



# NEWSLETTER – 9<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

## MESSAGE FROM MR McCORMICK, ASSISTANT HEAD (ACADEMIC)



The month of June is designated as Pride Month, and this is predominantly aimed at raising awareness of the different life experience that LGBT+ Britons have from the rest of society.

We are lucky to live in a largely open, tolerant and democratic country. People of the same sex can marry and celebrate their love in the same way opposite sex couples have been able to do since time immemorial. Our soap operas portray positive same sex relationships and some of our most renowned pop stars, actors, newsreaders, artists and academics are LGBT+. Alan Turing, who when in the 1950s he called to report a burglary in the apartment he shared with his male partner was duly arrested himself, features on the fifty-pound note. There are LGBT+ people living open lives in every sector of society and employment one could imagine and this is largely supported by the great majority of people living in this country.

We might not believe there is a need for a Pride Month – some people may believe that being LGBT+ in Britain today is a non-issue. Luckily for most, it is. Unfortunately for some, it is not. This Pride month alone, prominent homophobic attacks have been reported in London, Liverpool, Cowbridge and in Birmingham - and we are just nine days in. 20% of LGBT+ people have experienced a hate crime in the past year because of who they are, and this doubles to 40% when considering the trans community alone. It is estimated by the Metropolitan Police that 81% of hate crimes committed against LGBT+ people go unreported.

Pride Month serves as a reminder of the ongoing struggle for LGBT+ rights. Despite the progress that has been made, many challenges and injustices persist, such as discrimination, violence, and legal barriers. Pride Month prompts society to reflect on these issues and to work towards creating a world where all individuals can live their lives freely and without fear of prejudice or discrimination. We are lucky to attend, or work in, a School where all individuals can, indeed, do that, whomever they are.

The significance of Pride Month lies in its ability to empower individuals to embrace their authentic selves. It encourages self-acceptance, self-expression, and the celebration of diversity. It sends a powerful message that everyone deserves to be treated with dignity, respect, and equality, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity. This self-acceptance, self-expression, and celebration of diversity at Mount House School extends to any demographic of student or staff member.

## PE UPDATE

Students in Key Stage Three have moved on from cricket to flag football (the non-contact version of the NFL), where they have been focusing on evading opponents and creating chances to score. This finished with games of 'endball', which allowed students to link these skills into a game scenario. In the coming weeks, students will be focusing on positions and playing full games of flag football.

During Games the students in Year 9 and 10 have been preparing for Sports Day and working on their track events. A group of Year 7 and 8 students worked on their cricket game play, while others worked on improving their tennis match play.

### **Athletes of the week:**

Year 7:	Varun Halaria
Year 8:	Selin Sarayli
Year 9:	Rina Antwi-Agyei
Year 10:	Oma Ojike

## SCHOOL NOTICES: SUMMER UNIFORM & VACCINATIONS

As of Monday, students may wear the summer uniform to reflect the higher temperatures expected next week.

- Ties and blazers are optional
- The shirt's top button may be undone if the tie is removed
- Either wear a short-sleeved white shirt or shirt sleeves may be rolled up to just above the elbow
- Shirts should be tucked in
- No shorts are allowed

A reminder that the DTP/MEN ACWY vaccination for Year 9 students will be taking place on 15<sup>th</sup> June.





## DUKE OF EDINBURGH

14 students in Year 9 took part in their practice expedition as part of the Duke of Edinburgh Award this week. Along with navigational, campcraft and leadership skills, teamwork was a key focus. Working in groups of 7 meant that students had to work collaboratively to get the task at hand completed. As the expedition progressed, so did the teamwork and it was great to see the sense of achievement on every individual's face when they reached the finish point. Well done to everyone who took part and wishing you all the best for the qualifying expedition in two weeks.

By Oscar Michaels



*Views from the finishing line*



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	Cricket Festival (with local primary schools)
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> June	Wizard of Oz school production
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> & Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Duke of Edinburgh expedition in the Chilterns
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> June, 7-9pm	Summer Concert
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> June, 5.30pm	Parent, Student & Teacher golf competition at Old Fold Manor
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	* Sports Day & Friends of Mount House Summer Fair
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> – Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Activities Week
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	9.00 – 12.00 Speech Day and prizegiving Terms ends at 12.30

\* Sports Day: parents are welcome to watch students take part in the track events from 11:00 – 12:45.

## THE WIZARD OF OZ



Please book your seats via this link for Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> June

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/mount-house-school-presents-the-wizard-of-oz-tickets-653749290727>

And via this link for Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> June:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/mount-house-school-presents-the-wizard-of-oz-tickets-653754245547>



## OPEN DAY AND THE ST MARTHA'S REUNION

On Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June, there will be a whole school Open Morning from 9.00 – 12.00. All students should be available to come into school and help with tours for prospective parents.

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](mailto: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](http://www.mounthouse.org.uk/history).*

## SUMMER FAIR

The date of our annual **Summer Fair** is **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> 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 5<sup>th</sup> 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/7vMQUP85EC47TMLA)

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



The link to sign up is: <https://forms.gle/7vMQUP85eC47tMBLA>



# Tennis & Golf Tour

## Portugal

### 2<sup>nd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> April 2024



Staying at the 5\* Ria Park Hotel

2 Hours of tennis in the morning & 2 hours of tennis in the evening!  
2 hours of golf a day with 2 rounds on the Vale do Lobo Championship  
Courses

Nice warm weather

Talented and friendly coaches to help improve your Tennis/Golf skills



"The walks between the hotel and tennis camp were so much fun! Especially when we got soaked by the sprinklers"

"The views surrounding the golf course were amazing!"

The coaches were so friendly and helpfull I learnt so much while I was in Portugal and my tennis improved so much."

Please find or contact Miss Buckland if you are interested [bucklanda@mounthouse.org.uk](mailto:bucklanda@mounthouse.org.uk)

Limited spaces available! DEADLINE MONDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> JUNE