



CORNERS

NEWSLETTER JULY 2016



Farewell Mrs Drummond, Step by Wicked Step, Knapp House Activity Week, Geography and Biology Trips, Art Exhibition, Swimming Tour, Music, Cookery, Athletics and much more...



From the Headmaster

Here at school over the last couple of weeks the teachers have been busy writing reports. We make use of reports to praise successes as well as to inspire and challenge girls towards new heights. At schools across the country, this has not always been the case, as illustrated by these gently amusing extracts from old school reports which were published in the Daily Telegraph a couple of years ago:

The improvement in his handwriting has revealed his inability to spell.

French is a foreign language to Fowler.

This boy does not need a scripture teacher. He needs a missionary.

Henry Ford once said History is bunk. Yours most certainly is.

For this pupil, all ages are dark.

Unlike the poor, Graham is seldom with us.

He's given me a new definition of stoicism: he grins and I bear it.

That they seem to relate mostly to boys reflects perhaps more the readership of the Daily Telegraph than the idea that girls' reports of yesteryear were any less blunt.

In educational terms, there are two types of school report. We can send home a summative assessment of your child's progress or a formative one. Both are valid. The former, summative,

is the traditional end-of-term report which marks out notable achievements, offers, praises and, of course, tips for improvement. The latter, formative, is more likely to come mid-term and should be used as a springboard for learning and an indication of next steps.

In the recent parents' questionnaire, there was considerable warmth of feeling for the full end-of-year and end-of-term reports which we currently issue. There was also a call from a large number of respondents for more regular feedback on the progress that your daughters are making. In September, Miss Zugg, Academic Deputy Head, will be writing to parents outlining a new system of regular progress cards and reports which will incorporate the best of both worlds. Moreover, I am keen to use regular reporting as an opportunity for the girls to reflect upon their learning and, regularly, to talk through their academic progress with their form tutors. This is a hard-working school where year-on-year the pupils excel and where they exceed any measure of expectations which could be considered as a national norm. That said, it is not the Francis Holland way to rest on our laurels and, properly introduced, a revised structure will be a tool to support learners both academically and pastorally. More details to follow in September.

We have several members of staff who are leaving Francis Holland for pastures new at the end of this term and I

would like to take this opportunity to wish them every success and delight in their new roles or in a life beyond teaching. With many thanks to Ms Hilton and Miss Lindsay who covered maternity placements this year; to Mr Chiverton and Miss Laytham for their exceptional contributions as Heads of Year to the Thirds and Upper Fourth pupils; and also Mrs Anjali Martin for her outstanding leadership as Head of Mathematics; and to the following teachers and support staff: Mrs Denniston; Miss Lewis; Miss Thomson; Ms Shah; Miss Hallett, Miss Oloumi, and Miss Gaude for their tremendous service to Francis Holland School. Best wishes to Mrs Lombard who will be leaving FHS on maternity leave. There is a special article on the first page about Mrs Drummond who has served the school with distinction for thirty-five years and a full valette will be written for each of the other teachers in the school magazine which comes out in the autumn.

Meanwhile, the school is in good heart and your daughters have worked very hard; and they have earned a good summer break. Best wishes for the holidays.

Yours sincerely,

MR CHARLES FILLINGHAM





Sue Drummond



Staff Netball Team, 1982



Vaulting in the Gym



Sue and Felicity Forde, 1985



Prague Music Tour



Polished Corners from the 1980s

Mrs Sue Drummond retires after 35 years at FHS!

Mrs Drummond joined FHS in 1981 as a full time member of the Physical Education department. She taught all aspects of PE to all years but her love of two areas was evident in the introduction of senior hockey teams and expertly choreographed senior dances for the Gym and Dance displays and Musicals. She introduced vaulting club which has been enjoyed by many FHS girls over the years.

She has been involved in life at FHS in many ways, from being the first Head of Year in the 80s, to introducing Careers evenings, Lower Sixth taster days for the Upper Fifth and work experience.

Mrs Drummond went part time in 1998 and taught Biology as well as PE - her teaching of the menstrual cycle was unique!! She continued to be fully involved in the life of the school. She has been on many ski trips and

sports tours where her organisational skills were much appreciated. Mrs Drummond has finally decided to 'hang up her hockey stick' after 35 years of outstanding service to the school. Colleagues will be marking her retirement on Friday 1st July in the School Hall.

Mrs Felicity Forde

LONG-STANDING COLLEAGUE AND FRIEND

Head Girl's Team 2016-2017

On Tuesday 14th June, 24 Lower Sixth girls gave superb speeches as part of their application to be on the Head Girl's Team. This was in addition to their

written applications. Staff and students then had the opportunity to vote and we are delighted to announce the new team members for 2016-17:



HEAD GIRL

Lucy Morris

DEPUTY HEAD GIRL / SENIOR PREFECT

Sophie McMeikan

COMMUNITY LINKS OFFICER

Jess Clayton

SIXTH FORM DELEGATE

Yael Levine

SCHOOL COUNCIL CHAIR

Georgie Miller

Congratulations to the new team and to all the girls who applied and for representing FHS so brilliantly.

Mrs Alex Francisco

HEAD OF SIXTH FORM



Lower Fourth Geography Trip to the Thames Barrier

On Friday 10th June, the Geography department took the Lower Fourth girls to the Thames Barrier and Crystal Building. We embarked on a boat trip at Westminster Pier, travelling downstream to the Thames Barrier. Here, the girls enjoyed taking in the sights of London, whilst improving their sense of place. Once we docked at the Thames Barrier, the girls visited the Information Centre and learned about the effects of climate change, why London needs the barrier and the future of the scheme. They also walked along the long profile of the

Thames, getting a sense of scale as the river meanders from its source to the mouth. We then travelled to the Crystal Building where the girls browsed the interactive exhibition about Sustainable Cities. They also enjoyed the view of east London from the dizzying heights of the Emirates cable car across the River Thames. My thanks go to the girls for their excellent behaviour and to the members of staff who accompanied me on the trip.

Miss Jo Hallett
GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT



UK Junior Mathematics Challenge 2016

We have received the results for the UK Junior Mathematics Challenge 2016 which took place in April.

Well done girls!

Miss Neermala Murugan
MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

THIRDS

BRONZE

Lorna Breadin
Grace Gibbons
Chiamaka George Amadi
Maria Knight
Isabel Diment-Vera
Katerina Quacquarelli
Maria Landon
Miranda Saunders
Sophie Brown
Tegan Macpherson
Amber Mided
Amelia Mitford
Charlotte Marks
Juliette Hassenforder
Stella Petti

Roberta Tan
Alysha Murjani
Ana Philippa-Gradillas
Ruby Reed
Catrin Jones

SILVER

Violet Reed
Mya Shah
Ruby Reynolds
Hina Kodama

BEST IN YEAR

Hina Kodama

LOWER FOURTH

BRONZE

Roisin Horan
Otilie Moselle
Ellie Valentine
Francesca Hall
Giulia Nagel
Aemelia Chivers
Alicia Lloyd
Georgina Sedgwick
Marina Jacobson
Molly King
Clara Stirling
Isabel Brown
Trudie Brady

SILVER

Molly Clarke

Sophia Macklin
Marina Chernova
Zoe Milton
Iona Geidt
Scarlet Heyes
Tara Murray

GOLD

Charlotte Hassenforder
Grace Glinsman
Lorna Sibson

BEST IN YEAR

Lorna Sibson

BEST IN SCHOOL

Lorna Sibson

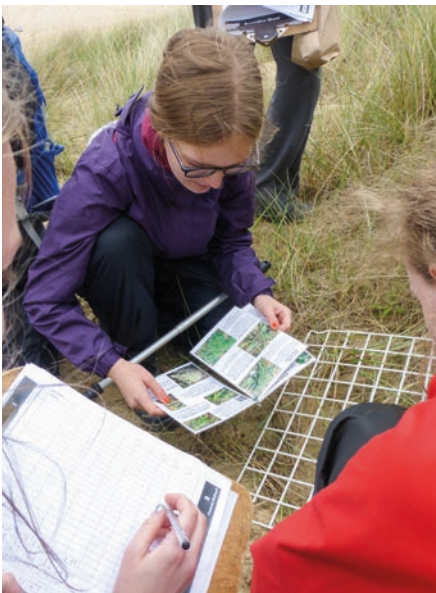


Lower Sixth Biology and Geography Study Weekend to Norfolk



The Lower Sixth geographers and biologists set off on Friday 17th June for a fun packed weekend away in Norfolk. On arrival we enjoyed archery and laser tag team building sessions. Saturday was where the hard work kicked in, spending the day on the sand dunes at Winterton collecting data for Biology and Geography A-levels. The evening was spent collating data and analysing the results. Although the weather was not what you would expect for mid-June it didn't dampen spirits and the girls worked fantastically hard. On Sunday, they enjoyed a coastal walk into the quaint seaside resort of Cromer. My huge thanks to Mrs Freeley and Mr Bossé for accompanying the trip.

Ms Sarah Hack
HEAD OF GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT



LAUGHTERS MAY BE BORN, BUT THE FOUNDED CHURCH 1800
F H C G
DRAMA





Step by Wicked Step – Junior Play

At the end of last term, I auditioned about 60 girls in the Thirds and Lower Fourths for the Junior Play. I had decided to produce Anne Fine's adaptation of her own novel *Step by Wicked Step*.

In this story, a group of children are on a school trip. Four are asked to travel with their History teacher who is driving the minibus full of luggage, behind the coach. In fact the minibus arrives at their destination, a big old house, now serving as a hostel for children on activity holidays – not unlike Knapp House I suspect – long before the coach does, thanks to a flat tyre on the motorway. Their teacher tells them to go up and bag the dormitory on the top floor, to make it easier when the others

finally arrive, and as they pick beds and explore a bit, they wonder why they were selected for the minibus: after a while it dawns on them – they are all children with second families.

First up we have Claudia, a little bit shy, but she has her own circle of friends, and that doesn't include Pixie, the other girl in the foursome, who has the kind of confidence Claudia can only dream of and attitude to go with it. Then we have Colin, quiet, with a reputation for not concentrating in class, whose Dad simply upped and left when he was little; one day Colin hopes he will see him again, but for now he will simply get on with his mum and new family. Finally there is Ralph, sensible, slightly swotty, opinionated but kindly; Ralph's

great gift is the ability to see the funny side of things, and this has helped him cope with a whole series of his dad's partners, some very peculiar indeed.

As the play unfolds we discover all four stories – Claudia's, Ralph's, Colin's and Pixie's. And these are compared to the much sadder experiences of a Victorian teenager, Richard, whose experiences are much tougher, and whom we get to meet when Pixie discovers an old diary in a secret annex, which just happens to lead off their dormitory. Cheesy, I know, and a little bit "Scooby-doo".

Mrs Kate Oakley
ENGLISH AND DRAMA DEPARTMENT



2016 Upper Fourth Activity Week at Knapp House

The annual Upper Fourth trip to Knapp House was a great success again this year. The group spent a week from Sunday 19th June to Friday 24th June taking part in a range of different activities near Appledore in north Devon.

The week provided the girls with an opportunity to participate in a range of activities, gain in confidence and achieve things that they did not think they were capable of. The group took part in many water based activities such

as water-skiing, surfing, crabbing, boat rides, a ropes course and canoeing. We enjoyed a visit by Mr Fillingham who showed his prowess on the climbing wall and 360 degree swing. The rest of the week we were kept busy by taking part in three activities per day including abseiling, rock-wall climbing, tunnelling, a low ropes course, pedal carting and a coastal walk in Westward Ho!

The Upper Fourth were hugely impressive in both their attitude and what they achieved throughout the

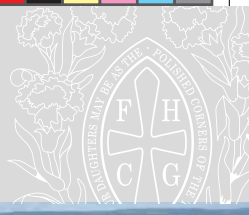
week. They were ready to dive into any challenge without complaint, and willing to support one another along the way. My thanks goes to Miss Conway, Miss Greenhalgh, Miss Lamas, Mr Ingham, Mr Clayton and Mrs Wynne who helped to make the trip a fun-filled brilliant week.

Miss Julie Laytham
HEAD OF UPPER FOURTH



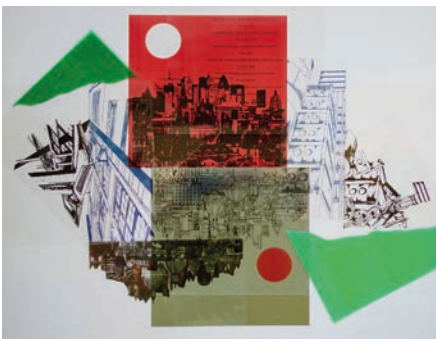


TRIPS





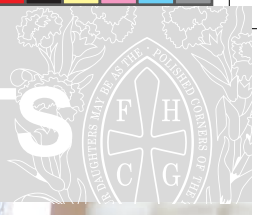
GCSE and A Level Art Exhibitions



On Monday 13th June, and following that on Tuesday 28th June, the Art Department proudly opened their doors to the GCSE and A level Art exhibitions. These events showcase the best of what can be achieved in this subject, given the hard work, dedication and sheer talent of our girls. The diversity of work on show reflects

the wide range of ideas which were explored, through paint and print, drawing, photography and 3D, to arrive at some stunning outcomes which were enjoyed by all the visitors. Well done, FHS artists!

Ms Jane Orr
HEAD OF ART DEPARTMENT



Upper Fourth Italian Cookery Master Class

For the sixth year in a row, on Monday 13th June several students of Italian in

the Upper Fourth attended a cookery masterclass at La Cucina Caldesi in Marylebone. The group had learnt about food, Italian cuisine and eating habits as part of their syllabus so this was an excellent educational and rewarding experience to conclude the current academic year. The chef Stefano demonstrated how to make ravioli and

two different sauces, all in Italian, and then the girls had a go at making pasta using only genuine Italian ingredients. The girls proved to be quite skilful in the kitchen and they undoubtedly enjoyed the food-tasting session that followed!! Da leccarsi i baffi!

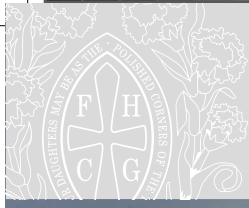
Mr Nic Gridelli
HEAD OF MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Lower Fifth IGCSE Performance

The Lower Fifth Concert, which took place on the 9th June was a resounding success, with the students presenting a wide range of musical material, from Baroque arias to jazz numbers. There was a really wonderful atmosphere of support and encouragement among the students, who relished the opportunity to show off their skills; they had worked hard to polish their pieces for this performance. The evening was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.

Mr Johnathan Ingham
MUSIC DEPARTMENT





TRIPS



Swimming Tour, Malta 2016

Sun, sea, swimming and sight-seeing – all the best elements of a perfect half term. The Swimming Tour to Malta in the May half term was one of the best trips going and our elite Swimming squad were up to the task. Training, Swim meets, Waterparks, Jeep Safaris and an epic cruise to the Blue Lagoon. Can you possibly pack any more into five days?

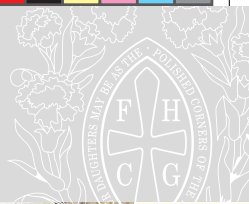
Well done to the 15 girls who accompanied the trip and trained their socks off. We had some very good results at the tough Neptunes Swimming Club meet – against Maltese National swimmers! It really was a fantastic trip and the girls were model FHS students. Many thanks to Mrs Forde and Miss Lamas who accompanied the tour.

Miss Jane Tucker
HEAD OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT





TRIPS





Duke of Edinburgh Award News

SILVER AWARD

The twenty girls involved in the Silver award this year completed their three-day assessment expedition during the May half term break. The girls enjoyed a fantastic weekend and had the opportunity to take in some fresh air and soak up the beautiful surroundings after completing their summer examinations. The expedition leaders from Mountainwise were very impressed with the skills and enthusiasm of all involved – well done girls! Don't forget to log in on the online system to your 'e D of E' account and complete the expedition section of your award.

BRONZE AWARD

The last of the expedition training sessions will take place on Saturday 10 September involving the Bronze participants. They will then be off on their expeditions to put their skills to the test. A reminder that these will take place on 24 – 25 September in Harlow for the practice expedition, and 8 – 9 October in Chelmsford for the assessment expedition. Good luck to all participants!

Miss Natalia Lamas

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD COORDINATOR

Middlesex Netball Development Squad Success

On Sunday 8th May the Under 14 Middlesex County Netball Association Trials were held at Brunel University Sports Park. It was an extremely difficult

trial due to it being a hot day with relentless matches. Congratulations to Zoe Haering (pictured) who was selected in the Under 14 Middlesex Development Squad. A fantastic achievement given that she currently plays in the Under 12 Team! Zoe will train with girls from all over the county and we look forward to her sharing her knowledge and skills in matches with us from September.

Miss Maria Merrigan

PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT



Hockey Champions Trophy

On Monday 13th June a group of girls in the lower school made their way over to the Olympic Park to watch some world-class hockey. They were lucky enough to watch some of the very best teams in the world compete in this important pre-Olympic competition, and it was a fantastic experience to

see hockey being played at its very best. Despite the heavy downpours of rain, the girls remained in positive spirit after seeing GB men defeat Korea 4-1, and the Australian team defeating Germany 4-3.

Miss Maria Merrigan

PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT





Summer Term Sports Report

Rain, rain, go away! This unfortunately seems to be the story of the summer term! Fingers crossed the holidays give us plenty of sunshine to recharge batteries and come back in September refreshed and ready to go.

Our fixtures have been going well though, with plenty of wins to brag about. I will report back on Sports Day and the Inter-form Swimming Gala at the start of next year, along with our winners of the FHS Olympics

competition! Congratulations to all girls who have earned their Sports Commendations this term – it is so hard to decide with so many of you doing so well.

Looking forward, the autumn trials and fixtures are available on the school website, so all girls should plan ahead to trial for a sports team come September.

The summer holidays should be a time to top up on outgrown PE kit or

replenish stocks! Please go online to www.schoolblazer.com for all of your PE kit orders.

Have a wonderful and active summer's break and I hope to see everyone (parents included) raring to go in the autumn term.

Miss Jane Tucker
HEAD OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION

First-ever athletics match!

On Friday 10th June FHS took part in their first-ever athletics match. It was hosted by FHS Sloane Square at Battersea Park Millennium Stadium and we took a team of over 30 girls to take part.

Despite not having been able to practise on a full track with the correct equipment, the Francis Holland teams did incredibly well. There were a number of 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishes in both the track and field events and some outstanding individual performances. As ever, the relays provided the highlight of the match with the Upper Fourth and Lower Fifth teams winning their events in some style. Overall, the Thirds and Upper Fourth team finished 3rd, and the Lower Fifth team finished 1st — an amazing

achievement. Well done to all those girls who took part and competed so well.

Miss Maria Merrigan
PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT



Monday Lectures Autumn 2016

SEPTEMBER

05/09/2016

University admissions
Amelia Slocombe
Sixth Form Induction Day

12/09/2016

Enterprise and financial markets
Scott Easton
FHS Parent

19/09/2016

Starting your own business
Will Evans
Managing Director of Amery Brothers
and business entrepreneur

26/09/2016

A career in film and television
Coky Giedroyc
BAFTA-nominated film and television
director

OCTOBER

03/10/2016

Drug awareness
Mandy Saligari
From the McClellan Practice

10/10/2016

Women in science
Dr Sarah Bohndiek
Lecturer in Biomedical Sciences at
the Cavendish Laboratory, Group
Leader at the Cancer Research UK
Cambridge Institute and Fellow of
Corpus Christi College

JULY 2016

SUNDAY 10 JULY

Italian trip to Palermo departs (returns Fri 15 July)

AUGUST 2016

THURSDAY 18 AUGUST

A Level results will be emailed to students

THURSDAY 25 AUGUST

GCSE results will be emailed to students

SEPTEMBER 2016

MONDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

Induction day for all Thirds, Lower Fifth, Lower and
Upper Sixth

TUESDAY 6 SEPTEMBER

8:25am Autumn term begins

OCTOBER 2016

THURSDAY 13 OCTOBER 2016

Prize-giving at Cadogan Hall

Careers Evening, September 28th

This is a big biennial event and takes over the whole of the school from 6-9pm. It is open to all girls in the top four year groups of the school who come with their parents to find out about what grown-ups really

do for a living. Mrs Oakley and Mr Bossé, who is taking over as Head of Careers from September, are looking for enthusiastic professionals willing to share their expertise as consultants and speakers.

If you enjoy talking to young people about what you do and how you got to do it, we would love to hear from you. Please email jason.bosse@fhs-nw1.org.uk, or kate.oakley@fhs-nw1.org.uk

"The Hills are Alive..."

This Autumn's big production is "The Sound of Music", directed by Mrs Oakley, with musical direction by Mr Patterson. We already have an enthusiastic cast of nuns, Nazis and seven precocious children, together with Maria and the Captain. Mrs Oakley and parent helpers Penny Snow, Natalie Perrier and Amber Allan are busy planning, borrowing and creating costumes, with fabrics kindly imported for us by Mrs

Renney. However, we need some volunteers to sew nuns' habits and some of the children's matching outfits. We are planning to get started over the summer holiday.

If you have a sewing machine, enjoy running up clothes and would like to get involved in a project that promises to be lots of fun, please could you email Mrs Oakley at kate.oakley@fhs-nw1.org.uk.



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