



# NEWSLETTER – 22<sup>ND</sup> MARCH

MESSAGE FROM MRS HILLCOAT-HYDE,  
ASSISTANT HEAD

## **Embracing Neurodiversity: Celebrating the Brilliance of Minds**

In recent years, society has made significant strides in recognising and celebrating neurodiversity – the idea that neurological differences are natural and valuable. This shift in perspective has led to a deeper understanding and appreciation of the diverse ways in which individuals experience the world. From artists to scientists, from poets to entrepreneurs, neurodivergent individuals have shared their different ways of thinking and made profound contributions to various fields, enriching our lives in countless ways.



One notable figure who exemplifies the brilliance of neurodiversity is Salma Hayek. The acclaimed actress and producer has openly discussed her experiences with dyslexia, a condition that affects reading and writing abilities. Despite facing challenges in traditional educational settings, Hayek's creativity and determination propelled her to success in the competitive world of Hollywood. Her journey serves as a powerful reminder that neurodivergent individuals possess unique talents and perspectives that can flourish when nurtured and supported.

Another iconic figure in the realm of science whose legacy continues to inspire is Albert Einstein. Widely regarded as one of the greatest physicists of all time, Einstein is believed to have exhibited traits associated with autism spectrum disorder. His extraordinary ability to think outside the box and conceptualise complex theories revolutionised our understanding of the universe. Einstein's contributions serve as a testament to the potential of neurodivergent individuals to reshape the course of history through their innovative thinking and unconventional approaches.

In the realm of literature and activism, Amanda Gorman has emerged as a powerful voice for change. As the youngest inaugural poet in U.S. history, she captivated the world with her stirring performance at the inauguration of President Joe Biden. Gorman has spoken openly about her experiences with auditory processing disorder and speech impediments, emphasizing the importance of embracing one's unique identity. Through her poetry, Gorman channels her experiences into poignant reflections on identity, social justice, and the human condition, inspiring audiences around the globe to embrace their differences and strive for a more inclusive society.

These individuals, among many others, challenge us to reconsider traditional notions of intelligence and ability. They remind us that diversity – including neurodiversity – is not only something to be accepted, but also celebrated. By recognising and valuing the strengths of neurodivergent individuals, we can foster environments that encourage innovation, creativity, and inclusivity.

As we continue to navigate an increasingly complex and interconnected world, let us draw inspiration from the diverse tapestry of human experience. Let us embrace neurodiversity not as a limitation, but as a source of strength and enrichment for our communities and our world. In doing so, we recognise and celebrate the hard work and resilience of people and honour the unique contributions of every individual, regardless of their neurological makeup, and move closer to realising a more compassionate and inclusive society.

## NEURODIVERSITY WEEK

This week our school embraced Neurodiversity Week with a series of activities and discussions, fostering a deeper understanding of the diverse ways in which our brains work. Led by the dedicated Learning Support Team, along with the passion and insight of Olivia A (year 13), Will A (year 10), and Vivi B (year 7), our school community embarked on a journey of discovery and acceptance.

The week commenced with an assembly where students delved into the realm of neurodiversity. Through an engaging presentation, our peers shed light on the beauty of differences, emphasising the uniqueness of each individual's cognitive makeup. Charlene K (year 12) sang some lovely songs to lead students into and out of the hall.

Year 9, 10 and 13 boys, under the leadership of their friend Mikey, took part in two spirited games of visually impaired football, fostering teamwork and camaraderie, with Andonis showcasing his impressive skills, scoring numerous goals.





Within the tranquil confines of the Hive, students found peace in mindful activities such as colouring and sewing which provided a creative outlet for many, fostering a sense of accomplishment and self-expression.



The Touch-Typing Club buzzed with energy as students engaged in friendly competition, honing their typing skills while challenging themselves to type as many words as possible within a set timeframe. Through spirited rivalry, students not only enhanced their typing proficiency but also cultivated a spirit of determination and resilience.

As Neurodiversity Week drew to a close, our school community emerged with a deeper appreciation for the kaleidoscope of minds that enrich our collective experience. It is through embracing our differences that we truly embody the spirit of inclusivity, fostering a community where every individual is valued and celebrated for who they are.

## SERVICE LEARNING AT MOUNT HOUSE

Next term a group of our year 12 students will be working with the year 7s making bug hotels. Bug hotels can serve as educational tools to raise awareness about the importance of insects in ecosystems. They provide opportunities for children to observe insects up close and learn about their behaviours, life cycles and ecological roles, as well as providing habitats for a wide range of insects, including solitary bees, ladybugs, lacewings, beetles and other beneficial insects. By offering a variety of nesting sites and materials, bug hotels support biodiversity in urban environments.



So, if you have any old mugs, flower pots, cardboard, jars or tins please bring them in.

Mrs Allman, Darcie, Aoife and Vani





## GLOBAL STUDIES

Year 9 Global Studies students are currently working on a project researching and creating their own global brand. They are exploring the issues that impact workers' human rights worldwide and the concepts of profits over ethics, sustainability and forced child labour.

Students will be looking at ways that their brands could be more ethically produced. We are looking forward to seeing their presentations.

Leo, Peter, Evan, Owen and Nathaniel have been busy brainstorming ideas for part of their sporting goods products presentation and have made a fantastic start.

Mrs Allman



## BAKING CLUB

This week in baking we made an easter tray bake to celebrate easter and to finish the term on a chocolate high.

Each week we have the opportunity to create a savoury or a sweet treat and two of our favourites have been making sausage rolls and brownies. The texture of the sausage rolls was fluffy and delightful and the brownies were gooey and scrumptious. We are looking forward to baking all kinds of delicious treats next term.

Erin & Ava (year 7)

*Please note that baking club will be running next week for those who have been attending this term and school will be providing the ingredients.*



PE

### **U13 Football Extravaganza: Luca Shines as Heroes Secure Victory**

In a riveting spectacle that had fans roaring with excitement, the U13 football squad delivered a performance for the ages, clinching a hard-fought victory that will be etched in the annals of sporting history. From start to finish, it was a display of skill, determination, and sheer brilliance that left spectators in awe.

Between the sticks, George stood as a formidable wall, pulling off a series of breathtaking saves that defied belief. His lightning reflexes and unwavering composure kept the opposition at bay, frustrating their attempts to breach the defensive fortress.

On the wings, Romario and Ellis electrified the crowd with their blistering speed and pinpoint crosses. Their darting runs and precise deliveries wreaked havoc on the opposing defence, creating scoring opportunities aplenty for their teammates.

But it was Luca who emerged as the hero of the hour, delivering a moment of pure magic that sent shockwaves through the stadium. With the game hanging in the balance, Luca unleashed a thunderous strike that found the back of the net, sealing the victory and igniting scenes of jubilation amongst players and fans alike.



Behind Luca's match-winning heroics stood a rock-solid defensive line, whose unwavering resolve and tactical discipline thwarted every opposition advance with steely determination. Their resilience under pressure laid the foundation for the team's triumph, providing a platform for the attacking flair.

For his outstanding contribution and goal-scoring heroics, Luca was deservedly awarded the Man of the Match accolade. His performance epitomized the spirit and determination of the U13 football squad, serving as an inspiration to his teammates and fans alike.

As the final whistle blew and the celebrations erupted, it was clear that this victory would be remembered for years to come. The U13 football squad had conquered adversity, defied the odds, and emerged triumphant, etching their names into the annals of sporting folklore.

### **U15 Football v Latymer School**

On Thursday the 21st of March, Mount House played Latymer School at home. Mr Mather had come up with two formations to play a 4-4-2 and a 4-1-2-3. We were all excited for the match. The game started. Mount House controlled the game and looked comfortable on the ball. Andonis got the ball, looked up and played a ball through to Santino who scored near post. Just five minutes later, Mount House was on another attack and Andonis was fouled. He wanted to take the free kick and goal. Andonis with a lovely free kick. Shortly after Santino got fouled near the half way line. Omar came out of goal to take it. Everyone thought he was going to pass it but he shot and it went over the keeper and scored a screamer. Towards the end of the first half Andonis was fouled again at the edge of the box. He went up to take it, but did he shoot? No. He faked a shot and the keeper went to the right and JR hit it to the left. At half time the score was 4-0.

But there were more goals to be scored. In the next half, Louca got the ball, played a one-two to Santino and he passed it back and Louca scored a goal. The defence was solid throughout the whole game. About five minutes later, Santino made a beautiful pass, Louca shot, the keeper saved it but it slipped out of his hands and went to Louca. He shot and it hit the crossbar then returned to him and he scored. He said, "I hit the crossbar on purpose because I didn't want to be boring." As Latymer kicked off, Mount House was pressing intensely and just four seconds later, Santino made an interception, he got the ball, dribbled past one, dribbled past another and as the gap was closing, he saw the keeper running out and chipped the ball over him and it went in to make his hat trick. But the game wasn't finished yet. About 10 minutes later Mount House had a corner, Santino took it short and played it to Louca. He went past one defender and passed to Andonis who shot and it went in through a deflection. The game was coming to an end. But the goal fest wasn't over. Andonis played an astonishing ball to Santino just inside the box who on the right hit it on the half volley and scored. The whistle was blown. What a performance from Mount House with a 9-0 win. But sadly, this was our last game of the season.



Thanks to Mr Crosby for being the referee.  
Thanks to the defence for not letting Latymer have a shot.  
Thanks Mr Mather.

Man of the Match for A team: Santino  
Man of the Match for B team: Nathan

### **Athletes of the Week:**

Year 7: Emmanuel  
Year 8: Ben W  
Year 9: Liam R & Atlanta D  
Year 10: Sotirios and Alicia  
Year 11: Emily H

## **BAY SIXTY-SIX SKATEBOARDING COMPETITION**

Last Saturday, I went to Bay Sixty-Six skatepark in Ladbroke Grove to compete in a skateboarding competition.

It was really fun and I came home with lots of prizes. In this format of competition, for every good trick you do, you win a prize.

There was also an event photographer taking photos of everyone and I'm super happy to have professional skateboarding photos too!

Alicia, year 8





## THE TOYMAKER'S CHILD

Áine was part of the ChickenShed team that won an award during half term. She was involved in writing a production called *The ToyMaker's Child*, which won Best Production at the Offies (off West-End awards for all theatres, excluding the big Broadway shows).

*The ToyMaker's Child* is a production inspired by Pinocchio. It's based around social media and AI, so instead of turning into donkeys, they turned into robots!

Áine is the youngest member of the team by far, which is testament to her talent and dedication. She worked with her colleague Dave, who wrote the script and composed the music, and she was part of the initial steering group for writing the script.

She is planning to continue her education at ChickenShed next year by joining the foundation degree course, with a focus on music and dance.

<https://www.instagram.com/p/C30irmCtiKi/?igsh=N3d0cHI1b2xuaHJw>

Congratulations Áine, we're so proud of your achievements so far and will follow your career closely.





## CAREERS



PreMed Projects provide online courses, created by doctors for students aged 14-18 years old who are interested in careers in medicine. Some courses are paid and some completely free.

All include a certificate for use in med school applications and are ideal preparation for students applying for university degrees in medicine and those younger students too who may be considering the profession.

- 1) Emergency Medicine Live on Sunday 24th March.** You can expect to learn about the treatment and management of major trauma and medical emergencies. With insights into pre-hospital and emergency medicine. [Students can see more information here.](#)
- 2) Medicine Career Day Live Saturday 30th March.** An ideal day for students wanting to know all about the medical profession, learn about the personal statement for medicine, UCAT examinations and gain some work experience in the afternoon by helping to treat and diagnose patients. [Students can see more information here.](#)
- 3) Medical Ethics Live, on Sunday the 7th April 2024.** It's vital to understand medical ethics when applying to med school and how to understand moral dilemmas and ethical questions doctors face every day. It's highly likely that you'll be asked ethics questions or face an MMI station designed to test your understanding of medical ethics so it's really important you understand some of the questions you will face at medical school interviews. [Students just need to register here.](#)
- 4) Surgery Work experience Live taking place on Sunday 21st April 2024.** This interactive day is designed to give students a meaningful insight into careers in medicine and surgery. Students join a patient on their journey from initial presentation to diagnosis and treatment. The doctors will guide you through how they would conduct a surgical consultation, interpret signs and manage patients. [All the details available here.](#)
- 5) Suture Like a Surgeon on Sunday 12th May 2024.** Join our suturing masterclass where you will learn how surgeons effectively manage and assess acute wounds with suture closure. You will be sent our suture kit in the mail before the course starts so you can suture along with the doctors, learning first-hand the various techniques needed to be a surgeon. [You can view all the course info here.](#)

All courses have been created by doctors and provide outstanding work experience for you to use in your applications to medicine.

## NEWS FROM THE PTA

With the Easter holidays fast approaching, the PTA is busy organising the events for the next few months.



*Parent Teacher Association*  
**MOUNT HOUSE**

### **Raising Funds**

So far through the easyfunding scheme, we have raised £141 with 32 supporters. We would love more supporters. It is an easy setup and online shopping raises money for the Mount House PTA charity. You shop and brands donate to us with no extra cost to you. Literally free money! The link is <http://efraising.org/RnHilwg0Vb>

### **Comedy Night Update**

Further to the article in last week's newsletter, we are very pleased to inform you that, including the auction of the very kind donation of a pet portrait, the event raised an amazing £1,353. Once more, thank you to everyone who supported the event, and we look forward to organising it again next year.

### **Easter Egg Giveaway**

Next week on Thursday 28th March, every student will receive an easter egg. Dairy and gluten free options will be available.

### **Save the date for Summer Fair on 28th June**

We will follow up with more details and we are hoping to see you all there. Don't forget to start saving your empty jars for the sweet stall.

**And finally, all fundraising events raise money to support and enhance our children's school experience both educational and social. A huge thank you to all who have supported us.**





# Weekly Menu

Week 3

## MENUS NEXT WEEK

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>Soup of the day served with freshly baked bread</p> <p><b>Dish of The Day</b> Mexican Beef Chili with rice and Sour Cream</p> <p><b>Vegetarian option</b> Roasted Vegetable and Chickpea tagine With rice <b>Vegan Friendly</b></p> <p><b>Snack Option</b> Baked Potatoes Or Fresh Pasta</p> <p><b>Served With</b> Sweet corn and Spring onions Roasted Aubergine and Courgettes</p> <p><b>Dessert</b> Vanilla Iced Slice</p>	<p>Soup of the day with freshly baked bread</p> <p><b>Dish of the day</b> Chinese Chicken With Special fried rice</p> <p><b>Vegetarian option</b> Indian Lentil Dahl With Mini coriander and garlic Naan, mango chutney</p> <p><b>Snack Option</b> Baked Potato with Various Fillings Or Fresh Pasta</p> <p><b>Served With</b> Roasted Indian spiced Cauliflower Chilli Green Beans</p> <p><b>Dessert</b> Apple and Ginger Cake</p>	<p>Soup of the day served with freshly baked bread</p> <p><b>Dish of the day</b> Grilled Cumberland sausage With mash potato and onion Gravy Gluten free sausages available</p> <p><b>Vegetarian option</b> Vegan Quorn sausage with mash potato and onion Gravy</p> <p><b>Vegan Friendly</b> <b>Snack Option</b> Baked Potato Or Fresh Pasta</p> <p><b>Served With</b> Fresh Green Beans Savoy cabbage</p> <p><b>Dessert</b> Very Fruity Granola Bars</p>	<p>Soup of the day served with freshly baked bread</p> <p><b>Dish of the day</b> Roast pork With apple sauce, stuffing, gravy and crispy crackling</p> <p><b>Vegetarian option</b> Roasted vegetable and thyme crumble</p> <p><b>Snack Option</b> Baked Potato Or Fresh Pasta</p> <p><b>Served With</b> Roast potatoes Roasted carrot and swede Broccoli</p> <p><b>Dessert</b> Chocolate and beetroot cake</p>	<p>Soup of the day served with freshly baked bread</p> <p><b>Dish of the day</b> Breaded Cod with tartar sauce and Lemon Or Mackerel and dill fish cake with tartar sauce and Lemon</p> <p><b>Vegetarian option</b> Roasted pepper and mushroom quiche cheddar quiche</p> <p><b>Snack Option</b> Baked Potato served with Various Fillings Or Fresh Pasta</p> <p><b>Served With</b> Oven Fries Mushy Peas, Baked Beans</p> <p><b>Dessert</b> Lemon and Courgette Cake</p>

