be able to give advice on the research and reading stage of the assignment.

Socrates Society

During the many years of teaching Classics at Mount House School the initial question asked during the first lesson is, “*But ...what IS Classics?*” Many students are surprised when they discover it is the study of ancient Greek and Roman civilisation and literature. Another asked is “*so is it just more History?*” and we can assure them Classics is more than that as they explore the mythological world of the awesome Greek gods, legendary heroes such as Perseus and Hercules, dangerous creatures like the centaurs and Minotaur.

Students get to discover the cause of the Trojan War and how their heel came to be named after the warrior Achilles. They study the city of Athens and the architectural masterpiece of the Parthenon. They explore the origins and site of the Olympic Games. They will look at the foundation story for the city of Rome, the barbaric gladiatorial combats in Colosseum, the luxury of the baths of Caracalla, and the impressive lives of the many Roman emperors who ruled. It is always my wish that students leave their Classics lessons excited to return to expand their knowledge into this magnificent world!

This Classics Club offers Year 10 & 11 students the opportunity to extend their study and appreciation of the ancient world beyond the GCSE curriculum and class lessons. The club will consist of a mixture of discussion and debate of topics studied in class e.g. Which of Hercules’ labours was his greatest? We have extension and revision tasks, which should be enjoyable as well as academic. Last half term we created an innovative set of ‘Top Trumps’ of all the Greek Gods, heroes and creatures, analysing their special powers and comparing their relative strengths, speed, intelligence and special qualities. This half term we have been making a model version of the Parthenon temple.

Varsity Group

This group is for those pupils from Year 9-13 who have significant academic potential. Our Varsity Society is aimed at creating brilliant young minds and several have joined its activities. Aimed at critical thinking and looking at a variety of disciplines, we have in previous terms had much incisive discussion! We have discussed the extent to which human beings are individualistic, or community-minded animals, drawing on the ideas of Marx. We looked at a selection of paintings by David, Manet and Picasso to discuss the varying perspectives, not only of the art itself but the message and meaning behind the art. We have also discussed the complexities of the US presidential election and considered the Electoral College.

House of Equality

This student-initiated society considers issues such as ‘Black Lives Matter’, antisemitism, gender equality and gay rights etc. We would like to think that through our group discussions and activities, we are able to appreciate more the ideals of freedom, justice and humanity.

Speakers Corner

Speakers Corner offers anyone the opportunity to raise a certain issue or concern – whether it be politics, football, current affairs, sport or any issue at all. Those involved will receive certificates and prizes during the course of the year. Students have the opportunity to air their views on topics close to their hearts. This is your chance to stand on your soap box and present your views to the School community during Monday assembly.

Mandarin Language and Cultural Society

An excellent opportunity to develop language skills and to appreciate the wider cultural heritage of this region of the world. Cultural topics explored will include music, crafts, calligraphy, dance and festivals.

MHS Historical Society

Have you ever wondered how they were able to find Richard III's skeleton in a carpark? Have you ever speculated who was really behind the Gunpowder Plot of 1605? Then MHS's Historical Society is just for you! Starting in January, our weekly club is an opportunity to explore an array of topics ranging from local, national and international history, uncovering the depths of our societies. Politics, ancestry, identity, the fight for justice - suggestions on different issues are always encouraged. Not only is it a great space for debate and critical analysis; both fundamental skills applicable in all subjects; and it is open to all Year groups. For those inquisitive beings, questions and uncertainty are very much welcomed - this is key to being a historian. Plus, everybody loves a good History pun.

Heads Endeavour Award

For juniors, seniors and sixth form. Pupils have the opportunity to complete a designated number of tasks/activities. These will include an expedition, a presentation, a charity event, extended writing, service in the community. There will be weekly planning meetings. The winners from each age group will receive a prestigious award. The opportunity to engage in these worthwhile challenges represents excellent preparation for the Duke of Edinburgh scheme.

Schools Challenge Club

The Schools' Challenge Club is open to all students in years 7, 8 and 9. This is an opportunity to pit your general knowledge wits against the best Mount House has to offer. How good is your recall of Greek and Roman mythology? Are you an expert on the events of British, European and World history? Can you beat the best with your knowledge of capital cities and countries? Are you a mastermind on the monarchs of Britain? Can you cut it when asked questions about the culture and the arts? Are you a walking, talking sports boffin? If so, this club is for you. Come and practice with our University Challenge style buzzer system, and try and earn a place in the Mount House Schools' Challenge Team, the Schools equivalent of University Challenge, to compete against other schools in a national competition.

Mount House Archivists

Mount House was built in the early 18th century as a family home and during the Second World War became the home of the Architectural Association School. At the end of the war the building was established as St Martha's Senior School, becoming Mount House School in 2017.

The purpose of this Society is to draw together as many sources as possible regarding Mount House and develop a sense of the historical environment from which Mount House School has emerged. This will involve looking at the archives of the School, but also tracking down any local links which we can find. We will engage with the Barnet Museum and any other local or national archives which might throw more light on the school buildings, as well as making contact with alumni and former teachers of the School to acquire a deeper understanding of the history of St Martha's.

Students who are interested in local history, and who will enjoy the challenge of tracking down information about the School, its buildings and its past should join this Society. Additionally, this group will begin developing an archive of current materials, so that students of the future will be able to access information about Mount House School in the 2020s.

Briscola Club

Briscola Club is a sharp-witted, addictive taking game where the object is to take cards which gives you a high score. The game is extremely popular in Italy and it uses the Italian 40 cards deck which have suits of coins, cups, batons and swords. The type of Briscola you play varies depending on players numbers and with four players you can play with a partner which is absolutely brilliant. As well as Briscola, we can also learn another game called Scopa which in Italian means "sweep" and the aim is to "sweep" all the cards off a pile in the middle of the table into your trick.

Faith Society

A relaxing place for students and staff of all faiths and none to meet and talk about spirituality and other topics.

Little Inklings: KS3 English Club

Little Inklings is for all students in Years 7 & 8. The aim of the club is for students to have a place to read, write creatively and also complete English homework with the assistance of an English teachers. Creative writing tasks will be available as well as suggested books to encourage students to develop their English skills beyond the classroom in a creative nurturing environment, as well as to provide help and support for students with those areas in English they may be experiencing difficulties with.

Critical Thinking

Over the Summer Term, in Friday Tutor Time, Year 7, 8 and 9 will be taught Critical Thinking by Mr Nancarrow with support from students' tutors. The aim of the sessions are to develop students' knowledge and understanding of argument structure, critical thinking and debating.

Fairy and Folk Tales with Mr Nancarrow

Over the summer term every Friday lunchtime Mr Nancarrow will be telling fairy and folk tales at various locations across the school grounds. Students who wish to come along and listen to the tales should meet Mr Nancarrow by the pond at 1.30 on Friday, weather permitting. All years are welcome.

Science Club

Science club offers an opportunity to explore the wonders of science outside the classroom. This could involve anything from forensics to launching rockets! Learn more about the stars and planets in the solar system. Discover how DNA was developed. Most of all discover how science can be fun.

The Phantoms

This guitar group is perfect for all levels, whether you are a budding guitarist or a virtuoso. Parts and roles are differentiated for each performance and the audiences always love their shows.

Drum corps

Drum corps is for drummers who are serious about their craft and want to take it to the next level. With expert drum leadership they develop all aspects drumming, including drumline beats and routines.

Choir

Being part of our powerful choir is a fun rewarding experience. The choir is also an inclusive and friendly way to enjoy music at Mount House.

Ukulele

Want to learn a new instrument? Why not try the ukulele, a small guitar-like instrument that is part of the lute family of instruments. Beginners and more experienced players are welcome to join and work together whilst learning to play new songs. Students will learn to play the ukulele by learning the most frequently used chords, as well as learning how to play melodies and harmony parts and different strumming and picking patterns. Students will learn songs with different parts for different levels of players – the Ukulele Club is an inclusive club with the aim of all players being involved in performances. We aim to perform in assemblies and other school performance events teaming up with singers and other musicians across the school. The ukulele has been played for over a hundred years to accompany the voice as well as being a good starting point for learning other stringed instruments such as guitar. The ukulele has always been popular. The world's greatest player - Jake Shimabukuro has made the ukulele into a solo instrument, whilst contemporary musicians, such as Tyler Joseph from the band 21 Pilots, has written songs featuring the ukulele, such as 'The house of gold' and 'We don't believe what's on TV.'

Drama – Macbeth

Students from Years 7 – 10 will continue to rehearse for Macbeth as part of the Shakespeare Festival. When this is complete we will focus on building a range of techniques and other material.

Backgammon

This student-initiated club invites all students to take part and compete against each other in what is said to be one of the world’s oldest board games. Backgammon involves a combination of strategy and luck. While the dice may determine the outcome of a single game, the better player will accumulate the better record over a series of many games. With each roll of the dice, players must choose from numerous options for moving their checkers and anticipate possible counter-moves by the opponent. New and experienced players are encouraged to join the club and enjoy the varying levels of competition.

Chess

An opportunity to play one of the most enjoyable and intellectually stimulating board games in the world. Playing chess results in better brain function, improved memory, strategic thinking and attention improvement! You don’t need to be a genius to play chess, but it is important to be a little competitive. However, even if you lose, you will still gain very much.

Strategy Board Games

The strategy board games club is an excellent way to have fun and to practice your problem-solving, negotiation and teamwork skills. You will have the opportunity to play both strategy games and creative games. Fancy trying ‘Pyramid of the Pengqueen’ or ‘Mole Rats in Space’? There are lots of games to choose and play in a small group. Enjoy experiencing and learning a new game or perhaps pick an old favourite.

Python Club

Python club is a great opportunity for all students in all year groups to learn or improve upon their Python skills! It builds on existing knowledge and offers the opportunity for those not studying it to start looking at what they can do! It really is a great opportunity to build self-confidence by learning new skills. For those that are not too keen on Python and merely require some help with Satchel One (Show My Homework), Teams or any other IT related matter they also are more than welcome to attend. This can be as a one off or a regular basis, all are welcome!

Art Club (Key Stage 3 & 4)

Providing opportunities to create pieces of art work using a whole range of materials: oil pastels, chalk pastels, water-colours, charcoal, pencil, clay, mod-roc... the list goes on. A chance to work on a larger scale than you would in normal art lessons, to learn new skills and to have fun.

Experimental Photography

An opportunity to create very beautiful and unusual digital images. You can try out lots of new and old techniques, taking photos with the school’s SLR cameras and your mobile phone. Using Photoshop, you can learn how to edit your photos, combine images and apply filters and effects.

Textile Craft Club

Crafts come in many forms from card making, book binding, knitting and embroidery to name but a few. They are steeped in tradition but are always in trend as popular hobbies which sometimes lead to career opportunities. If you fancy trying some different craft activities including an introduction to sewing then this is the club for you. You can enhance your creative and practical skills, share your ideas with others and use the time as a way to relax too. All you need is enthusiasm, dedication and some patience. **Students will be** introduced to new practical skills and given possibilities to be creative with design, whilst learning about traditions and history. They will have an opportunity to learn more about the careers associated with crafts through research into books, journals and case studies and will be able to build their own mini portfolio of skills. Craft activities will include Knitting, Book Binding and mini Sew projects.

Gardening Green Team

An ideal club for the those with budding green fingers. Students will have the opportunity to explore and learn about trees and scrubs in the grounds of Mount House. They will plant seed and bulbs and will learn and watch how they grow. Planting vegetables and identifying how they develop is another area of focus and an opportunity for students to taste what they have grown.

Running Club

Running Club is an opportunity for individuals to take part in an activity for varying reasons. The club will give students the opportunity to improve/maintain levels of fitness, boost confidence, relieve stress and take part in a sport they enjoy. Throughout the year we hope to enter students in a number of cross-country and athletics events giving students the opportunity to represent Mount House, both as individuals and as a team. Olympic Gold Medalist Dame Kelly Holmes is a middle-distance runner who won both the 800m and 1500m events at the 2004 Olympics in Athens. Today she takes part in Park Runs where she runs 5000m. Upon finishing each race she helps motivate others by running back and giving those taking part ‘high fives.’ Alongside taking part she also promotes the benefits of the events linked to mental health and general well/being. Why not aspire to follow in her footsteps!

Street Cricket

Street cricket is an exciting, fast paced 6 a side version of the world’s most popular BAT AND BALL sport. With the field smaller, it makes batsman think and play more finely tuned shots into tighter areas, giving the bowling team plenty of chances for wicket, catches and stumpings. Street Cricket is a great way to help improve all aspects of your cricketing game.

Tennis

With the warm weather already joining us, there is no better way to spend time than taking part in tennis with our peers. The club will offer students the opportunity to develop skills within this much-loved game whilst playing singles and doubles.

Volleyball

Enjoy taking part in this team sport in which two teams of six players are separated by a net. Each team tries to score points by grounding a ball on the other team's court under organised rules, using a variety of skills and techniques.