



NEWSLETTER 10TH JUNE 2022

MESSAGE FROM MR McCORMICK, ASSISTANT HEAD

I often talk about and write about the importance of community. In a busy city like London, where we work long hours and often in challenging professions, it isn't always easy to take time out from very busy lives to look at the community outside our own front doors. There are domestic decisions to be made, there are families to feed, sometimes work has travelled home with us. On my drive home each night, my primary thoughts tend to be about spending time with my family, about what I might prepare for dinner, or about the nightly cultural feast that is Eastenders, which has long been a guilty pleasure. Despite our busy lives, and our natural instinct to deal with our own events first, we have a wonderful sense of community in this area, and for that matter at this school. Today's front page message is evidence of this.



Last term, the Schools' Ukrainian Appeal Committee, alongside the Friends of Mount House, organized a range of events aimed at bettering the lives of people who live in what rapidly became a warzone. Events included students and staff dressing up in the Ukrainian flag colours and the Talent Show and Oliver! Production where refreshments were served to help raise money. Events were both well documented and well attended, and special thanks must go out to the Ukrainian Appeal Committee and also to Mrs Clarkson who oversaw this. In total, we raised £1,429.30 in cash and a plethora of goods were also donated. The goods you donated, which are listed below, left in three carfuls from Mount House School to the Ukrainian Centre in Cheshunt. From there they were transported to an orphanage in Boryslaw, which is 100km south of Lviv. The orphanage, built to accommodate 16 young people who have lost both parents, has swollen in numbers during the conflict as young people are sent West to comparative safety. There are currently 40 residents there, ranging in age from 6 months to 17 years old. They received:

- 1.8L of toothpaste.
- 110 sanitary towels.
- 11.5 litres of shampoo/bodywash.
- 9.25 litres of soup.
- 39 litres of water.
- 304 paracetamol tablets.
- 362 nappies.
- 1,320 baby wipes.
- 46kg of clothing.





The money raised was largely spent transporting people from the border posts at Siret and Galati in Romania, to safety in Bulgaria. Your money moved 15 adults and 12 children, 2 dogs, 7 cats and a budgerigar into the country as fleeing families could also bring their domestic pets. In addition, one Ukrainian family was moved from one part of Bulgaria to another to accept employment and education opportunities. The adults were overwhelmingly women, but two men came on journeys paid for by our community as Ukraine have exempted some men who have more than three children from military service. Andrei, a 70-year-old man and Vitaly, his 12 year old grandson, who were living at my house in Bulgaria, are now living in Sofia where Vitaly is attending school and to my shame, speaks better Bulgarian than I. Andrei writes letters my elderly neighbour who writes back. They have been replaced in the house by two women in their thirties whom I was pleased to meet during the May half-term. Your money also bought basic immediate supplies that are used at border posts once people have crossed. On one trip I went on, I drove 576 nappies up to the border, but returned with three women in their thirties and a cat. In addition, first aid supplies were bought. This was arranged by Alex Nicolaides, our Head Boy, alongside Atkinson's Pharmacy in Grange Park who agreed to provide the goods at cost price. These supplies ended up in a makeshift medical centre 50km northwest of Mariupol where those fleeing that city could receive rudimentary treatment.

This only happened because we as a community came together, set a goal, and worked towards it. The success was a by-product of the three previous actions. If we can apply this to everything we do, either in our communities of friendship groups, communities of classrooms or the school community at large, there will always be success. In this case, we saved lives. Thank you.





Friends of
MOUNT HOUSE

Summer Fair



Monday 4th July

After the Sports Day from 3.30pm

ONLY ONE MORE WEEK FOR DONATIONS.

Please donate any of the following in the boxes in each classroom:

- Any second-hand school uniform.
- Any second-hand books.
- Any unwanted accessories.
- Any not used and unwanted cosmetics or toiletries.
- A glass jar filled with sweets – please leave at reception.
- A bottle for the tombola – please leave at reception.

Thanks so much for all your support.

Also, 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>



PE

This week students in Key Stage 3 have taken part in Danish Longball during PE lessons, which they have thoroughly enjoyed whilst demonstrating their competitiveness.

The focus of games has been developing skills within cricket with a focus linked to the long barrier. Students have had the opportunity to put their learning in to action within modified games and matches.

Athlete of the Week

Year 7 – Milo Dodd

Year 8 – Harvey Thomas

Year 9 – Athena Demetriou

Year 10 -

Duke of Edinburgh Award

Twenty-two students in Year 9 took part in their Duke of Edinburgh Practice expedition which was led by A to Z Expeditions. Students worked collaboratively within their groups to develop a range of skills, including navigation, campcraft and leadership skills along with teamwork. We as staff were extremely proud of their achievements with one group stopping to help a member of the public who was lost. Huge congratulations to all for passing the practice expedition – we look forward to further progress and demonstration of skills in the qualifying practice.

Here is what the students had to say about their experience:

On Tuesday we woke up very early to arrive at school by 7:30am. We then had a relaxed bus ride to a National Trust Park where the expedition started. On the Tuesday we had an instructor named Tim who helped us navigate the 8km and taught us how to understand where we were. We arrived at camp by 4:30pm. We put our bags down put our tents up and got some food going. We then set our roll mats and sleeping bags out. After some hot chocolate at 9:30pm we went into our tents and called it a night. We woke up at 6:00am, cooked our breakfast and tidied away our camp. We were the last group to leave, one hour after the first group left. Joel awoke a new part of his mind and navigated us on our way. It was a very tiring walk, but we were the first group to arrive at the finish.

Written by Lance and Joel





We left Mount House on Tuesday 7th May to go to our DofE practice expedition . When we got there we met our instructors who taught us everything we needed to know. Our group members were Alice, Grace, Philip, Ruzgar, Alex, Mia and Emily. We walked and navigated ourselves to camp stopping halfway through to plan our route for the next day. When we got to camp we set up our tents and started cooking our meal. The next day we packed all of our things back into our bags and navigated our way back, which Alice and Ruzgar did exceptionally well. We finally navigated the way to the end. The best moment was definitely seeing Mr Mullin’s bright orange shoes which were almost like an orangey finish line. We are very grateful for this opportunity and thank you to all our group leaders who we could not have done this without.



Written by Grace and Alice

We arrived at Chiltern Hills in our team of 5 which included Emir, Michael, Krrish, Luke and Reuben. We started our exhibition in our groups with our instructor and navigated ourselves to our campsite which was an 8km walk. When we arrived at our campsite we set up our tents in our groups. After that we set up our trangia and made our dinner which was pasta. We then enjoyed the greenery and played catch. It started getting late so we went to bed. We woke up at 6:30am and started to pack away our tents and sort our bags out for a 17km walk – this was without our instructor, using just a map and compass. We eventually arrived at our destination and set off back home.



Written by Michael and Reuben



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>

SPEECH DAY AND PRIZEGIVING – FRIDAY 1ST JULY

Speech Day and Prize giving will begin at 1.30pm in the Assembly Hall and all pupils will be expected to attend. The parents of prize winners are invited to attend and the names of prize winners will be released no later than 20th of June.

Our guest speaker will be Dr Sean Lang, historian, playwright, television and radio broadcaster.

Following the ceremony there will be afternoon tea and scones in the Cedar Garden.

SCHOOL TRIPS

Please note that the Ski Trip and Berlin are now ready for deposits. The Portugal trip is not yet advertising for deposits but will be soon.

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

REMINDER - BERLIN TRIP 18-21 OCTOBER 2022

CURRENT YEAR 9-12

LAST CHANCE TO SIGN UP! BOOKINGS CLOSE MONDAY 13 JUNE



SCHOOL BUSES AND CLUBS

CLUBS - There will be no after school clubs running from Monday 27th June.

BUSES - End of term arrangements

Monday 27th June 2022 to Friday 1st July 2022

There will be no shuttle bus and both buses will depart from Mount House at 4.15pm.

Monday 4th July 2022

There will be no shuttle bus and both buses will depart from Mount House at 5.15pm (this is due to Sports Day and the Friends of Mount House Summer Fair).

Tuesday, 5th July 2022

There will be no shuttle bus and both buses will depart from Mount House at 4.15pm.

Wednesday, 6th July 2022 – Last day of term

The school closes at 12.30pm and both buses will depart at 12.45pm.

SCHOOL UNIFORM – SMITHS SCHOOLWEAR EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT

Our Uniform suppliers are offering an early bird 10% discount from 1st June to 30th June.

Use EARLYBIRD10 when you order on-line at www.smithsschoolwear.co.uk

Please see attached flyer for further details.

SOUTHGATE HOCKEY CLUB – Summer Holiday Hockey Camps

Please see attached flyer for further details and how to book or click here for further details

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