

NEWSLETTER – 13TH OCTOBER

MESSAGE FROM MRS TRICKEY, ASSISTANT HEAD – PASTORAL

We often hear in the news that computer games are not that good for our health, but did you know that there are actually many benefits to regularly playing computer games in small amounts? It is these benefits that the Retro Gaming Club, which runs on Thursdays as part of our co-curricular programme, aims to harness.



We are incredibly thankful to the Mount House PTA who have enabled us to set up this very popular club which helps students to socialise and play games with each other in a safe and controlled environment.

Students have been testing their skills at problem solving through playing “retro” computer games (although, as I am older than all of the games and consoles, I take some umbrage at that term!) such as Sonic on the Mega Drive, Zelda on the Nintendo and Mario on the Super Nintendo... along with flexing their rock star skills on Guitar Hero on the xBox 360.

The students who have joined the club have also shown excellent leadership and teamwork skills, coming in to the club ready to set up their individual gamer areas with our collection of compatible TVs and setting up “winner stays on” style tournaments with original versions of Street Fighter. Others have set up group games in Minecraft Education for multiple students to play together.

In addition to all of this, we are hoping to harness the many benefits of regular, short bursts of game play:

1. **Improving manual dexterity.** Fun fact: special video games are used as physical therapy to help stroke victims regain control of their hands and wrists.
2. **Becoming a better problem solver.** Open-world, mission-based, and multi-level games are designed like complex puzzles that take several hours to solve. Learning to think on your feet and strategize in a fast-paced fantasy environment is a skill that can translate to the real world.
3. **Improving vision.** As long as you’re not staring at the screen for ten hours straight (or sitting too close), playing video games can actually improve vision, as people who play games can train themselves to see smaller details.

4. **Benefitting mental health.** Some video games can boost mood help relieve stress, which is why video games have been used in therapy for over a decade.
5. **Inspiring you to be more persistent.** In video games you keep trying until you win, learning from your mistakes as you progress towards the goal. Video games can teach people to be more confident and to focus on goals, treating each misstep as just another learning opportunity.

We are once again incredibly grateful to the Mount House PTA for their generosity in helping us set up this co-curricular club. If you do happen to have Rock Band instruments (e.g. drums!) gathering dust in your loft, please do contact me at trickeys@mounthouse.org.uk and we will be happy to take them off your hands!

PTA

We would like to thank those families who came to Family Bingo Night last night to support us. There were lots of winners and a great time was had by all. We raised £223.59.

Just to let you know that we are still collecting sponsorship money for the **Moveathon** until Friday 20th October. Thank you for all who have sent in their forms and funds raised already.



Our next event is **The Festive Fair in December**, details to follow shortly.

We also wanted to let you know that we're using a great website called Easyfundraising to help raise money for Mount House School Parent Teacher Association. Easyfundraising is the UK's biggest charity shopping site and will turn your everyday online shopping into FREE donations for us. All you need to do is sign up and shop via the easyfundraising website or App when you're shopping with over 7,500 brands including eBay, Tesco, Marks & Spencer, Just Eat and more.

Your online shopping won't cost you any extra and we'll be really grateful for your donations. Please sign up here:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/mount-house-school>



CLASSICS MASTERCLASS AT HADLEY WOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

On Thursday 12th October, six Year 10 Classics students went to Hadley Wood Primary School to teach a masterclass to a class of Year 5 children. The GCSE students who went were Oscar M, Amelia M, Ava A, Alice W, Temidayo YS, and Junior G and were accompanied by Miss Bailey and Mrs Fallon.

Our planning started back in September when Mrs Fallon challenged us with preparing a lesson on the Greek gods, a topic we had just completed as part of our GCSE course. First, we created a PowerPoint, which contained information about the Olympian gods and each of us presented two gods. Mine were Zeus and Hera, the king and queen of the gods. Next, we split into pairs and had to create an activity to work on with the Year 5s in groups to test their understanding. Junior and Ava asked them to create their own set of Top Trumps of the gods; Temidayo and Alice played a game of Guess Who; and Oscar and Amelia created Divine Bingo. The groups rotated so they played all three games and they had lots of fun, with seven students in the final bingo group shouting 'Bingo!' at the same time after finally picking Poseidon. We all had a wonderful experience but we have new-found respect for our teachers.

Oscar M (year 10)



Ava, Alice, Junior, Temi, Amelia & Oscar



CO-CURRICULAR

It is fantastic to see the increased student engagement in the co-curricular programme again this week. There have been some exciting activities and challenges across the programme.

Baking Club

Students in the baking club after school made delicious chocolate brownies this week. Some students made it home with their brownies on the same day; others had to wait until the following morning; and quite possibly some brownies didn't make it home at all!

Lunchtime Baking

Baking during lunchtime was a delightful treat for everyone. Rocky roads were a crowd-pleaser. Star baker was Angelo (year 7).

Kids' MBA

The students were grouped together for a project related to money management and preventing bankruptcy. This is an excellent opportunity for them to develop financial skills and knowledge.

Running Club

Students were put to the test with hill sprints on the common this week. This was an excellent way to kickstart the week.

Football Club

An energetic in-house competition took place, with students enthusiastically competing in a triangular football tournament.

FOOD TECHNOLOGY

This week in Food Technology, year 9 used the blenders to make a five-a-day smoothie.

Year 10 created a dish that involved using eggs in some way. Students made dishes like egg noodle soup, breaded chicken, eggy bread, cupcakes and many more.

Mr Cooper also made an appearance for a taste test!





PE

During PE lessons this week, year 7, 8 and 9 students focused on a variety of different shots in volleyball which will be included in their game play next week. This will allow some students to focus on their refereeing and coaching.

On Monday, the year 11s and sixth formers enjoyed the brand new basketball hoops on the MUGA. Playing in three teams, the students battled it out in seven-minute matches. With the sun on their side, the teams displayed great teamwork, using quick reactions and shooting accuracy to ramp up high scores. The games department is very much looking forward to future high levels of competitive, fast-paced basketball action.

Years 7 and 8 proved their prowess on the football fields this Wednesday, playing some fast-paced matches in their Houses. After displaying excellent technical ability, the results were revealed, with Ash in fourth, Oak in third, and Cedar and Holly in joint first place.

Football: year 9 and 10 boys faced a strong and able opposition in Highgate School. With some last-minute drop outs due to illness and injury, both Mount House teams were down to ten men. The MHS B team battled to a fantastic win, with a last-minute goal securing the win. The celebrations from the Bs could be heard all the way to Wembley - brilliant performance, boys. Goals were scored by Nathan OE, Hari C and Zidane S. Man of the Match goes to the debutant in goal, Aaran G.

The MHS A team, starting with ten players, put in a solid performance and although they were down 2-0 at half time, they battled to the end. During the latter stages of the second half, whilst pushing to score some goals, they were beaten on the counter-attack twice for the game to finish 4-0. Notable performances were from Nathan M, with his first game as an A team centre back and Sabi K for a fantastic performance in goal, with a penalty save that Oliver Khan would have been proud of. Man of the Match goes to Sabi K.

Athletes of the Week (06.10.2023):

Year 7	Vivi B
Year 8	Tilly H
Year 9	Nathaniel A
Year 10	Rosie B
Year 11	George C, Robert H, Lance D & Anna C

Athletes of the Week (13.10.2023)

Year 7	Jesse S and Brendan NW
Year 8	Benji B
Year 9	Luca F (golf) and Nathan OE
Year 10	Zeyad S and Renis M
Year 11	Michael M



HOUSE OF EQUALITY

House of Equality is a student-led society promoting equality and diversity throughout the school. As part of this club, members organise events such as **Cultural Day**, where all students and teachers are able to celebrate each other's cultures through various activities such as cultural workshops, food stalls, the renowned fashion show, and quizzes.

Additionally, we are assigned an assembly every few weeks, where we are given the platform to educate others on various current affairs relating to gender and racial equality.

An example of this is our most recent presentation on the topic of modern young role models, particularly focusing on those within minority groups such as Black and Latinx communities, in celebration of Black History Month.

This club is an opportunity to make an active contribution to the school community and determine how we ensure equality within the school environment.

Lydia FT

**CULTURAL DAY:
FRIDAY 20TH
OCTOBER**

Please wear clothing from your culture and bring a donation of £1.

Other items like cultural food and jewelry will be on sale in the hall, so please bring money if you'd like to purchase those items.

All proceeds will go to the charity of the House of Equality students' choice: SARI - Stand Against Racism & Inequality.



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CULTURAL DAY
Bring £1 for wearing **CULTURAL** clothes

FOOD Bring £2 to buy cultural food in the hall.
12:30

STALL Bring money to buy cultural items like jewellery.
12:30

FASHION SHOW Represent your culture and show off your clothes on stage.

STARTS AT : 10:45

Workshops from 10:45 - 12:30



CAREERS

ARMY OFFICER INSIGHT DAY



SATURDAY 18th NOVEMBER 2023
ROYAL MILITARY ACADEMY SANDHURST
CAMBERLEY, SURREY

The Army Officer Insight Day will commence at 10 am and will run until 4 pm. The day incorporates a tour of the training establishment and its facilities including Old College and lunch in New College Dining Room. You will have the opportunity to chat to serving Officers, Academy Staff, Officer Cadets and expert careers advisors as well as attend career and lived experience presentations.

There are only a limited number of places, so please register as soon as possible. Spaces will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis to eligible potential officers. All guests must be aged 16 +.

Please note that this is an optional insight event and not a formal part of your application.

Scan the QR code below to apply for a place before 9th November 2023, when applications close.

SEARCH
ARMY OFFICER





HADLEY WOOD FIREWORKS DISPLAY

The display is a lovely community event. The organisers are also in need of adult volunteers for the event.

If you can volunteer your time and offer help for the fireworks event as a marshall, please email hwafireworks23@gmail.com. There are fabulous perks for volunteering on the night and all help is very gratefully received. Thank you.

**HADLEY WOOD ASSOCIATION
FIREWORKS
Sunday 5th Nov 2023**

- FUNFAIR
- GOURMET STREET FOOD
- LICENCED BAR

VENUE:
HWA Centre,
1-7 Crescent East
Hadley Wood, EN4 0EL

Doors open: 4:30pm | Fireworks start: 6:15pm

INDIVIDUAL TICKETS
 £9 for HWA members
 £11 non-members
 Bundle Offer: Buy 5 tickets for the price of 4!
 Children under the age of 3 FREE entry.

PLUS RAFFLE TICKETS £5
Available online

Sponsored by:
STATONS
www.statons.com

TICKETS ONLINE ONLY
www.hadleywood.org.uk
 TICKETS WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE ON THE DOOR

HADLEY WOOD ASSOCIATION