

NEWSLETTER – 5TH MAY

MESSAGE FROM MR PHILLIPS, DEPUTY HEAD (PASTORAL)

On Saturday 6th May, the coronation of King Charles III will take place in Westminster Abbey, the same location where William the Conqueror was crowned in 1066 and every King or Queen since that date. Thus, the ceremony is ancient and has its origins in the traditions and mists of the past. The Archbishop of Canterbury will perform the sacred act of anointing the King with holy oil, which can be traced back to the 7th and 8th centuries, and signals the monarch has been chosen by God.



The coronation will be an Anglican service. However, as King Charles has said, Britain is a community of communities and much thought has been given about how to reflect the different faith communities within the Abbey. There is a feeling that Britain should be able to see itself in the congregation of Westminster Abbey.

Therefore, the coronation will recognise and celebrate tradition as well as contain elements that reflect the diversity of our contemporary society. As part of the service, Muslim, Hindu, Sikh and Jewish peers will present the King with pieces of the coronation regalia, including bracelets, the robe, the ring, and the glove. After the religious service has ended, the King will receive a greeting by Jewish, Hindu, Sikh, Muslim and Buddhist leaders. This clearly reflects the religious diversity of the realms of Charles III and is in keeping with the King's deeply-held belief in promoting unity between the different faiths. He does not intend to be just the Defender of the Protestant faith; he intends to be the defender of all faiths.

The blessing will be shared by leaders of different denominations for the first time, including the Catholic Cardinal Vincent Nichols. Also, female clergy will be involved in the coronation service for the first time after the Church of England allowed women to become bishops in 2014.





This inclusive approach to the coronation enjoys the support of the Archbishop of Canterbury: 'It is my prayer that all who share in this service, whether they are of faith or no faith, will find ancient wisdom and new hope that brings inspiration and joy'.

Therefore, the coronation will not be a symbol of a power and a splendour which is gone, but a declaration of the hope for the future. The service will attempt to bring together the past, the present and the future.

The theme of the service is 'called to serve' and the coronation weekend will end with the 'Big Help Out' on Monday 8th May. Created by Britain's best loved charities, it will highlight the positive impact volunteering has on communities across the nation. Jon Knight, the Chief Executive of the Together Coalition, suggests the 'Big Help Out' is going to be a festival of volunteering. A day when people up and down the country will roll up their sleeves and do their bit. I hope that many people on this day will do all they can to help others and spend at least one day living a life beyond themselves. www.thebighelpout.org.uk



I hope that everyone, monarchist or not, will enjoy the solemnity and beauty of this special occasion. It will be a time to come together with friends and family, to celebrate and look to the future with hope.

For the first time, all in Britain will be invited to swear allegiance to the newly crowned monarch. I will certainly do so!

God Save the King!

MOUNT HOUSE SIXTH FORM STUDENTS ASSIST IN LOCAL ELECTIONS

The following sixth form students were selected and employed by Watford Council as polling officers during the Local Government election:

Anastasia Moss
Rafaela Demetriou
Katie Gallagher
'Aine Smith
Sorcha Van Leeven



Our students acted as paid official counters. The experience gave them a fantastic insight into the way our representative democratic system works.

PE UPDATE

In core lessons all students have moved on to cricket.

Years 7 and 8 focused on the basics of batting, with specifics on front foot defensive and the front footed drive that would make Sir Alistair Cook proud and also moved onto bowling with brilliant accuracy that would have MS Dhoni trembling.

Year 9 focused on match play, looking to score quick runs and setting the perfect example for the England team to follow in their upcoming Ashes series against Australia.

Athletes of the week:

Year 7	James Collington
Year 8	Roshan Merani
Year 9	Anne Banda
Year 10	Zak Abdul-Razak

U13 boys cricket vs Keble Prep

A game for the ages started off with a brilliant bowl by Milo Dodd removing the off stump of their opening batsman with the first ball of the game and giving Milo a Royal Duck (very fitting with the upcoming coronation).

The game continued in this fashion as Mount House took regular wickets to leave Keble with a respectable score of 91.

Mount House were confident about providing a good chase for this score. The opening batsmen, Hari Chowdhary and Louis Falk, confidently walked out, hoping to go one better than the opposition and not get out first ball... Louis was successful in this and both batsmen set about showing excellent forward defensive shots to frustrate the opposition bowlers.

After the fourth over, the batsmen were instructed from the side lines to go for it and run more quick singles. This was effective for one over, before an unfortunate run out, bails flying everywhere!

This became the theme of the middle overs - quick running between the stumps, but regular wickets. However, it was an effective strategy because with five overs left we needed only 21 runs to win the game, which was entirely achievable.

Sadly, it was not to be, due to some excellent bowling from the opposition. It was a well-fought match. Special mentions to Milo Dodd for his excellent bowling and to James Collington, stepping in at the last minute and performing excellently as our wicketkeeper.

BAKING CLUB

This week students made cookies during baking club with fillings of their choice. It was great to see students experiment with ingredients and colouring whilst making their cookies.



We look forward to the next few weeks where students can experiment further with their bakes. Please find a link to recipes for the weeks leading up to half term here:

www.mounthouse.org.uk/co-curricular/clubs-activities/



(cheese twists, banoffee flapjack crumble and white chocolate rocky road)

FOMH AND SIXTH FORM CHARITY AUCTION - NOW ONLINE!

The FoMH and Sixth Form Charity Auction is going to be an online event to maximise potential participation for all in the community, hopefully giving the chance to raise even more for the worthy causes. Full details and links to the auction will be sent to everyone soon. The attached letter confirms this further and arrangements for those who had tickets to the original live event.

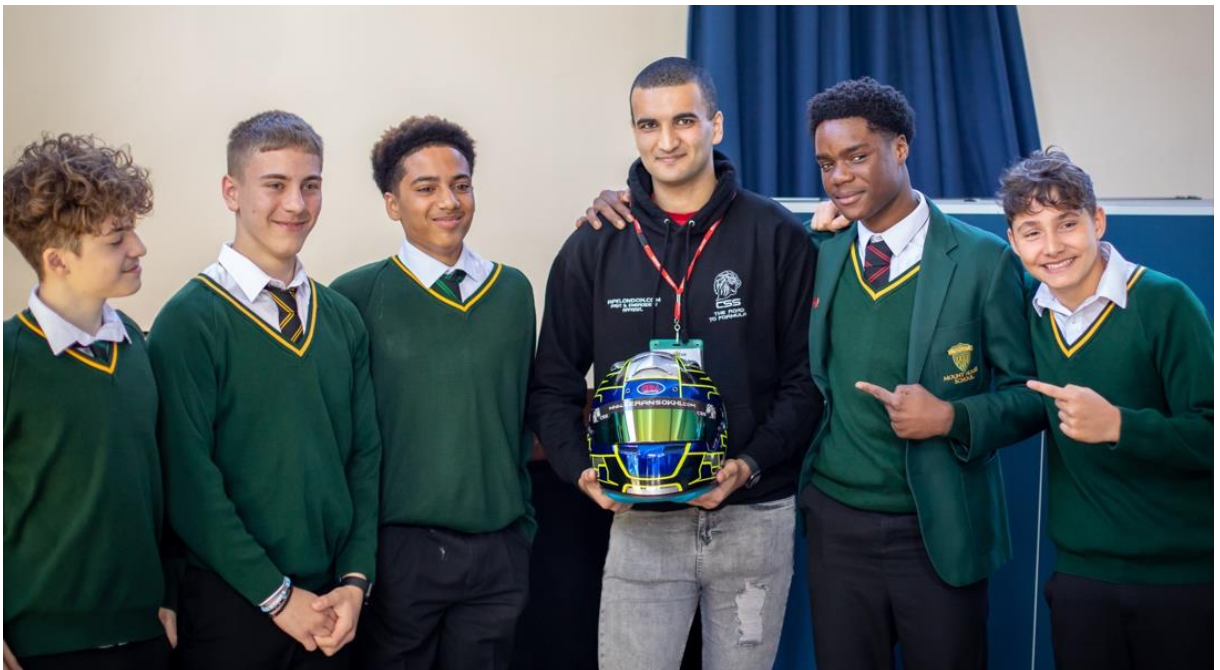


CAREERS

We had the pleasure of welcoming Ceran Sokhi to Mount House.

Ceran is an up-and-coming racing driver aiming to be in this year's GB3 Championship and the first Sikh Formula 1 driver.

He shared his interesting career journey with our students who found his speech very inspiring.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday 8th May
 Wednesday 10th May
 Friday 12th May
 Thursday 25th May
 Friday 26th May
 Tuesday 20th & Wednesday 21st June
 Tuesday 27th June
 Friday 30th June
 Monday 3rd – Thursday 6th July
 Friday 7th July

Public holiday (school closed)
 U13 & U15 ISA Tennis Competition (away)
 Y9 DofE Training Day
 Half Term starts 4pm
 Teacher INSET day
 Wizard of Oz school production
 Summer concert
 Sports Day
 Activities Week
 Speech Day and prizegiving
 Terms ends at 12.30