

NEWSLETTER – 26TH MAY

MESSAGE FROM MRS RICHARDSON, HEAD

One of the highlights of the Summer Term is the period following the 'internal' exams. I am sure that as I write, students in Years 7, 8 and 9 are enjoying the sunshine which I hope will remain for the duration of the half-term break. The exams for Years 7, 8 and 9 are very deliberately arranged for before half term. Students in the younger years should not feel enormous pressure about exams. What is important is that they see them as the practice they are intended to be, and learn from them. It is important that students get used to the concept of examination, but this should be age-appropriate and should be built up gradually as students get older.



For Years 10 and the Lower Sixth I appreciate their half-term will not be much of a break, but as these year groups prepare for the final run into GCSE and A Level exams which will come in the next academic year it is right and proper that they engage with independent revision over the next few weeks. By 12th June internal exams will be over, the bulk of the GCSE exams will be done, and also much of the A Level. All our students can then look forward to enjoying a rich diet of trips, plays, concerts, sports days and summer fairs in the final weeks of the term.

On Saturday 24th June we have a 'head to head' at school, with our Summer Open Morning followed by a St Martha's reunion in the afternoon. I am absolutely delighted to be welcoming Sisters Irene and Cecile back to Mount House for what I understand used to be an annual event in the pre-Covid era. Any parents, students and former students with links to St Martha's are very much encouraged to attend, so do please spread the word among your networks.

For those who are enjoying half-term, I hope you have a relaxing break, and we look forward to seeing students back at School ready for 'Week 2' lessons on Monday 5th June.

TRIP TO LORD'S

On Friday 19th of May, Mount School set off for the Home of Cricket, Lord's Cricket Ground. With the ever-reliable Met Office assuring us that there would be rain from 11am onwards, this could have been a very short trip.

Thankfully the ever-changing London weather worked in our favour, with many students joining Mr Mather in applying the factor 50 sun cream as we watched the mighty Somerset County Cricket Club set 404 runs for the home team, Middlesex County Cricket Club, to chase. Middlesex started off strong, before tailing off and by Sunday, Somerset had won by an innings and 13 runs.



Students stood in front of the "unknown batsman"

Students play on the nursery pitches



After being suitably inspired by some excellent professional cricket, Mount House had their chance to show the pros how it's done on the nursery pitches, which are the practice pitches just behind the media centre. With some excellent catches, and some poor drops from our cricket captain, all students had a brilliant game before a walk around the outside of the stadium, with a quick stop off in the museum and club shop.

With the weather being so nice, it allowed us to have an excellent walk back along the Outer Circular Road, which allowed Mount House students to play spot the animal through the fences of London Zoo, with the best spots being a couple of zebras and giraffes. Hopefully all students had a brilliant day out, and are looking forward to future trips to Lords.



Year 7 & 9 students in the museum looking at old cricket games.

Students and Mr Mather stood outside Lords after a long and busy day.





DUKE OF EDINBURGH

The Duke of Edinburgh bronze practice expedition will be taking place after half term on 6-7 June and the Qualifier on 21st-22nd June.



**YOUTH
WITHOUT
LIMITS**

Both trips are in the Chilterns.

15 Year 9 students will be camping and hiking with A-Z Expeditions and we wish them every success.



UPCOMING TRIPS: 3rd – 6th July

Normandy



The trip will include visits to the famous locations associated with the D-Day landings, including Pegasus Bridge, Caen, Arromanches and the American cemeteries. Additionally, we will visit Mont St Michel and a chocolaterie.



Dorset Glamping



Activities include Coasteering, Crabbing, Climbing, Kayaking, Archery Tag, Campfire, Paddleboarding, Walk & Wildswim.





PE UPDATE

Games

During Year 9 and 10 games, the athletics group focused on standing long jump and shot put. The GCSE group focused on 100m sprint starts.

During Year 7 and 8 games, the athletics group focused on standing long jump and long-distance running.

Students who were in the cricket group worked on game play to prepare them for upcoming fixtures.

Tennis worked on their forehand serves and match play rules.

Athlete of the week

Year 7:	Benji Bishop
Year 8:	Louis Faulk
Year 9:	Oscar Michaels
Year 10:	Maria Ferreira

Sports Day

Now we are in the final term of the year, we would like to remind you that Sports Day will take place on Friday 30th June 2023. Parents will be invited from 11:00 – 12:45 to watch students take part in the track events.

Games Options 2023 – 2024

Please find attached a letter regarding activity options for students during Games sessions next year. Please do go through with your child(ren) and sign up by following the links on the letter by 16:00 Friday 9th June 2023. Students who have not signed up by this date will be allocated an activity.

CO-CURRICULAR

Please note that, after half term, the Baking Club will be taking place every week on Thursdays after school (and not Tuesdays and Wednesdays). This is due to students' other school commitments, for example school play rehearsals.

TRANSPORT

Thank you to those parents who have alerted us to two incidents where students have been approached either before or after getting on the bus by youths who have threatened them. Please could parents alert their children to ensure they do not have mobile phones or other valuables visible when they are walking in public?

If they are approached and threatened, it is recommended that they comply with the demand as they should not put themselves in any danger. The police can always be called at a later point, and the safety of the children is the most important consideration.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday 6 th & Wednesday 7 th June	D of E practice in the Chilterns
Wednesday 14 th June	Cricket Festival (with local primary schools)
Tuesday 20 th & Wednesday 21 st June	Wizard of Oz school production
Wednesday 21 st & Thursday 22 nd June	D of E expedition in the Chilterns
Tuesday 27 th June	Summer Concert
Thursday 29 th June	Parent, Student & Teacher golf competition
Friday 30 th June	Sports Day & Friends of Mount House Summer Fair
Monday 3 rd – Thursday 6 th July	Activities Week: trips to Normandy and Dorset
Friday 7 th July	Speech Day and prizegiving Terms ends at 12.30

* Please be aware that the new half-term, commencing Monday 5th June, starts back on a Week 2. We have taken this decision to ensure that no year group misses out on an entire week of lessons.

OPEN DAY AND THE ST MARTHA'S REUNION

On Saturday 24th June, there will be a whole school Open Morning from 9.00 – 12.00. Please would all students be available to come into school to help with tours for prospective parents. If your child is unable to attend, please contact schooladminofficer@mounthouse.org.uk.

That same afternoon in the Cedar Garden, St Martha's Old Girls and Sisters will be returning to the school to reminisce and reconnect. We are excited to welcome them back and will be providing refreshments and some nostalgic tunes for them to listen to.

If parents would like more information, please contact Charlotte at headspa@mounthouse.org.uk.

St Martha's Senior School for Girls was the name of Mount House before the school started admitting boys in 2017. You can find out more about the history of Mount House by reading this section on the website: www.mounthouse.org.uk/history.

SUMMER FAIR

The date of our annual **Summer Fair** is **Friday 30th June** from **2.30 – 4.30pm** in the school grounds after sports day. We really hope that as many of you as possible are able to attend, as it promises to be a fantastic event and a celebration of the students and the Mount House community.



Stalls will include a sweet jar stall, a hamper table, a bottle tombola, a second-hand uniform stall, a book stall, a Pimm's, Peroni and Prosecco bar, loads of fun activity stalls run by each House, a scavenger hunt, food vans and an ice cream van. Water, squash and an ice cream or ice lolly will be free for each Mount House student and member of staff, who will need it after running their socks off during sports day!

All the money raised will go back into the school to provide things like the outdoor tables and benches and more books for the library that have been provided this year. However, the main reason for the fair is for us all to get together to celebrate the end of the year and have some fun!

The Summer Fair Committee has been hard at work coming up with ideas and plans for the day, but we do need your help for this to be the best day for the students. In the first weeks after half term, so from 5th June, there will be boxes placed in reception to collect the following donations. We ask each child to bring in:

- 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).
- A bottle – alcohol of course very welcome, but if you'd prefer a soft drink (for example if your child takes public transport/the school bus to school) then that will also be welcome. Please ensure that the bottle is within date and less than a year old.
- Any second-hand books which you no longer want to keep.

The FoMH will also be contacting you directly through your year WhatsApp group about hamper donations, which were such a success last year.

If you are unable to donate any of the items listed above, but would still like to give something back to the school, you can always donate by clicking on this link <https://bopp.app/link/b2vtt> or QR code, to pay FOMH securely from your bank.



Thanks for all your help in making this event fun and successful.



MOUNT HOUSE
SCHOOL
INSPIRING EVERY INDIVIDUAL

MOUNT HOUSE SCHOOL PARENT, STUDENT & TEACHER GOLF COMPETITION

THURSDAY 29TH JUNE, TEE OFFS FROM 5:30PM

£40 PER PLAYING PAIR, WHICH YOU GET 9 HOLES EACH WITH FOOD AND
DRINK ON ARRIVAL.

TO TAKE PART YOU WILL NEED TO CREATE A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN YOUR CHILD
AND YOURSELF.

IN YOUR PAIR YOU WILL BE PLAYING A SHAMBLE FORMAT. THIS MEANS BOTH OF
YOU WILL TEE OFF, YOU WILL THEN SELECT WHICH BALL WAS BETTER AND BOTH
PLAY YOUR NEXT SHOT FROM THERE. THIS WILL CONTINUE UNTIL ONE BALL HAS
BEEN PUTTED.

THE COMPETITION WILL BE PLAYED OVER 9 HOLES, WITH THE WINNING PAIR
EARNING A TROPHY AND MEDALS.

PLEASE FOLLOW THE LINK BELOW, TO SIGN UP YOUR
ADULT AND STUDENT PAIR.

[HTTPS://FORMS.GLE/7VMQUP85EC47TMLA](https://forms.gle/7vMQUP85EC47tMBLA)

IF YOU HAVE A STUDENT WHO DOES NOT HAVE AN
ADULT TO PLAY WITH, PLEASE EMAIL MR MATHER
(MATHERD@MOUNTHOUSE.ORG.UK) AND WE WILL TRY TO
FIND A TEACHER OR AN OLDER STUDENT FOR THEM TO
PLAY WITH.

