



NEWSLETTER – 29TH SEPTEMBER

MESSAGE FROM MRS HILLCOAT-HYDE, ASSISTANT HEAD (PASTORAL)

In our ever-evolving world, the concept of inclusion has taken centre stage, and for good reason. Inclusion is not just a buzzword, it's a powerful force that has the potential to transform communities, organisations and societies for the better.

This week (25th September to 1st October) is National Inclusion Week, an annual event that was founded by Inclusive Employers. The week is dedicated to celebrating inclusion and acting to create inclusive workplaces and other settings. Whilst the primary focus is inclusion in the world of work, it is important to celebrate diversity and promote inclusion at all ages so that young people grow into tolerant, accepting adults. Schools play a vital role in shaping the minds and values of our future generations and at Mount House we pride ourselves in promoting the work of 'Inclusive Employers' not only this week but in all we do.



As a school we celebrate the richness of diversity within the student body, which encourages our students to appreciate the unique qualities that each individual brings to the table. Through the various opportunities offered both within and outside of the curriculum students learn the value of respecting differences, therefore creating a harmonious learning environment.

We recognise that inclusion extends beyond just acknowledging diversity. We work with our students and parents to identify and address the barriers that hinder students' participation and engagement, whether that be physical, social or academic barriers.

Through our PSHE programme we prompt open conversations about diversity which not only educates our students but also fosters empathy. Through conversations students learn to appreciate the challenges their peers face and become advocates for a more inclusive society.

Through our student voice we give students the opportunity to plan and organise events throughout the school year, empowering them to take an active role in shaping the school's culture. Our student led initiatives are effective in promoting inclusion, as they reflect the perspectives and priorities of the student body.



This week we celebrated European Day of Languages within school, where the Modern Foreign Languages Department promoted the range and diversity of languages spoken throughout Europe and within school and discussed how languages are used as a tool to break down the barriers that many people face in today's society. The MFL Department also discussed where languages can lead to in terms of careers and how useful language skills are.

The lessons shared and learned within school extend far beyond the classroom. They equip students with lifelong values of tolerance, empathy, and inclusivity, qualities that are essential for fostering a more inclusive and equitable society. We will continue to embrace diversity, break down barriers, and promote awareness so that we can continue to foster a culture of belonging that benefits all our students.

In the coming weeks we look forward to celebrating our Moveathon and Cultural Immersion Day.

Moveathon

The PE Department is delighted to be working in collaboration with the PTA to host the much anticipated Moveathon on Thursday 5th October. This event promises to be an exciting opportunity for our students to engage in physical activities whilst making a positive impact on our community. Participating in the Moveathon brings numerous benefits, for our students and community:

- **Physical Fitness:** engaging in physical activities is an excellent way to promote health and fitness. The Moveathon encourages students to be active, helping them to maintain a healthy lifestyle.
- **Supporting Others:** this event is not just about physical fitness, it's about supporting others. All funds raised through sponsorship will go towards initiatives that benefit our school and community. Your child's participation can make a real difference.
- **Community Building:** the Moveathon fosters a sense of togetherness within our school community. It is a chance for students to connect, have fun, and build friendships.
- **Teamwork:** students will have the opportunity to work together. They will learn valuable teamwork and cooperation skills

Let's make this year's Moveathon a resounding success by coming together and showing our support for physical activity, teamwork and giving back to the community. Thank you for your support and encouragement. We look forward to seeing your child's enthusiasm and energy at the Moveathon on Thursday 5th October. There are more details at the end of the newsletter.

Cultural Immersion Day

Following the success of last year’s Cultural Immersion Day, we are looking forward to the events being organised by a group of students who represent our ‘House of Equality’ on Friday 20th October. The focus of the day is to give our school community the opportunity to learn about and embrace each other’s culture.

SCHOOL COUNCIL



The first meeting of the new School Council took place this week.

Minutes will follow in next week’s newsletter.





Food Technology

This week in food technology all year groups have looked at the safety of food and how food should be stored correctly. Year 8 used their knife skills to create a fruit salad. 9FOO/C completed their second practical where they made a Greek Salad, focusing on their food and personal hygiene standards in the kitchen, along with knife skills.

CO-CURRICULAR

It's been a bustling week at our school's extracurricular clubs, and we're thrilled to share some of the highlights with you!

Baking Club Delights:

The aroma of sweet success wafted from our Baking Club this week as students whipped up some mouthwatering chocolatey rocky roads. Their creativity knew no bounds as they incorporated popcorn, marshmallows, dried fruit and jelly sweets into their delectable creations. As an extra treat, students also explored the therapeutic joy of baking dairy cakes during our well-being baking session.

Student perspective: baking club gives students a chance to bond as friends, challenge and push each other to our full potential and help us improve our skills in the kitchen. We bake tasty treats, and share them with our family and friends. The amazing staff that help us show us how it's done properly and sometimes even get to share some of the snacks! Baking club is definitely a highlight of my week and a chance to teach me more about cooking! Isabella B, Year 7

Congratulations to Isabella who is this week's star baker.

Harmonious Notes in the Music Room:

Our school's music room has been buzzing with life as our talented musicians created mesmerizing melodies. The sounds emanating from there were not only loud but truly wonderful. It's heart-warming to witness our students' dedication to passion for music.

Soaring to New Heights in Trampolining:

In our trampolining sessions, students have been reaching new heights of skill mastery. It's been incredible to see them progress and develop their abilities, each at their own level. The joy of bouncing and soaring through the air is evident on their faces.

Friendly Competition in Table Tennis:

Our Year 10 students have been enthusiastically engaging in some friendly competition on the table tennis table. They've been honing their skills and enjoying spirited matches with their peers.

Artistic Brilliance:

Art Club continues to be a resounding success, attracting a devoted following of students. This week, young artists honed their skills by exploring the use of colour, with a particular focus on replicating intricate animal eyes. Their artistic endeavours have been both captivating and inspiring.



Following feedback from staff and students, there have been a few changes to the co-curricular programme, which can be found on the following four pages.

We're truly proud of the enthusiasm and dedication displayed by our students in these clubs. It's heartening to see them exploring their passions and developing new skills.

Thank you for your continued support in fostering a vibrant and engaging school community.



Co-Curricular Programme
Michaelmas 2023

Day	Club Name	Year(s)	Time	Location
Mon	Running Club	All	07:30 – 08:10	Meet on Courts
Mon	Classics Craft Club	7 - 9	1 st Lunch	Room 22
Mon	Classics Clinic	10 - 13	1 st Lunch	Room 22
Mon	Table Tennis	9 - 13	1 st Lunch	Hall
Mon	PsySoc	10 -13	1 st lunch	Room 2
Mon	Dance	All	2 nd Lunch	Hall
Mon	HPQ (Higher Project Qualification)	9 & 10	2 nd Lunch	Room 1
Mon	Crypto Club	Students already signed-up	2 nd Lunch	IT Suite
Mon	Communication Café	Invite only	2 nd Lunch	Room 3
Mon	Biology Clinic	10 - 13	2 nd Lunch	Room 11



Day	Club Name	Year(s)	Time	Location
Tues	Choir	All	8.20-8.50 am	Music
Tues	Wellbeing Baking	Invite only	All Lunch	Food Tech
Tues	Chess	All	1 st Lunch	Room 15
Tues	Badminton	9 - 13	1st Lunch	Hall
Tues	Acapella	All	1 st Lunch	Music room
Tues	Touch Typing	Invite only	1 st Lunch	Meet in Hive
Tues	Badminton	7 & 8	2 nd Lunch	Hall
Tues	Chemistry Clinic	10 - 13	2 nd Lunch	Room 13
Tues	Design Workshop	7 - 9	2 nd Lunch	Textile Classroom
Tues	The Mount	Y12	2 nd Lunch	Room 1
Tues	House of Equality	All	2 nd Lunch	Room 3
Tues	Kids MBA (Master of Business Administration)	All	16:10 – 17:00	Room 1
Tues	Robotics	All	16:10 – 17:00	Lodge
Tues	Baking Club	All	16:10 – 17:00	Food Tech
Tues	Hockey	All	16:10 – 17:00	MUGA
Tues	Phantoms Junior	7 - 9	16:10 – 17:00	Music Room
Tues	Textiles Clinic	10 - 13	16:10 – 17:00	Textiles Room
Tues	Homework Club	7 & 8	16:10 – 17:00	Room 22
Tues	Homework Club	9 & 10	16:10 – 17:00	Room 23
Tues	Supervised Study	11 & 6 th Form	16:10 – 17:00	Main House



Day	Club Name	Year(s)	Time	Location
Wed	Wellbeing Baking	Invite only	All Lunch	Food Tech
Wed	Table Tennis	7 & 8	1 st Lunch	Hall
Wed	Trampolining	9 - 13	1 st Lunch	Hall
Wed	Classics Discussion	10 - 13	1 st Lunch	Room 22
Wed	Trampolining	7 & 8	2 nd Lunch	Hall
Wed	Strings & Wind	All	2 nd Lunch	Music Room
Wed	Physics Clinic	10 - 13	2 nd Lunch	Room 12
Wed	Baking Club	All	16:10 – 17:00	Food Tech
Wed	Creative Corner	All	16:10 – 17:00	Art Room
Wed	Phantoms Senior	10 - 13	16:10 – 17:00	Music Room
Wed	Biology Olympiad	All	16:10 – 17:00	Room 9
Wed	Varsity	All	16:10 – 17:00	Room 1
Wed	Football	All	16:10 – 17:00	MUGA
Wed	Homework Club	7 & 8	16:10 – 17:00	Room 22
Wed	Homework Club	9 & 10	16:10 – 17:00	Room 23
Wed	Supervised Study	11 & 6 th Form	16:10 – 17:00	Main House



Day	Club Name	Year(s)	Time	Location
Thurs	Wellbeing Baking	Invite only	All Lunch	Food Tech
Thurs	PE Clinic	11	1 st Lunch	Room 18
Thurs	Anti-Bullying Ambassadors	All	1 st Lunch	Room 1
Thurs	Debating	All	1 st Lunch	Room 4
Thurs	English Clinic	7 - 9	1 st Lunch	Room 2
Thurs	Go Create	All	1 st Lunch	Art Room
Thurs	Maths Clinic	10 - 13	1 st Lunch	Room 16
Thurs	Drum Corps	All	2 nd Lunch	Music Room
Thurs	Origami	All	2 nd Lunch	Room 8
Thurs	Chemistry Olympiad	All	2 nd Lunch	Room 13
Thurs	Maths Clinic	7 - 9	2 nd Lunch	Room 15
Thurs	Baking Club	All	16:10 – 17:00	Food Tech
Thurs	Retro Computer Gaming	All	16:10 – 17:00	IT Suite
Thurs	English Clinic	10 - 13	16:10 – 17:00	Room 6
Thurs	Creative Writing Club	All	16:10 – 17:00	Room 4
Thurs	Drama	All	16:10 – 17:00	Drama Studio
Thurs	Physics Olympiad	All	16:10 – 17:00	Room 12
Thurs	Netball	All	16:10 – 17:00	MUGA
Thurs	Scrabble	All	16:10 – 17:00	Room 1
Thurs	Homework Club	7 & 8	16:10 – 17:00	Room 22
Thurs	Homework Club	9 & 10	16:10 – 17:00	Room 23
Thurs	Supervised Study	11 & 6 th Form	16:10 – 17:00	Main House

PE

The cross-country adventures of Key Stage 3 in the woods this week are a testament to the importance of outdoor education and physical activity in today's world. Beyond the physical fitness benefits, students had the opportunity to connect with nature and develop teamwork and resilience. As our students continue to explore the world around them, they are not only enhancing their wellbeing but also developing skills and values that will serve them well into the future. It is a reminder that the best classroom is sometimes one under the open sky (well, at least according to the PE department).

Trampolinists have been developing their techniques for each skill, so they look aesthetically pleasing. Trampolinists have also been working through routines, based on the different levels in which they have placed themselves (bronze, silver, gold & platinum).

Students had great fun on the driving range in golf this week, with many new to the sport starting to demonstrate an understanding of the techniques required through their demonstration.



Athletes of the Week

- Year 7 Daniela V.F
- Year 8 Purity S
- Year 9 Mikey P
- Year 10 Alice W
- Year 11 Emily H

Skiing Competition:



Representing Mount House at the ISA indoor ski championships at Hemel snow centre was a great experience.

It was extremely busy on the day with over 170 participants from different Independent Schools competing.

After open practice and a course inspection, the racing started. The standard was high, and the atmosphere was buzzing.

I was proud to represent the school and pleased to win the U19 bronze medal.

Imogen M Year 12

Volunteering Opportunity:

Furzeffield in Potters Bar were pleased to introduce their first park run on Sunday 24th September 2023. They have contacted us to see whether any of our students would like to like to volunteer and support the event, weekly. This is a great opportunity for anyone still needing to complete their volunteering section in the Duke of Edinburgh Award. If you would like to find out more, please email the Furzeffield Team: furzeffieldleisurecentrejuniors@parkrun.com

Fixture:

U15 Netball and Football vs Sherrardswood on Thursday 5th October at MHS

AMELIE HILTON AT THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Between 13th and 17th September, Amelie in Year 11 competed at the All England show jumping competition at Hickstead. This is an amazing achievement as the top riders from all over England compete against each other.





YEAR 12 TEAM-BUILDING TRIP TO WILTSHIRE

Year 12 embarked in the early hours of Monday 25th September to the rural site of H5 Adventure in Wiltshire. We were welcomed by a view of fields and cows and greeted by our two instructors, Ricky and Macha. Year 12 were encouraged to work as a team, using their initiative to build their tents which would be their new home for the night. Continuing the team spirit, we partook in three different team building activities: moving and walking across planks to reach the other side, transporting marbles through the tubes, and climbing through a web of ropes with the added pressure of limited lives available. We then participated in an orienteering challenge to exercise our navigation skills and team coordination. Later that day, we were provided with the materials (plastic barrels, ropes, and wooden poles), to make rafts. Our task was to retrieve ingredients for dinner, which was placed on a small island across the lake. In the evening, we split off into groups to do cooking or fire building, according to our strengths and weaknesses. For dinner we had a vegetable stew which consisted of parsnips, tinned tomatoes, potatoes, onions, and carrots, alongside tinned hotdogs and pitta bread. Utilising the resources around us, we cooked this by holding it up near the fire, using sticks as makeshift skewers. As nightfall approached, we ate our meal, with chocolate and banana for dessert. Finishing the day, we sat around the fire listening to Charlene's impressive singing, as we ate toasted marshmallows and played a game of 'Mafia'.



Awakening to the sound of torrential rain on the tents, we prepared ourselves for the day ahead by eating a breakfast of croissant and jam under the marquee. While waiting for the rain to subside, we completed a quiz together. As the main activity of the day, we canoed on the lake, where we were challenged to stand up in the canoe itself while keeping stable, and then moving from one canoe to the another, which some were brave enough to do! Unfortunately, Joba, Remi and Charlene's boat capsized during a

game of retrieving a ball, and they had to swim to the muddy shore. Shortly after canoeing, we finished the team activities with the task of bridge building. Given three wooden poles and a set of ropes, we established a tripod structure, attaching the tightrope to it in order to get across the river. We used an online spinning wheel to determine who trekked across first, increasing the suspense even more. For lunch we were provided with ingredients to make sandwiches, and later we took down our tents, working together to organise everything into the correct crates. With a sense of team spirit and achievement, we set home, stopping off at a service station where we enjoyed KFC and Burger King, which was nice after a challenging, but fun, two days!

by Aoife and Lydia

SCHOOL NOTICES

Open Morning - tomorrow



Thank you to all the students for their support tomorrow at the Open Morning.

Students should arrive by 0845 to allow sufficient time for drop off on site, with Years 10-13 going straight to their allocated subject areas and Years 7-9 coming to the hall on arrival. From 0845 we will be parking guests in the car park.

Attendance is an expectation and students have been reminded of this. They should wear full uniform, unless supporting PE, where correct sports kit should be worn.

Sixth Form Open Evening - Thursday 5th October 5.30-7.30pm

We are looking forward to seeing our Year 11s on Thursday for the Open Evening. This is a chance for parents and to also catch up with their guidance mentor again. The evening will start at 5.30pm with a presentation about the pathways available at Mount House Sixth Form, alongside some information about other aspects and opportunities for Sixth Formers. It is the key chance to hear about both the A-Level pathways and our exciting new option to take the IB Career-Related Programme. There will be some time after the presentation to explore the different subject options.

Blazers

A general reminder that all students in Years 7-11 should be wearing their blazers at school. Teachers will invite them to remove them in lessons if they are warm. The jumper is not an alternative to the blazer but an optional item for warmth.



Moveathon

All students should come to school in their PE kit on Thursday 5th October as they will be taking part in the Moveathon. Students involved in the Sixth Form Evening should ensure they have a change of clothes. Details of timings will be shared with students by their form tutors next week.



Homework

The homework timetable for the term was published to parents in the first week of term. Please find this attached again. You should be able to see the homework set in their homework diaries as we teach the students to be independent in their study management. Should your child be coming home without the expected work then please contact the Head of Year who can support them with this study management or check with the relevant teachers.

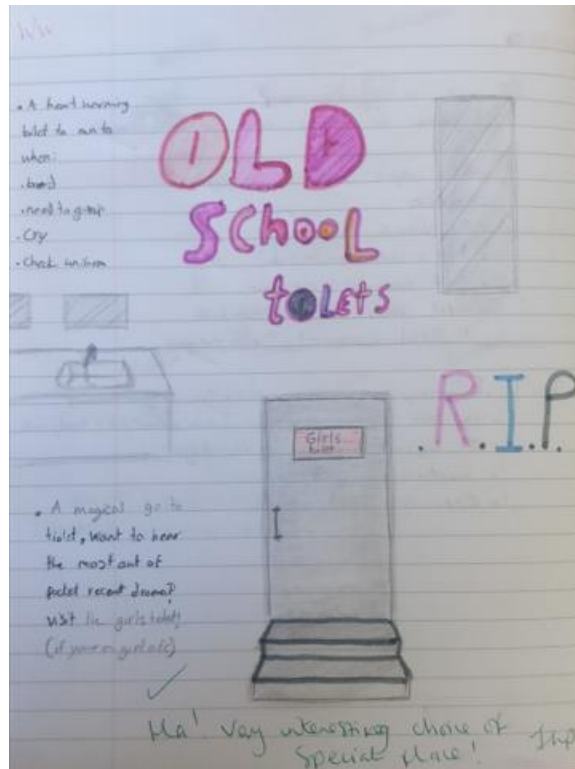
	Year 7		Year 8			Year 9			Year 10	Year 11
WEEK 1	1 homework per fortnight per subject; 2 homeworks per fortnight of English, Maths. 3 for Science (1 for each) 30 minutes per homework 30 minutes reading of a book of their choice a week is also expected.					1 homework per fortnight per subject; 2 homeworks per fortnight of English, 3 for Maths. 3 for Science (1 for each) 40 minutes per homework			2 homeworks per fortnight per subject. 45 minutes per homework	
	Group 1	Group 2	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Whole year	Whole year
Monday	Geography Classics	Geography Art	Classics PE	Textiles/PD Spanish	Spanish Biology	Maths Block D	Maths Block D	Maths Block D	Block A English	English Sciences sets: Chem 1 Bio 2 Physics 3 Chem 4
Tuesday	English Food Tech	English Comp Science	Biology Textiles/PD	French Physics	Geography Music	Chemistry Geography	Physics Comp Sci	Biology	Block D Chem 1 Physics 2 Bio 3	Maths Sciences sets: Bio 1 Physics 2 Chem 3 Bio 4
Wednesday	Chemistry Comp Science	Chemistry	Maths Comp Sci	Maths Geography	Maths History	Maths Classics	Maths RE	Maths Geography	Maths	Block A Block D
Thursday	Maths History	Maths History Food Tech	Physics Geography	Chemistry Comp Sci	Chemistry	English Block A	English Block A	English Block A	Block B Bio 1 Chem 1 Physics 3	Sciences sets: Physics 1 Chem 2 Bio 3 Physics 4
Friday	Physics French	Physics Biology	English Chemistry	English Music	English Food Tech	PE RE	History Geography	History RE	Block C Physics 1 Bio 2 Chem 3	Block B Block C

	Year 7		Year 8			Year 9			Year 10	Year 11
WEEK 2	1 homework per fortnight per subject; 2 homeworks per fortnight of English, Maths. 3 for Science 30 minutes per homework 30 minutes reading of a book of their choice a week is also expected.					1 homework per fortnight per subject; 2 homeworks per fortnight of English, 3 for Maths. 3 for Science (1 for each) 40 minutes per homework			2 homeworks per fortnight per subject. 45 minutes per homework	
	Group 1	Group 2	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Whole year	Whole year
Monday	English Art	English Drama	Maths Spanish	Maths PE	Maths Classics	Block C	Block C	Block C	Block A Bio 1 Chem 2 Physics 3	English Sciences sets: Chem 1 Bio 2 Physics 3 Chem 4
Tuesday	PE Spanish	PE Spanish	Food Tech	Food Tech Classics	French PE	History Biology	Classics Chemistry	PE Physics	Block D Chem 1 Physics 2 Bio 3	Maths Block A
Wednesday	Maths Music	Maths Classics	Art French	Art History	Physics Drama	Maths Comp Sci	Maths PE	Maths Comp Sci	English Maths	Block D Sciences sets: Bio 1 Physics 2 Chem 3 Bio 4
Thursday	Biology Drama	Textiles/PD	Drama Music	Drama	Comp Sci Art	English	English	English Classics	Block C Physics 1 Bio 2 Chem 3	Block B Block C
Friday	Textiles/PD	Music French	English History	English Biology	English Textiles/PD	Physics Block B	Biology Block B	Chemistry Block B	Block B	Sciences sets: Physics 1 Chem 2 Bio 3 Physics 4



A SPECIAL PLACE

Mrs Allman asked her RE class to draw a special place, and one of her students made an interesting choice.



The new toilets look like this:





WINGS OF HOPE ASSEMBLY

Last week, Wings of Hope gave an assembly at school.

WOH is a charity organisation which raises funds to help educate young children in India and Malawi, Africa.

Groups of students are encouraged to organise fundraising and help the community.

Start your WOHA challenge today!

wings of hope
Inspiring World Education

The challenge is simple. You and your friends design and carry out your own projects and events to be in for the chance of winning work Experience Placements and an expenses paid trip to India

Register online by November at www.wohaa.co.uk

@officialWOHA

contact No. 020 8438 1598
 Email: info@thewingsofhope.org
 Registered charity No. 1099685





PTA UPCOMING EVENTS



Parent Teacher Association

MOUNT HOUSE

Presents



Family Bingo Night

THURSDAY OCTOBER 12TH AT 7PM.
(doors open at 6:30)

*Tickets are now on sale - £5 per person

4 Rounds of Bingo - Prizes per line and round

*Refreshments and Snacks available to purchase

*Door Raffle -3 x CASH prizes

**If you wish to drink alcohol, Bring Your Own as well as glasses.



*There will also be a
Second Hand Uniform Stall*



Email mounthousepta@mounthouse.org.uk to purchase your tickets

Money raised by the Mount House PTA will be used towards items and activities that will benefit the students.

Please don't forget to collect as much sponsorship money as you can for the Moveathon to be held on Thursday 5th October. There is a prize for the student that raises the most money in their year group and each year group can help decide what the money they have raised is spent on.

Are you ready to get moving?

Please find below a sponsorship form if you require it again.



Parent Teacher Association
MOUNT HOUSE



Mount House PTA Sponsored Moveathon Event on Thursday, 5th October 2023

Physical exercise has so many benefits. It keeps us strong and healthy and helps us manage our mental health too. It also helps us with problem solving, our attention skills and leads to improved learning, and importantly, in getting a good night's sleep. So, why not combine all of these benefits with some fund raising and have some fun at the same time?

Supported by staff from the school Games department and a qualified personal trainer (Chris Antoni of Tailor Made Fitness), each class /year group will spend 30 minutes of non-stop movement. There'll be music and personal trainer Chris Antoni, and the Games staff, will help make it fun for everyone! The event will be held on the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA), (or in the hall if it's raining).

Official Sponsorship Form

STUDENT NAME: _____

YEAR: _____

SPONSOR FULL NAME	SPONSOR CONTACT DETAILS	AMOUNT PER MINUTE (total 30 minutes)	TOTAL AMOUNT SPONSORED	DATE PAID
TOTAL		£	£	

****There will be a prize in each year group for the student that raises/collects the most sponsorship!*** 🏆
With the money raised, a process will be set up for students in each year group to decide how the money is spent. They will be assisted by the school staff and given criteria which will be to support their education and school life.

Are you ready to get moving?





LAST CHANCE!

Don't miss your final
opportunity to
purchase your
**CHILD'S SCHOOL
PORTRAIT**
with **FREE** delivery
to school!

**ANY ORDERS PLACED AFTER THE DEADLINE
WILL INCUR A HOME DELIVERY CHARGE.**

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#GetTheWorldWithBentley

