

CORNERS

NEWSLETTER NOV/DEC 2017



Prize Giving, Sponsored Charity Walk, Sixth Form Lectures, Harvest Festival, Biology Week, Quondam Lunch 2017, Trips to Sri Lanka, Russia, Naples, Paris, Cadbury and much more...



From the Headmaster

- Lastly, as regards new initiatives, I will be inviting parents to join me for a fund-raising party event at the beginning of the Summer Term. The full details are not yet fixed, but the date is confirmed for 10th May 2018. Monies raised will go to the Bursary Fund and the New Spirit of Internationalism project. This should be the hot-ticket event of the season and will take place at a venue in the Haymarket in the West End.

Naturally, there will also be 140th birthday celebrations for your daughters throughout the year; not least a whole school photograph in Regent's Park which is scheduled for Monday 16th April 2018.

I encourage parents to become as involved with school life as time permits. Whether that be through the Parents' Association events, through meet-ups organised by your class reps or through these new events, there is much to enjoy for the whole of our school community.

Another development for the school is to tap into the expertise of parents to support the work of the Careers Department. In the Summer Term we are planning to arrange mock job interviews for all Lower Sixth Formers and we will need to match up career aspirations amongst the girls with workplace know-how amongst the parent body. Jason Bossé, our Head of Careers, will already have contacted you by email asking if you would like to share details of your own working experience with us. If you are have time to offer, please do take part in this scheme for the benefit of someone else's daughter; in turn, another parent will help to prepare your child for the workplace of the future.

You might also be interested to know that there will be a parents' and, separately, a pupils' satisfaction survey toward the end of the Spring Term. This is a biennial fixture in the school diary and will help to shape future plans.

Finally, if any parents would like to be given a guided tour of the school's archives, I invite them to get in touch. The school is in good heart. Great things are happening and great plans are in store.

With best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

CHARLES FILLINGHAM

One of the successes of Francis Holland School is that the girls are incredibly supportive of one another. In turn, the pupils are supported by their parents and the parents have a long-standing tradition of supporting the school. For many years, the Parents' Association has organised social events, such as the Quiz Night and last month's Christmas Fair, which help to bind this community together and I would like to extend my thanks to the committee and to their tireless team of volunteers.

Here at school, we understand that once your daughter reaches senior school, it can be difficult to feel as involved as you did during her early years. Indeed, it is normal and correct for her to become more independent. That said, one of the school's aims for this academic year is to strengthen our engagement with parents. To this end there are three new events which have been added to the calendar for the year:

- Firstly, and just for fun and to celebrate Burns' Night, we are hosting our first-ever ceilidh on the evening of Saturday 27th January 2018. We have a piper, a band, some haggis and some whisky. The evening promises to be enormous fun with dancing, games and a low-key raffle in aid of the Bursary Fund.
- Secondly, on 8th February 2018 a joint performance of a new parents' choir with the girls' choir is scheduled to mark the date of the school's 140th birthday. In the weeks leading up to the event our Director of Music, Robert Patterson, will organise four rehearsals and he will conduct the massed choirs in the evening. Again, the event will be just for fun.

Births

Congratulations to Mrs Claire Wood and her husband Seb on the birth of their son Casper (*pictured*) who was born on Tuesday 26th September.

Congratulations also to Ms Emma Williams and her husband Mark on the birth of their daughter Gracie on Monday 13th November.



Internal Appointments

We are delighted to announce the following internal appointments...

Mr Nicola Gridelli

ACTING HEAD OF SIXTH FORM

Mrs Angharad Packer

ACTING HEAD OF LOWER FIFTH

Miss Alessandra Spera

ACTING HEAD OF MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Miss Victoria Greenhalgh

NQT CO-ORDINATOR

Dr Francesca de Bono

SENIOR SIXTH FORM TUTOR

New Staff

We would like to extend a warm welcome to Mr William Storey (History teacher) and Mrs Emma Warner (German teacher) who join the team at Francis Holland Regent's Park this term.

Farewells

At half term FHS bid farewell to Christiani who has been part of the team in the kitchen for at least 11 years. We wish her all the best for the future.

Donations from 2016 and 2017 FHS Leavers



We are grateful to the families of recent leavers who left the balance of their initial fee deposits to the FHS Bursary Fund and the New Spirit of Internationalism Fund.

We continue to encourage donations to the Francis Holland Bursary Fund

to ensure these opportunities can be made available for future generations of talented girls. Details of the FHS Bursary Fund can be found on the School website. If you have any questions or would like to hear more about the Bursary Fund or the New Spirit of Internationalism fund please

do not hesitate to contact Louise Richmond, Development Manager, who would be delighted to hear from you at development@fhst.org.uk.

We would like to extend our thanks to the following for their kindness and support.

- Mr Allen Appen and Ms Jane Wiest
- The Boeckman family
- The Broberg family
- Mr Peter Morris and Miss Margaret Cullum
- Mr and Mrs Okhomina
- Ms Amy Rostas
- Professor and Mrs Silver and family
- The Watt family

...and to the additional donors who wish to remain anonymous.

Ms Louise Richmond

DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

Sixth Form Lecture Series

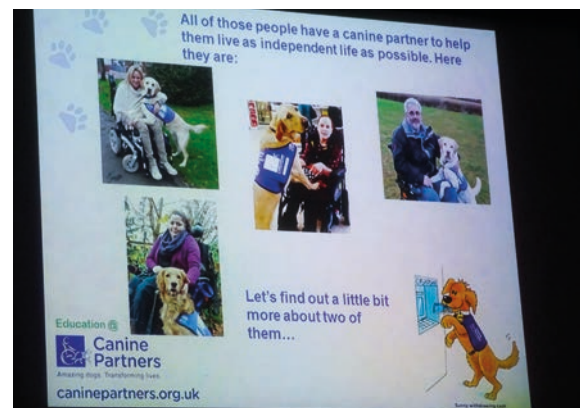
We are particularly delighted to have the opportunity to offer a well-established lecture series programme to our Sixth Form students. It aims to stimulate intellectual curiosity, further explore the girls' true academic interests, educate them about important social, health-related and ethical issues, inspire them to pursue their dreams and inform them about career opportunities.

This term we have been particularly privileged to hear people of the calibre of Mr Greig, editor of the Mail on Sunday and The London Evening Standard, who shared with our students his professional story; Miss Nuff, former Olympian, who encouraged them to follow their ambitions; Mr Tait who raised our students' awareness on a wide variety of drug and alcohol issues and on the recent changes in legislation about drug consumption and possession; Mr Baker, World Slam Poetry Champion, who captivated our students with his poems; Mrs Valori, former FHS student and now the General Manager of Snapchat in the UK, who talked about her career; and last but not least Mr Macdonald, a Volunteer Foster Coordinator with Canine Partners, who informed our students about the work they do in training assistance dogs.

We are particularly thankful to these inspirational people who took the time to talk to our Sixth Form, and we are looking forward to hearing all the exciting talks lined up for the next two terms.

Nicola Gridelli

ACTING HEAD OF SIXTH FORM



Higher Education Update

The Upper Sixth are to be commended on demonstrating great commitment to the next stage of their education journey, the majority of them having submitted strong applications to UCAS, Art Foundation Centres and Drama Schools by half-term. Many of the girls are now in receipt of offers and preparing for admission interviews.

Each student has been provided with an interview preparation booklet and encouraged to approach their teachers to arrange a mock interview on the subject of their choice. All the Upper Sixth will reap the benefits of the cross-curricular skills these encounters will foster, from improved confidence and communication to sophisticated body language and

subject specialist knowledge. The girls will be asked to fill in a self-evaluation form in order to identify areas for improvement. I strongly recommend all the Upper Sixth to take advantage of this service.

Dr Francesca de Bono

DIRECTOR OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Harvest Festival



FHS once again celebrated Harvest Festival with a traditional thanksgiving service at St. Cyprian's Church, led this year by Father Michael Fuller on Wednesday 27th September.

The altar was decorated by an amazing array of boxes, which each form had creatively designed and packed with the tinned and dried food that had

been collected. These boxes and other donations were then given to North London Action for the Homeless, a charity based in Stoke Newington that runs a drop-in centre for the homeless and those in needy circumstances. Donations made by the girls and staff will be used in the charity's kitchen, providing many meals for its visitors, and will be given out to the homeless

NEWS



Winner of the Most Creative Box: LIVM



and vulnerable people who come and use the drop-in centre. Mike Tomes, manager of NLAH, particularly commented on how much effort the girls had put into the packaging and the little messages that were sent with the food and gifts. Many thanks to all.

Ms Clare MacDonnell
DIRECTOR OF EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES



FHS join the London Junior Debating League

On Monday 30th October seven FHS girls attended a Debating workshop hosted by Godolphin & Latymer School. The event marked the start of the London Junior Debating League season. The LJDL is the biggest debating competition for 11-13 year olds in the UK and this is the first year that FHS is taking part.

The LJDL competition provides our Third and Lower Fourth pupils with an introduction to competitive inter-school debating. The second benefit of this competition is that Sixth Form pupils involved are trained so as to be able to judge the debates. I am very fortunate to have several keen, outstanding Senior Debaters who already run the Junior Debating Club each Thursday lunchtime and have volunteered for this

role throughout the debating season. At the workshop these sixth formers received training in how to judge a debate, and then practised their skills and gave constructive feedback to neutral school pupils.

The G&L workshop culminated with a practice debate against FHS Sloane Square, where the inaugural Junior Debating Team (comprising Molly Campbell Butcher, Amber Hill and Amelia Rayner-Cook) proposed the motion "This house would ban homework".

For the competition itself, we have been drawn in a group with Latymer Upper (last year's LJDL winners), Sacred Heart High School and John Lyon School. Each debate night will incorporate one prepared debate motion and also an unseen, surprise motion. Keep an eye on Corners for news of our Junior Debaters' progress.

Tom Carew Hunt
HEAD OF DEBATING

Sponsored Charity Walk

What a fantastic autumn day! The sun shone and once again we were swept along by the creativity and enthusiasm of the girls at one of our favourite events, the annual Sponsored Walk in Regent's Park. Friday 6th October saw the girls out in force completing laps of the park to fundraise for the Rainbow Centre in Sri Lanka and the FHS Summer Camp, all whilst in fancy dress. A number of dogs belonging to staff and girls joined the walk, each vying to become the winner of the Cutest Dog Competition, one of the most hotly contested awards at FHS.

Ms Clare MacDonnell

DIRECTOR OF EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES



Work, Rest, Play Fortnight

EVENTS



Monday 6th November marked the beginning of Work, Rest, Play Fortnight; a chance for girls and staff alike to consider their work-life balance and explore new activities. Opening and closing the fortnight was the 'Big Sing-Along' held during break in the school hall on both Tuesday 7th November and Friday 17th. Girls from across the years and staff joined together to belt out well known West End tunes, whilst accompanied by Mr Ingham on the piano. Assemblies throughout the fortnight engaged with this theme, and throughout the week the girls were encouraged to try new lunch time clubs; whilst Thursdays saw staff power walking round Regent's Park to wake up their minds before the start of the school day. On Thursday 16th November we welcomed Anna Kessel,

author of *Eat Sweat Play* and a sports journalist at *The Guardian*, to talk to the whole school in assembly about the role of sport in her own life and about women's engagement with sport both currently and historically, ultimately encouraging us not to be put off being involved by our previous experience or concerns about body type. It was inspirational. Later she joined us in the library to answer questions as part of a Q&A session with the GCSE PE students, sharing stories from her own experience and offering insight into the ways in which the media portrays sport and the need for an increase in sport facilities and opportunities for women.

Miss Colette Mahieu
PASTORAL DEPUTY HEAD



Lydia Syson visits FHS

"I read for pleasure and that is the moment I learn the most"
— Margaret Atwood

On Tuesday 14th November the library invited author and fifth generation Londoner Lydia Syson to speak to students as part of 'Work, Rest, Play

Fortnight'. Lydia is the author of three YA historical romances - *A World Between Us*, *That Burning Summer* and *Liberty's Fire* - and is soon to publish her first adult novel. She began by describing her own career path and the intermingling of work, rest and play, before reading to us from her debut novel *A World Between Us*, which is set during the Spanish Civil War. Lydia explained to us the importance of referring to historical documents when writing to ensure an accurate representation of events, especially as novels can lead us to discover time periods and cultures that were previously unknown to us. She also revealed the inspiration behind each of her novels, including World War II campaign posters, letters and her own family history, demonstrating that the smallest encounter can spark a story. Once the presentation was over the girls had a chance to look at some of these historical items, including gas

masks from the Cold War! Opportunity was given for questions and a number were asked about the creative process from the construction of the plot to character development. It was an enjoyable and inspiring evening and we would like to thank Lydia Syson for visiting our school.

Miss Sarah Lawrence
SCHOOL LIBRARIAN



European Week of Languages



The European Week of Languages, which began on Monday 26th September, is an international celebration of our wonderful European linguistic and cultural heritage.

As in the past, the Modern Foreign Languages Department organised a variety of initiatives including a whole school assembly, wonderful European food in the canteen with the help of the catering staff, and, last but not least, the FHS Eurovision Song Contest in aid of Save the Children Mexico, now in its second edition.

During lunchtime on Friday 29th September, the whole school gathered in the hall for some amazing musical entertainment. Presented by two Lower Sixth French students, Emma Monnickendam and Alice Emlyn Jones, the competition kicked off with the Spanish song and finished with the Italian one. Students from different year groups performed with enthusiasm and competence, having fun together with the audience. Judges were interviewed in French, expressing their opinions about the songs. Even Mr Fillingham got involved, taking to the stage to join

those girls performing the French entry. However, in the end it was the Italian number which won the competition.

This was a fantastic event reminding us that languages are exciting and fun; they open doors and get people together.

*Ich danke euch allen!
Grazie mille a tutti!
Merci beaucoup à tous!
Muchas gracias a todos*

Ms Alessandra Spera
HEAD OF FRENCH, ACTING HEAD OF MFL

Onatti Theatre Company Visit FHS

On Wednesday 1st November, we welcomed back the Onatti Theatre Company who performed for our Upper Fourth, Lower Fifth and Upper Fifth classes in Spanish. The girls enjoyed the surreal comedy situations and they immersed themselves fully in the language. The play, *La Casa Encantada* (Haunted House – very appropriate theme for the time being Halloween) was a real success and the audience participation made it all the more entertaining! Olivia Saunders was invited by the actors to engage in the performance and she made the play even more amusing. We are looking forward to having the company back for performances in French and German in the coming months.

Miss Natalia Lamas
TEACHER OF FRENCH AND HEAD OF SPANISH





During Francis Holland's Biology Week, girls were given the unique opportunity to make a necklace from their own DNA. It was a great way of engaging with the subject in a hands-on and entertaining fashion. It was an experience where we all truly felt like mad scientists. Passers-by

were entertained by the group of Biology students rubbing the inside of their cheeks with cotton buds, so much so that some even stayed for the entire event. Extracting the DNA in this way was fairly strange, although thoroughly amusing, and we went on to encapsulate it into our very own

DNA necklaces, using Science to do so. It was a fun and memorable end to the Biology filled week, and one that will definitely be remembered.

Shreya Chakraborty
UPPER SIXTH BIOLOGY STUDENT

Extended Project Qualification

Eleven students in the Upper Sixth presented their independent research this term as part of the Extended Project Qualification, a stand-alone qualification worth half an A Level.

During the presentations the girls explained their experiences, the research skills they acquired, and gave an overview of their findings. The audience, including their project supervisors, had the opportunity to ask questions at the end.

Mrs Anna Phillips
HEAD OF THE EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION

Alexandra Stephenson

'To what extent is the underrepresentation of BAME actors in the London Theatre industry being officially addressed?'

Alice Ward

'To what extent is it possible to make a short film for free and still have and still create an emotional response?' (Product)

Anastasia Michanitzis

A series of monologues from different eras and in different styles. (Product)

Emily Jerjian

'How important was Mathematics in the development of Italian Renaissance Architecture?'

Francesca Hersey

'To what extent has Geography influenced Cartography since the digital age?'

Georgia Michaels

'Is it DNA or environmental factors, or a combination of both, that cause people to commit the worst crimes?'

Helena McBurney

'To what extent do songs in Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* and *The Tempest* contribute to an audience's understanding of the dramas' narrative?'

Karina Ishikawa

'To what extent does advanced technology impact positively on certain social and market sectors?'

Sara Mahmud

'How is the language of architecture common to both Christian and Islamic religious architecture, with reference to Hagia Sophia (Istanbul) and The Suleymaniye Mosque (Istanbul)?'

Shreya Chakraborty

'What is life with ADHD really like?'

Yasmeen Louis

'Hollywood's representation of the African American community is progressive'

Prize Giving 2017

Our annual Prize Giving ceremony was held again this year at Cadogan Hall on Thursday 12th October in the presence of governors, staff, parents and pupils. Mr Fillingham gave a rousing speech on education for women in the 21st century and prizes were awarded in many categories across the school. There were a number of outstanding performances in the field of drama and music.

An extract from *The Importance of Being Earnest* was played by Charlotte and Helena McBurney along with Alice Ward. From the lower school, Thalia Gavin, Olivia Baird, Tilika Murray-Patel and Nicole Thomaz laid on a treat as we entered Narnia for a few minutes to shudder at the power of the White Witch.

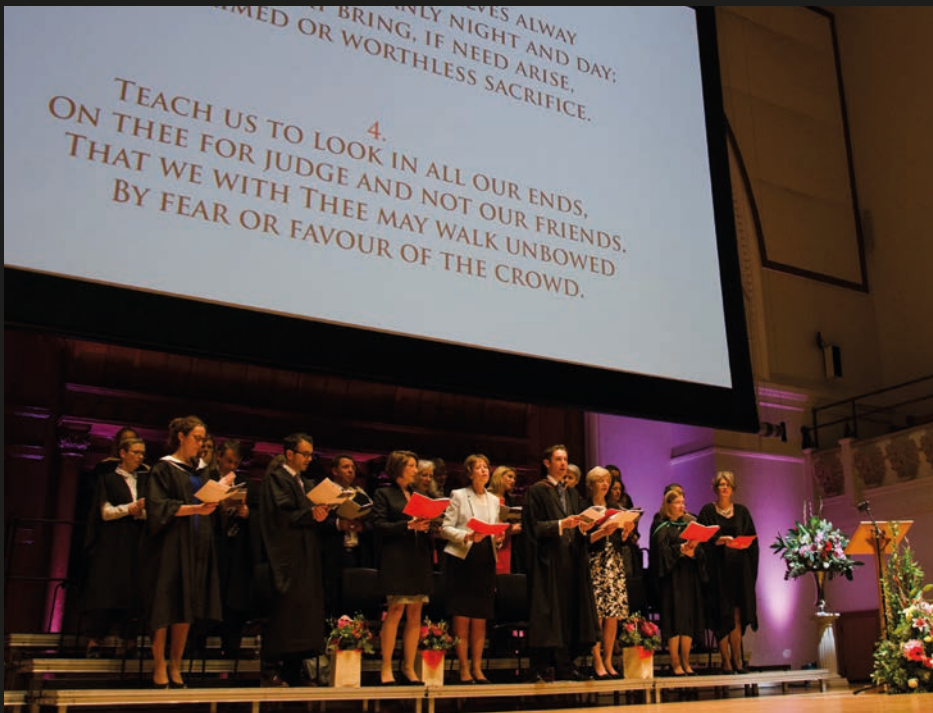
Our Musicians delighted us once more, with first class performances from the Pink Ladies, the Fifteen, Katie Wheeler on the oboe and Mathilda Drukier, Maria Knight and Aisling Sheehan on the piano. Another spell-binding highlight was a performance of 'Baker Street' by Alexandra Stephenson on the saxophone. We heard a captivating extract from a work by Isabella Yaghnani who had won the Thirds writing competition, and finally Tabby Dickson, our Head Girl, invited us to sing the school hymn to finish.

Congratulations to all the worthy prize-winners and thank you to all the talented performers who made this such a delightful evening. We would also like to thank Mrs Marie Winckler, Ms Marika Freris, member of the Parents' Association Committee, and Mrs Alison Edelshain, Chair of Quondam.

Mrs Amelia Slocombe
SENIOR DEPUTY HEAD



PRIZES



Piano Concert

Girls from the Thirds to the Upper Sixth gathered in the School Hall to present the first of this year's concerts on the freshly tuned Bluthner grand piano. Featuring a typically eclectic mix of styles, there were performances from girls both at the earlier stages of progress to post grade 8. It was particularly pleasing to see a number of new girls performing in what was only their twelfth day at FHS!

Robert Patterson
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC



Vocal Masterclass

Four advanced singers participated in a vocal masterclass given by professional singer and alumna, Catherine Hopper, in the School Hall. Tutored through a wide range of ideas to improve all aspects of performance, from technique to text delivery, the students worked at an impressively high level. This will be the first of many professionally led masterclasses that will occur at Francis Holland School over the coming years.

Robert Patterson
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC



Music Scholars and Exhibition Concert

All the school's music scholars and exhibitors gathered to present their annual solo performance concert in the School Hall. As well as a good number of vocalists, there were also notable performances on the violin and piano, with a particularly haunting performance of *Syrinx* by Debussy, played by Alexandra Stephenson on the soprano saxophone.

Robert Patterson
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC



Thirds' visit to Sayers Croft Trip

There may be many reasons why pupils feel at home so quickly at FHS: the welcome tea in June; the induction process at the start of term; and the careful planning which goes into the three form groups. But my hunch is that

our Activity Day at Sayers Croft is the really key event!

Over the past ten years, FHS has developed close ties with this wonderful outdoor centre in the Surrey



Hills, and so it's the ideal place to take pupils to have a challenging day in a great woodland setting. Sayers Croft is a site of over fifty acres, and came into being when an entire boys' school was evacuated from Catford at the start of the Second World War. The huts built to accommodate the school are now Grade 2 listed, and there are reminders across Sayers Croft of how the site looked in wartime.

But now, there are no air-raid sirens or the sound of distant bombs dropping. Instead, Sayers Croft rings to the sound of happy voices of children climbing, abseiling, bouldering, or on a high ropes course, or a challenge course where a team of twelve has to negotiate a course without one child putting a foot on the ground! Pupils also completed a 'blind trail', being guided by a partner through an obstacle course while being blindfolded!

As so often, girls who might have been quite timid in the first couple of weeks of term suddenly found their self-confidence and their voices. We're planning a similar trip in September 2018 for next year's Thirds!

Adrian Smith
HEAD OF THIRDS



GSA Girls Go Gold Event

On Thursday 28th September the GCSE PE pupils from Francis Holland went to Girls Go Gold, organised by the Girls' Schools Association. It was an inspiring day of elite sport, looking at what it takes to be a high performing athlete in today's world. The girls were very lucky to meet some of the very best in their field and be coached by them.

It was such an incredible day, that the girls will remember for a long time to come. The expertise and knowledge they gained will really assist them on their sporting journeys.

Miss Laura Burroughs
DIRECTOR OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION



The day started with an inspiring talk by Olympian Helen Glover. She spoke about her journey and how when the road is tough it is important to never give up on your dreams. In addition, Frank Lampard coached the girls Football and three Olympians coached Hockey, Swimming and Rowing. Former England batsman Graham Thorpe joined the conference for a Question and Answer session.



Sixth Form Visit to the Rainbow Centre, Sri Lanka

Exceptional people do exceptional things. Over the October half term, I was privileged to lead a trip of eighteen exceptional FHS Sixth Form students to Sri Lanka where our girls were teachers for the week at the Rainbow Centre in Bentota. In the many months leading up to the trip, the girls completed a programme of work experience in local primary schools, fund-raised for the Centre, researched educational resources and created lesson plans to deliver to the Rainbow Centre.

The Rainbow Centre was established after the Tsunami of 2004, for the many children living in the surrounding area of Bentota. These children live in extreme poverty – no running water, no electricity and often, no food for dinner. The Rainbow Centre is a safe haven for these children; offering nutrition, medical support and education to over one hundred impoverished and beautiful children.

The week at the Rainbow Centre was an extraordinary experience for our Sixth Form, as many of our girls had never been at the teaching end of the classroom. There was a multitude of outstanding lessons delivered in Maths, Art, Music, Physical Education, Science, English and Drama over the course of the week to a range of children aging from just two years old to sixteen. Not only were our girls caring, supportive and informative teachers, they were fantastic ambassadors for the school too!

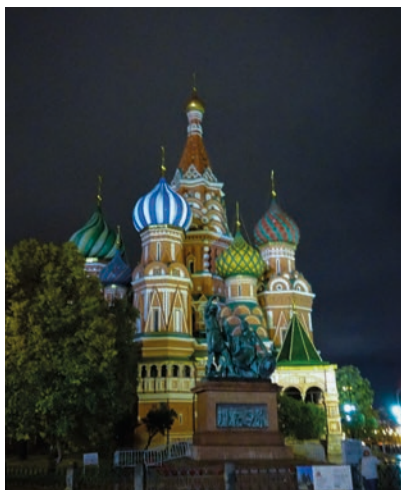
This is the second successful visit that FHS has taken to the Rainbow Centre and certainly one of the most wonderful trips I have ever taken away. I am very happy that we have taken on the Rainbow Centre as one of our major fundraising charities.

Ms Jane Tucker
TRIP LEADER



History and Politics trip to Russia

TRIPS



Over October half term, fifteen students travelled to Moscow and St Petersburg 100 years after the Bolshevik revolution that transformed twentieth century Russia. They visited a range of historical sites of global importance in both cities and had a range of cultural experiences, including visiting a school in St Petersburg, a Russian folklore show and

a performance of Prokofiev's *Cinderella*. Not quite ten days that shook the world, but six days that awakened the intellectual curiosity of the students. All thanks to Miss Mahieu and Miss Quick who accompanied the trip.

Patrick Glavin

ACTING HEAD OF HISTORY AND
POLITICS DEPARTMENT



Classics trip to the Bay of Naples

A group of thirteen students from the Lower Fifth to the Lower Sixth visited the Bay of Naples during the first week of the October half-term. After a 2.30am coach from FHS, there was no time to sleep as a trip to climb Mount Vesuvius was scheduled straight from the airport. The panoramic views of Naples were well worth the trek. Over the following days we also visited the amazing ancient sites of Pompeii, Herculaneum, Oplontis and Paestum. The imposing temples at Paestum, the vividness of the wall paintings at Pompeii and perhaps, most movingly the skeletons at Herculaneum, all helped to bring the Classical world vividly to life. There was also time to shop in Capri and marvel at the yachts of the rich and famous. On the last evening we finally made it down to the beach near the hotel to watch the sunset with a gelato. An amazing time was had by all.

Ms Anna Hillier

CLASSICS DEPARTMENT



Geography Trip to Cadbury World and Bournville

On Wednesday 11th October, the Geography Department took the Upper Fourth to Cadbury World and Bournville. They looked at the housing that George and Richard Cadbury built in Bournville for their employees and compared this to the terraced housing that workers from other factories would have lived in. The girls completed sketches and a questionnaire about the housing, environment and facilities in each area. We all agreed that Bournville Village was well designed and would be a lovely place to live, with its open spaces and local shops.



The highlight of the day was a trip around the Cadbury factory where the girls learnt where cocoa is grown and how chocolate is made. The liquid chocolate tasting with a choice of toppings at the end of the tour ensured the trip ended on a high note.

Many thanks to my colleagues who accompanied us and to the Upper Fourth who behaved so well.

Ms Penny Freeley
GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT

Lower Fourth Education Visits

Continuing from the success of last year's new educational trips programme, Lower Fourth have been enjoying an exciting range of visits around London. The trips, which aim to enhance the girl's learning beyond the classroom, take on a different subject focus twice a half term. This academic year Lower Fourth have been to London Zoo to learn about the threat of climate change to animals, engaging in an interactive talk presented by a number of zoo keepers. The girls have also explored different artists and interpretation of artwork on a trip to the Wallace Collection. Our new Librarian Sarah Lawrence treated the girls to an in-depth tour around the British Library, and the girls will finish the Autumn term with a trip to the National Gallery to discover the range of French artwork on offer there.

Miss Emily O'Neill
EDUCATIONAL VISITS CO-ORDINATOR



Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Congratulations to all the Bronze participants who have completed and passed their practice and assessment expedition weekends during the first half term. The girls should be proud of their efforts!

The girls should now be focussing on completing the other sections of the award. Girls must upload all evidence onto the DoFE website, including any pictures taken over the expedition weekends.

If your daughter needs any help at all with an online aspect of the award then please encourage her to come along to the online clinic which is run by Miss Lamas and takes place every Thursday during second lunchtime in the ICT suite.

Any girl in the current Lower Fifth who is thinking of carrying on with the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme, and progressing onto the Silver Award, must complete three out of the four sections of their Bronze Award before January 2018.

Miss Natalia Lamas
DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD CO-ORDINATOR



Thirde Trip to Tate Britain

On Monday 6th November, the Thirde set off by coach to visit Tate Britain in Pimlico. Touring from the historical through to the 21st century galleries and pausing to make drawings from Henry Moore's sculptures, the girls were able to compare traditional with more contemporary trends, with a focus upon the use of colour throughout the ages. It was a packed, busy and very stimulating afternoon!

Miss Louise Evans
ART DEPARTMENT

History of Art trip to Paris

On Saturday 11th November the History of Art department took a trip to Paris for the day. It was a rather early start, meeting at 5.30am at St Pancras to take the Eurostar, but well worth it! Emerging from the Paris metro we found ourselves right in the heart of the city and were met with the beautiful Gothic church of Notre-Dame. From here we walked along the Seine river to the Musée d'Orsay, a fabulous art gallery set in a former train station. The students were wowed by works of art that were familiar to them from their classes, and seeing the original paintings rather than digital reproductions was a real treat. They were stunned by 19th-century works such as Cabanel's Birth of Venus, shocked by Manet's more daring Olympia and by the scale of Courbet's Burial at Ornans.

To recover from the excitement, it was important that we enjoyed a good Parisian lunch in a local cafe - steak frites, galettes, a formidable cheese board - we did it in style. Luckily the rain just about kept away so we were able to enjoy a lovely walk through the centre of the city to get to our next gallery, the Centre Pompidou. Here we revelled in 20th-century modernism, looking at masterpieces by Matisse, Picasso, Kandinsky and



Duchamp, among other fantastic works on display. We paid a quick visit to the reconstructed studio of sculptor Constantin Brancusi, just outside the museum, to see his beautifully spiritual and daringly modern sculptures. There was time for a little more exploring (and maybe one more crêpe) before we had to head back to the Eurostar for the journey back to London. We certainly earned our rest on Sunday but we had a wonderful art-packed day in Paris!

Miss Olivia Dobell
HISTORY OF ART DEPARTMENT



Quondam Lunch 2017



We were delighted to host the annual Quondam Lunch on Saturday 4th November for all our alumni. We welcomed over fifty guests, including former staff and pupils, back to FHS to enjoy a delicious drinks reception and lunch in the school hall. With our oldest guest from the class of 1949 and our youngest representing the class of 2012, we had a wonderful mix of alumni sharing memories and their latest news.

This year's guest alumni were Polished Corners Gladys Perint Palmer and

Misa Saka. Gladys is an established professional artist and fashion editor; she had kindly brought along a range of her portfolio pieces to display for all the old girls to enjoy. Her work on show included book covers, posters for events and even the artwork used on the side of a Hong Kong tram!

Our second Polished Corner guest, Misa, is currently studying Performance at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama and has performed internationally for many years on the piano. Misa

performed a magnificent recital prior to the lunch, comprising Chopin's beautiful Impromptu No.3 Op.51 and Prokofiev's fiery Piano Sonata No.2 in D minor (4th movement) Op.14.

During the afternoon we also held the Quondam AGM and guests took tours of the school provided by current Sixth Form girls. As ever, this was an enjoyable event and our alumni remain full of enthusiasm for Francis Holland.

Alistair Brown
ALUMNI RELATIONS OFFICER

Academic Lectures

We were again privileged this term to hear some excellent Academic Enrichment lectures, given by FHS staff. Dr de Bono (English department, Director of Higher Education) gave a fascinating talk on the 21st of September entitled 'Shalott or Shalittle: Re-evaluating Tennyson's Lady'. She analysed the poem from different perspectives, including the more recent re-evaluation of the Lady of Shalott from a more feminist viewpoint. Her

talk raised interesting questions about the differing expectations of men and women in society through the ages, as well as the expectations as to their roles.

During the recent 'Work, Rest, Play Fortnight', Miss Mahieu (PE dept, Pastoral Deputy Head) gave a lecture on 'Bolt v Farah: Nature v Nurture'. She examined the physiological and environmental influences on elite athletes and also the way that society's perception of what makes an ideal athlete has changed over the course of the 20th century. Miss Mahieu's lecture provided a most interesting

and thought-provoking insight into the science of sport.

We are looking forward to the final academic lecture of the term by Mrs Mary Anastasi (ICT and Computing department) who will be speaking about secret codes and why we need them. This will take place on Wednesday 6th December.

More lectures are scheduled for the spring and summer terms.

Miss Jacqueline Zugg
ACADEMIC DEPUTY HEAD

Sports Report

It is hard to believe Christmas is already here, and what a fantastic term we have had on the sporting front.

Well done to our Netball and Hockey girls who have represented the school at the Middlesex tournaments this term, performing exceptionally well. Congratulations especially to the Senior and U15 Netball teams, produced the best results we have had in years! This term we introduced more teams in the Thirds and it has been wonderful to see all the girls playing and representing



the school. In the last A-E fixture the girls won 4 out of the 5 matches, which was wonderful to see. We now have a PE Twitter account with up to date information about all the latest fixtures and photos. Please follow us on @FHS_NW1_Sport. In January we will have a New PE website; it will be used for all fixtures and team sheets, so watch out for more updates.

Retrials will happen for the Junior Netball and Hockey teams in the first two weeks of January, so if you missed



SPORT

out on the first set please come along. It would be great to see more of you playing; you can find more information on the PE noticeboard outside the staffroom.

The new Spring Term fixtures list can now be found online via the school website. The Spring Term is packed with many PE extra-curricular events; please make note of them in your diaries.

- **February Fitness Fortnight**
26th January 2018
- **Gym and Dance Display**
2nd March 2018
- **Mini Marathon**
9th March 2018
- **Interform Netball**
13th March 2018

Quote of the term:

"The difference between the impossible and the possible lies in determination"
Usain Bolt

Miss Laura Burroughs

DIRECTOR OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION



Middlesex Hockey Tournament

In October the U18 Hockey team travelled to St Benedicts to take part in only their second ever County Tournament. The team consisted of girls from the Lower Fifth to the Upper Sixth, and they played to the very best of their ability. Despite losing Kalli Hadjipateras from a serious injury, the girls persisted and were even more determined to do well. Demonstrating great fighting spirit throughout, the team produced some fast flowing, attractive hockey and were very unlucky not to secure a victory. The results prove just how much progress has been made since last year and we are delighted with their achievements!

Miss Maria Merrigan

PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Cross Country

After competing in the Westminster Cross Country event before the half term, Charlotte Edge, Jazzy Charap, Ella Von Hammerstein, Amelia Carney, Francesca Chen and Saffron Jones were selected to run in the London Youth Games Cross Country on 18th November 2018. Despite the rain and mud the girls were in good spirit, enjoying the atmosphere and the opportunity to run with hundreds of competitors their own age. Congratulations to them all.

Miss Colette Mahieu

PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT



DECEMBER

TUESDAY 5 DECEMBER

6:30pm String Concert: 6.30pm
(Pre-concert drinks in the Library from 6pm)

WEDNESDAY 6 DECEMBER

5:30pm Swimming Tour
Launch evening
in the Lecture Theatre

THURSDAY 7 DECEMBER

1.05pm Senior Chamber Choir
perform
Ceremony of Carols at
Marylebone Parish Church

FRIDAY 8 DECEMBER

» **Whole school Mufti Day in aid of the Rainbow Centre, Sri Lanka**

1.30pm Upper Fifth Charity Event
in aid of the
Rainbow Centre

JANUARY

MONDAY 8 JANUARY

» **Beginning of Spring Term for all students**

FRIDAY 12 JANUARY

» **11+ Entrance Examination Day**
(No students required in school
unless requested)

Parents' Association News

We would like to thank everyone who came to and contributed to this year's Christmas Fair. It was a great success!

Which spacecraft was first to land on the moon? Can you name the Viking who discovered Greenland? Come test your knowledge at the Parents' Association Quiz Night from 6.30 until 10pm on Thursday 22nd March.

SIXTH FORM LECTURES SPRING 2018

08/01/2018

WILL EVANS

Business and entrepreneurship

Managing Director of Amery Brothers and business entrepreneur on Calculated Risks

15/01/2018

DR ARIC SIGMAN

Electronic Media Today: managing non-homework screen time, social media, computer games, preventing screen dependency

29/01/2018

ZAKI COOPER

The Six Sixes of Monarchy - everything you wanted to know about the Royals but were afraid to ask

Assistant Press Secretary to the Queen from 2009 to 2012

05/02/2018

CATERINA CEDOLINI

Animal research - volunteering and campaigning for animal rights

Speaker for Animal Aid, the UK's largest animal rights group

05/04/2018

DEANNA PUCCIO

The BIG LEAP - Practical guidance and advice on how to make to adjust to university life more confidently

Co-founder of the RAP Project

12/03/2018

NATALIE SPANIER

Film-making and television

Head of Talent for the production company Nutopia

19/03/2018

RT HON GISELA STUART

Brexit - why we are leaving the EU

Chair of Change Britain and former Labour MP

UPCOMING EVENTS



String Concert

The String Concert will be taking place on Tuesday 5th December in the School Hall from 6.30 – 7.30pm. Pre-concert drinks will be available in the library from 6pm.



Carol Service

Please join us for our annual School Carol Service at Marylebone Parish Church at 3pm on Thursday 14th December.



Special Event on 10 May 2018

Save the date! Mr Fillingham would like to invite you to a special event in Central London on Thursday 10th May 2018. The event will celebrate the 140th anniversary of the founding of Francis Holland School and all proceeds from this evening will benefit the FHS Bursary Fund and the French House appeal. Please keep an eye on the diary section of Corners for further announcements. If you have any questions about this event, are interested in joining the fundraising committee or helping in any way, please contact Louise Richmond, FHST Development Manager, at development@fhst.org.uk who would be delighted to hear from you.



FRANCIS HOLLAND SCHOOL
REGENT'S PARK

Ivor Place, London NW1 6XR

020 7723 0176 | admin@fhs-nw1.org.uk | www.fhs-nw1.org.uk

