

NEWSLETTER – 27TH MAY 2022

Message from Mrs Richardson – Head

It was a great pleasure to attend the Friends of Mount House planning meeting last week, although tinged with sadness as Keith Brueton has announced that he will be stepping down as Chair. Keith has been passionate in his belief in the value of the Friends in creating post-Covid opportunities for parents to get involved in School life. I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank him for all the time he has given to meetings, quiz nights and bingo nights and for the unstinting support he has offered the School.



This week I have been reading about Anatol Rapoport. Born in Russia in 1911, in what is the present-day Ukraine, Rapoport became an American citizen, trained as musician and worked in Vienna between 1929 and 1934. With the rise of Nazism in Europe, the Jewish Rapoport returned to the States and retrained as a mathematician, becoming a leading academic in the field of Game Theory: the branch of mathematics concerned with the analysis of strategies for dealing with competitive situations where the outcome of a participant's choice of action depends critically on the actions of other participants. Put simply, Game Theory is the study of how and why people make decisions and has been applied to contexts in war, business, and biology. Rapoport himself held strong views on peace and wrote that 'the moral development of a civilisation is measured by the breadth of its sense of community'. He left the States in objection to the war in Vietnam, living in Canada where he died in 2007.

The Friends of Mount House committee exemplify all that is positive about community, and time spent in their company is always empowering – the sense of optimism and the drive and determination is always uplifting. This is something that we can all encourage in both ourselves as well as our young people, and as they approach the challenges of human relationships, we can encourage them to remember that by acting towards others with compassion and understanding, our community will develop and strengthen.

I very much hope that more parents will choose to get involved with the Friends – and I know that the committee are actively looking for class reps so now is a great time to volunteer! In addition, I would encourage you to support the Summer Fair, details of which are on the following page of this newsletter.

I hope that families are all able to have a pleasant half-term break, that the Royalists among you enjoy the Jubilee celebrations and the Republicans enjoy the additional bank holiday!

Summer Fair



Monday 4th July

After the Sports Day from 3.30pm

We are really excited to be able to hold a summer fair this year and hope you can all join us on the day. To give us a rough idea of numbers to help us with the catering, could you please fill out the google form in the link below.

<https://forms.gle/bTDKF7mL6hYB4r7V7>

Further to Mrs Richardson's letter last week, in the first two weeks after half term, 6th June until 17th June, there will be boxes placed in each classroom. We ask each child to kindly donate:

- Any second-hand uniform your children have grown out of – washed please.
- Any second-hand books which you no longer want to keep.
- Any unwanted accessories – scarves, ties, bracelets, hats etc – again washed.
- Any not used and unwanted cosmetics or toiletries – less than a year old please.
- A glass jar filled with sweets - remember no nuts and the sweets should be wrapped. The jar can be as big or as small as you wish and if you'd prefer not to fill the jar with sweets some small toys or craft items are equally welcome (although sweets tend to be an easier option). This should be placed in reception, not in the classroom box.
- A bottle for the tombola – wine, beer, spirits etc. If you decide to bring in a bottle of soft drink, please ensure that the bottle is within date and less than a year old. This should be placed in reception, not in the classroom box.

Thanks so much for all your support which will make the day fantastic.

If you are unable to donate your time or any of the items listed above but would still like to give something back to the school, you can always donate by either clicking on the link <https://bopp.app/link/zenfw> or use the QR code below to pay FoMH securely from your bank using BOPP.



Thanks so much, FRIENDS OF MOUNT HOUSE.

SCHOOL TRIPS

Residential Trips 2022/23

We are delighted to be organising 3 significant residential enrichment trips for students next academic year. The trips mentioned here are those that are available to multiple year groups. There will be a variety of academic trips or outdoor education enrichment trips for each year group in Activities Week in the Summer Term that will cost between £300-£500. The guide below will give an insight into the dates and likely cost of the trip so you can plan which might be ones your child is keen to take part in.



Please note that the Ski Trip and Berlin are now ready for deposits and sign up (as detailed in the attached letters) but the Portugal trip is not yet advertising for deposits but will after half term.

Trip	Dates	Year groups 2022-23	Estimated cost
Berlin	18 - 12 October 2022	10 - 13	£595
Ski Trip (Austria)	16 - 23 December 2022	8 - 13	£1029
Golf and Tennis camp (Portugal)	Spring Holiday 2023 for 5 days	7 - 13	£800



Mount House School Summer Concert '22

Summer madness...

 **Thursday 16th June** 

Auditions take place from 25th April
See Mr. Whitehouse for details

This year's summer concert will take place on Thursday 16th June. It is expected to commence at 19:00. Mount House has a tradition of fun, diverse and thoroughly enjoyable concerts. I expect there to be a great turnout. Please encourage your children to get involved.

You can book your tickets for the School Summer Concert here
<https://www.trybooking.co.uk/BRJA>



PE

It has been a fantastic end to the half term in the sports department. Students have been participating in a range of sports from tennis to Danish longball. It has been brilliant to see mass participation in between exams. Congratulations to all who have taken part in the cricket season so far, with 1 more game for each age group after half term.

A quick reminder to all that Sports Day will be happening on Monday 4th July (weather permitting).

Athletes of the Week:

Year 7: Milo Dodd

Year 8: Anne Banda

Year 9: Athena Demetriou

Year 10: Thomas Ferreira & Ayan Shahzad

Year 12: Polina Stonaieva

NEW HEADS OF HOUSES



Over the past week the Houses of Mount House have been holding interviews to appoint new student Heads and Deputy Heads of each House. We are delighted to announce that the following students have been appointed:

Chimborazo - Charlotte Wheatley, Head of House

Everest - Elise Akman, Head of House and Aine Smith, Deputy Head of House

Olympus - Katrina Taylor, Head of House and Katrina Tornari, Deputy Head of House

Rushmore - Imogen Moore and Arianna Paternostro, Co-Heads of House

Congratulations to all students who have been appointed.



SCHOOL COUNCIL

School Council Meeting- Tuesday 10th May 2022

In attendance:

Year 7: Hari Chowdhary, Ava Gallagher

Year 8: Eisa Salam, Calypso Malialis, Alicia Ormrod

Year 9: Michael Miltiadous, Ruzgar Suyur, Alex Theocharopoulos, Andreanna Brueton

Year 10: Ayan Shahzad, Joba Jabaru, Thomas Ferreira

Year 12: Sylvia Raymond-Aliga, Sorcha van Leeven, Mara McNally

Meeting started at 8:35am

Points discussed during meeting:

- Recap of prior meeting.
- Discussions took place about the newly implemented sandwich bar.
- Year 7s Reps said on occasions they do not receive sandwiches in the canteen. As they have an early lunch time the sandwiches are sometimes not put out in time.
- Reps suggested that other sandwich variations should be made available
- Ms Smyth came to the meeting and introduced options on the future school uniform.
- Reviewing fabric swatches for school skirts.
- Reps discussed and were asked for their preferences.
- All students will be consulted on May 23rd during Form time.
- Requests were made to allow lower school students access to their mobile phones at break and at lunch time.
- Requests for bigger football goals on the courts.
- Requests for more footballs.
- Suggestions were made that there should be computers in the library (old chapel).
- A discussion took place on the idea that we could have more non-uniform days for charity.
- A discussion took place about reforming the sanction system.
- Questions were raised about the warning system. The Council decided that the best way forward was to invite our Deputy Head –Mr Phillips to our next meeting to discuss ways in which changes to the system could be implemented.

All School Council ideas/suggestions will be taken to the Head Teacher.

Meeting finished at 09:00.

Next meeting scheduled – June 7th in the Hive at 8.30am.

Minutes taken by Sorcha van Leeven.



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Thursday 16th June - Summer Concert

Friday 1st July - Speech Day and Prize Giving with guest speaker Sean Lang

Monday 4th July - Sports Day and Friends of Mount House Summer Fair

Wednesday 6th July – Alumni Summer Garden Party

OPEN DAYS - SATURDAY 25TH JUNE & SATURDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER

Please tell friends and family who are looking at secondary schools (for Year 7, Year 9 or Sixth Form entry) about our forthcoming open days.

They can book a place on our website at www.mounthouse.org.uk