



NEWSLETTER – 1ST DECEMBER

MESSAGE FROM MR CROSBY, DEPUTY HEAD

Our thought of the week is from Salvador Dali who said "*intelligence without ambition is a bird without wings*". As we head into the festive season let us remind ourselves that academic intelligence is undoubtedly crucial, but Dali's quote serves as a poignant reminder that true success extends beyond the realms of intelligence alone. We need to cultivate ambition as the wind beneath the wings of intellect.

For our students, ambition is what guides them in their academic choices. It shapes their goals, fuels their resilience, and empowers them to face challenges head-on. Parents play a pivotal role in nurturing the ambition of their children. It starts with fostering a growth mindset, where challenges are viewed as opportunities to learn and grow. Encourage your child to explore their interests, discover their passions, and set realistic yet challenging goals. By doing so, you're not only nurturing their ambition but also helping them understand the symbiotic relationship between intelligence and ambition.

Here at Mount House, we have a crucial role in creating an environment that stokes the flames of ambition. Recently some of our year 11 students took part in a Morrisby career related interview; the whole of year 11 attended a Sixth Form Experience Day; and our year 12s have attended a Careers Day. Beyond academic excellence, we aim to provide platforms for students to showcase their talents, be it in sport, art, music or community service. Our co-curricular clubs not only enrich your child's educational experience, but also instil a sense of purpose and ambition in them.

It's essential to strike a balance between fostering intelligence and nurturing ambition. While grades and exam success are important, they are but one facet of a well-rounded education. Together we must emphasise the value of curiosity, critical thinking, and resilience. These qualities, when coupled with ambition, create a dynamic formula for success.

Over the course of the upcoming holiday we recommend that you encourage your children to set both short-term and long-term goals. Help them understand that intelligence provides the foundation, but ambition is the driving force that turns potential into reality. Celebrate their achievements, big and small, and use setbacks as opportunities for growth.



SPEAKERS' CORNER – GLOBAL STUDIES

On Monday during the school assembly, two sets of students addressed the school.

Isabella B and Daniela V in year 7 addressed the school on the issues surrounding **bullying in the UK**. Both students spoke eloquently and passionately, highlighting the growing challenge we all face in confronting all forms of bullying wherever it occurs. Their speech was warmly welcomed, receiving a rapturous round of applause.

This was followed by four year 9 students who had entered a joint Global Studies / Speakers' Corner competition in providing **solutions to the Russian Ukrainian war** which has been raging since February 2022.

The year 9 students were Eve H, Liam R, Jennifer D and Lizzie J.

All four students offered potential solutions to the war from encouraging a diplomatic solution to reinforcing sanctions against Russia. Other solutions included the possibility of NATO taking stronger action in providing further weaponry; or indeed encouraging Ukraine's surrender of the territories that it has lost in the hope that will bring a permanent peace.



The students spoke clearly, providing insight into and understanding of the ongoing conflict that has had such a devastating impact on so many people's lives, not just in Russia and Ukraine, but throughout the world.

The joint winners of the competition were **Eve** and **Lizzie**. **Liam** and **Jennifer** were judged to be joint second.



Well done to all those who participated in the joint Speakers' Corner and Global Studies presentation.

Speakers' Corner is open to anyone from years 7-13 who wish to bring to the attention of the whole school any issue, subject or topic that they feel that we should be aware of.

Please contact Darcie, Aaron, Waleed in year 12 or Mr Allman if you would like the opportunity to participate in Speakers' Corner.

FACULTY NEWS: FRENCH

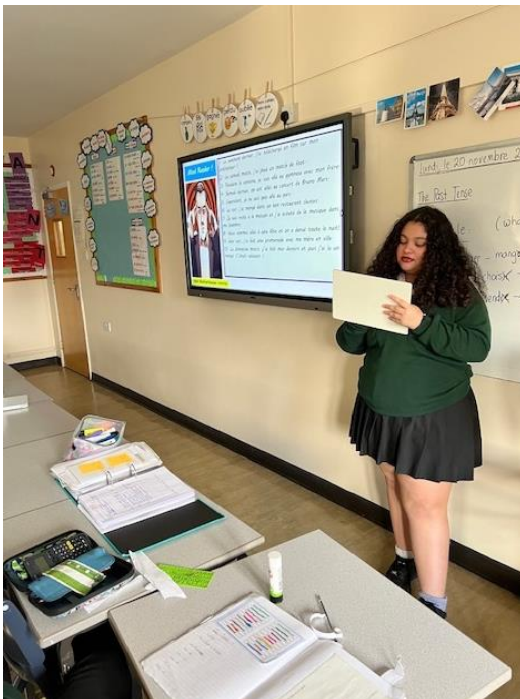
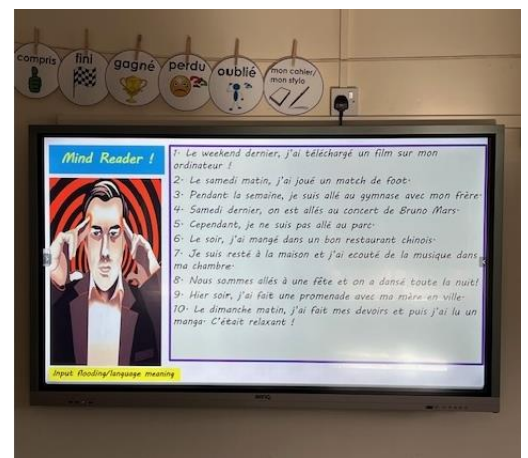
Spotlight on Speaking skills in Languages

Parlez vous Français / habla Español?

Speaking skills are important when you are learning a language and at Mount House school, students start practising these from their very first lesson in year 7.

The Modern Languages department uses fun activities to help students develop their confidence in using the vocabulary they are learning, and in pronouncing new phrases.

A firm favourite is Mind Reader, where one student is selected to write one sentence from the board on their whiteboard, and the rest of the class has to try and guess the sentence that has been chosen by saying it aloud.



'La Trappe' is also a popular speaking game and it encourages students to memorise chunks of language and practice pronunciation. It is played in pairs, with each partner trying to guess the 'story' that their opponent has chosen. The partner guessing has to return to the beginning of the story and start again each time their opponent says 'la trappe!' which means that they have guessed incorrectly.



In years 10 and 11, speaking skills take on a more serious tone as students prepare themselves for their GCSE speaking exam. This has three parts – a role play, where students communicate in various situations which can include booking a train ticket, making enquiries at a tourist office and talking to a French/Spanish friend about school. The second task involves describing a photograph/image on a certain topic, and then answering other questions on the same topic. The third part concludes with the student talking for one minute about a topic of their choice, e.g. holidays, the environment, future plans and careers and festivals and celebrations, and then answering unseen questions on two topics, one of which is based on their presentation. In total, students speak for 12 minutes in their exam.



At A Level, students discuss social and political issues affecting France, Spain, francophone and Hispanic countries. They also prepare a project on a topic of their choice which they present in their speaking exam. In the past, our students have researched the Cuban revolution, the drug baron Pablo Escobar, immigration, the role of women before and after dictatorships, the portrayal of Marie Antoinette and whether she was a feminist, the life and scandal of Coco Chanel, the carceral system in France from the 18th century to present day as well as the influence and contribution of immigrants to French society.

As you can see, learning a language is demanding and the Modern Languages department is very happy to teach at Mount House, and very proud their GCSE and A Level students every year.





NEWS FROM THE ART DEPARTMENT

Olivia is studying art, craft and design A Level. She has been photographing one of her finished pieces of work. Her concertina is made up of photos of trees that have been edited on photoshop, then transferred into fabric and then stitched into by hand and on a sewing machine.





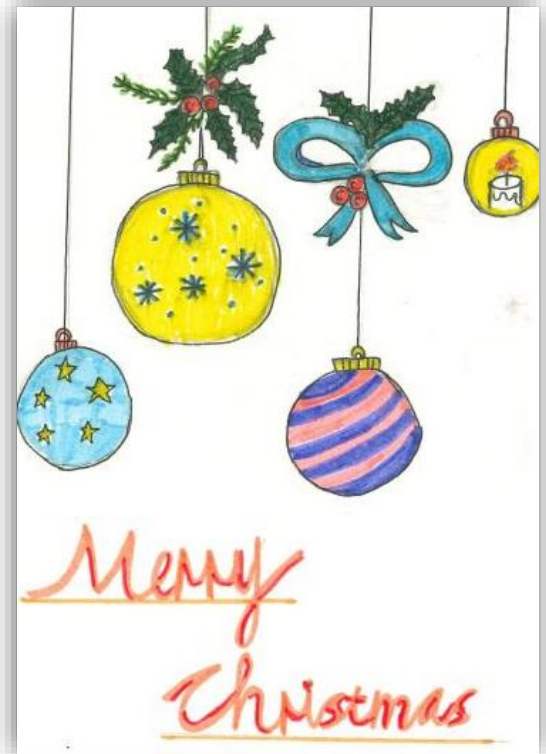
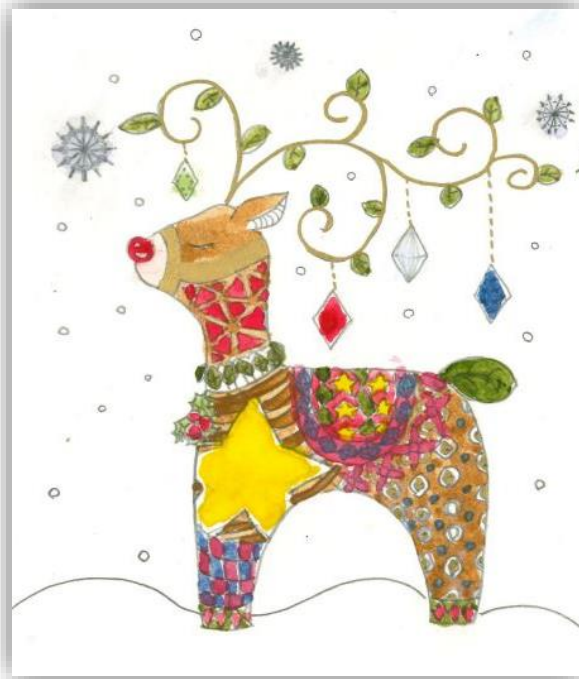
CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION

The winners of this year's Christmas Card competition are...

Ena year 7

Yuna year 8

Florence year 9



All three cards will be available to purchase at the Festive Fair.
Thank you and well done.



INTERHOUSE R.E. COMPETITION

Cedar are the winners of the RE interhouse competition. They have created a spectacular prayer for the school.

Well done to Ash, Holly and Oak for all their efforts also.

***Thank you to all that work to help others.
Thank you for your time and effort.
Finding ways to develop our knowledge and learning.
We appreciate the food and resources we are given.
We will try our best to be our best.
To transform ourselves into independent learners.***

CENTURY TECH WINTER CUP

Congratulations to the whole school for another great week on Century Tech.

Our Top Ten students this week are:

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| 1. Yuna A | 6. Nathan O |
| 2. Romario S | 7. Tatiana M |
| 3. Junior G | 8. Jasmine P |
| 4. Jesse S | 9. Oscar R |
| 5. Brendan N | 10. Poppy N |

Well done and keep up the good work.

PE

This week during PE lessons, year 7 students have been exploring fundamental gymnastics skills, while year 8 have been collaborating in pairs to craft routines. Meanwhile, our year 9 students have embarked on an exciting unit focused on vaulting.

Despite the cold weather, our students' enthusiasm for football, hockey, and basketball hasn't waned. They've embraced the conditions with short drills and engaging matches, keeping warm while enjoying their favourite sports.

The spotlight in trampolining has been on somersaults, a skill generating much interest among our students. Witnessing their growing confidence in mastering these intricate manoeuvres has been truly remarkable.

This week in golf, our beginners have acquired new skills, while our more advanced players have relished the challenge of putting from various distances, engaging in friendly competitions amongst peers.

Athletes of the Week

Year 7: Amari B

Year 8: Jake H

Year 9: Kasim M & Reuben T

Year 10: Rina A.A

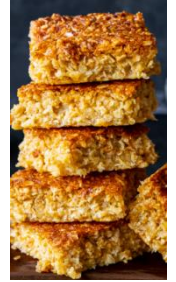
Year 11: Michael M



CO-CURRICULAR

Amidst the bustling activities of the school week, our students continue to enjoy the delightful baking in our lunchtime Baking Club and after-school sessions.

The aroma of freshly baked flapjacks wafted through the school at lunchtime. With enthusiasm and creativity, our young bakers whipped up batches of these delicious treats, filling the corridors with the inviting scent of oats, butter, and golden syrup.



The aromas then took a savoury turn, with students in our after-school baking session making cheese twists.

Reminder: students should ensure that they have the required ingredients when attending baking club after school. We are happy for students to work in pairs and share ingredients if this has been organised and agreed with the member of staff leading the club in advance. ***Students who do not have ingredients on the day will be asked to attend homework club on that day.*** They will of course be welcome to join the following week when they have ingredients. This is to ensure safety in the kitchen. Thank you in advance for your support.

FOOD TECHNOLOGY

Last week year 10 created a cheesy bean burger. It was quite a difficult challenge as they had to be very careful when flipping the patties over in the pan. Well done to **Rina & Nathan** for creating the most successful cheesy bean patties.

Last week year 12 created an international soup and bread to go with. **Sienna** made chicken noodle soup and **Jessica** made chicken and sweetcorn soup. Charlene created some bread rolls.



This week in food technology all years have designed and created some festive biscuits in their House colours.

These biscuits will be sold at the MacMillan coffee morning today.



RAFFLE PRIZES AT THE FESTIVE FAIR

Ho Ho Ho! One week to go until the Festive Fair and one more week to purchase your raffle tickets. There are 25 fabulous prizes which are listed below. I would say definitely worth a punt, wouldn't you? Only £2 a ticket, £10 a booklet. Please hand your cash and stubs into reception. You can also pay via BACs if you have our bank details and just send in raffle stubs with the student's name and year.

Thank you so much to those who have kindly given donations to the fair. Just a quick reminder that we would really appreciate principally donations of:

1. Sweets/chocolates
2. Bottles
3. Cakes or treats. We'd love it if these could represent your own culture. If you are willing to bake (or buy) any treats please could you let us know at MountHousePTA@mounthouse.org.uk. And bring them into school on Friday 8th in a labelled box/tin.

Lots have been generously donated already but of course more always welcome.

Finally don't forget to give your child lots of change on the 8th. Most things will cost 50p to £1.

Looking forward to seeing you all there!



2023 Mount House PTA Festive Raffle Prizes

- 1 Virgin Experience Voucher for £250
- 2 John Lewis Luxury Christmas Hamper
- 3 Sony Headphones
- 4 £50 Wagamamas Gift Card
- 5 One hour personal Training with Chris Antoni of Tailor Made Fitness
- 6 Free Spinning Class in Finchley
- 7 White Company Gift Set
- 8 £50 Pasta Brown Gift Voucher
- 9 One hour Personal Training session with Roy of Bodyline Fitness
- 10 £40 Everyman Gift Card
- 11 One hour Personal Training session with Roy of Bodyline Fitness
- 12 £30 Amazon Gift Card
- 13 Air Up Water Bottle
- 14 £20 Amazon Gift Card
- 15 £20 Boots Gift Card
- 16 Manicure at Orchid Retreat in Barnet
- 17 Body Shop Gift Set
- 18 A Relaxing 1 hour Facial Voucher at Beauty Box
- 19 Bottle of Authentic Mexican Tequila
- 20 Bottle of Red Wine
- 21 Tin of Classic Panetone
- 22 Mitre Football
- 23 Bottle of White Wine
- 24 Box of Festive biscuits
- 25 Amazon Echo Dot



Join us for the Mount House PTA

FESTIVE FAIR

Friday December 8th
3pm - 4:30pm
all are welcome!

Net Painting!
Sweet Stall
Hot Chocolate
Mulled Wine
GINGERBREAD DECORATING
Raffle
Raffle Draw at 4:15pm
Christmas Cards & Gift Stall
BOTTLE TOMBOLA
Chocolate Tombola
Snowball Bounce
Gift Tree
Santa Toss
Festive Food

The poster is a vibrant, colorful illustration of a festive fair. At the top, a string of yellow stars and colorful Christmas ornaments (green, red, and blue) hangs across the scene. The background is a mix of light blue and pinkish-white. Various activities are listed in different fonts and colors: 'Net Painting!' in purple, 'Sweet Stall' in red, 'Hot Chocolate' and 'Mulled Wine' in green, 'GINGERBREAD DECORATING' in brown, 'Raffle' in yellow, 'Raffle Draw at 4:15pm' in black, 'Christmas Cards & Gift Stall' in green, 'BOTTLE TOMBOLA' in yellow, 'Chocolate Tombola' in red, 'Snowball Bounce' in purple, 'Gift Tree' in green, 'Santa Toss' in green, and 'Festive Food' in yellow. The bottom of the poster features several festive illustrations: a gingerbread man in a Santa hat, a gingerbread house, a red Christmas sweater, a globe surrounded by children, and a plate of cookies. The overall theme is cheerful and celebratory.



Weekly Menu

LUNCH MENUS NEXT WEEK

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>Soup of the day served with freshly baked bread</p> <p>Pasta Bar American Mac and Pumpkin Cheese with Garlic Bread</p> <p>Vegetarian option Black Bean and Mushroom Chili with coriander sour cream Vegan Friendly</p> <p>Snack Option Baked Potatoes Or Fresh Pasta</p> <p>Served With Steamed broccoli Garden Salad Garlic Bread</p> <p>Dessert Autumn Apple Crumble With Double Cream</p>	<p>Soup of the day served with freshly baked bread</p> <p>Dish of the day Piri Piri Turkey Steak With Pickled Vegetables</p> <p>Vegetarian Option Sweet Potato and Butter Bean Cakes Dressed with Pesto</p> <p>Vegan Friendly Snack Option Baked Potato with Various Fillings Or Fresh Pasta</p> <p>Served With Steamed Basmati Rice Fresh Green Beans Roasted fennel cauliflower</p> <p>Banana Muffins</p>	<p>Soup of the day served with freshly baked bread</p> <p>Dish of the day Mount House Hot Dog With Fried onions and a Mustard Mayo</p> <p>Vegetarian Option Chinese Hoi sin Vegetable Wrap with Edamame Beans</p> <p>Vegan Friendly Snack Option Baked Potatoes Or Fresh Pasta</p> <p>Served With Spiced Roasted Carrots Fennel coleslaw Paprika sweetcorn</p> <p>Dessert Mount House 3 Berry mess</p>	<p>Soup of the day served with freshly baked bread</p> <p>PUPILS Choice Mexican chicken Fajitas With Guacamole, sour cream, and fresh salsa</p> <p>VEGETARIAN OPTION Mexican fresh Vegetable Fajitas With Kidney Beans, Guacamole, sour cream and fresh Salsa</p> <p>SNACK OPTION Baked Potatoes Or Fresh Pasta</p> <p>Served With Steamed Rice with Mixed Mexican Beans</p> <p>Roasted Aubergine and Courgettes Mexican Bean Salad</p> <p>Dessert Lemon and Lime Cheesecake</p>	<p>Soup of the day served with freshly baked bread</p> <p>Dish of the day Battered Pollock With Lemon Mayo</p> <p>Vegetarian Option Squash, Mushroom and Gorgonzola Pilaf</p> <p>Snack Option Jacket Potatoes Or Fresh Pasta</p> <p>Served With Crispy Potato Wedges , Garden Peas and Crunchy Salad</p> <p>Dessert Chocolate and Beetroot slice</p>

