



Moir House

Girls School

EASTBOURNE

STRANDS

ISSUE 4 AUTUMN TERM 2016

LEAH'S FIRST DAY AT THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC



Despite a nasty injury to her fingers, Leah Hallinon in Year 9, began her journey as a Saturday Student at the Royal Academy of Music Junior, in London. Unable to play, but willing to learn, Leah is one of only three flautists who successfully auditioned from over 80 people from all around UK this year. Leah has been selected as a member of the Symphony Orchestra, which is the top orchestra group at Royal Academy Junior, consisting of around 100 members. It is quite amazing that among four flautists in total selected for the Junior Symphony Orchestra, three were already students from last year and they took Leah as the fourth member this year.



Leah is thrilled at being a part of this amazing orchestra, particularly as this years' BBC Young Musician of the Year Winner, Cellist Sheku Kanneh-Mason, also belongs to the same orchestra. Well done Leah, we are looking forward to following your progress!

A GREAT DAY OUT TO THORPE PARK

Last Sunday a group of 32 of our boarders went on an action packed day out to Thorpe Park in Surrey. Some girls were even brave enough to ride the Stealth which is 62m high and has a maximum speed of 130km!

The girls had an amazing day out and were all quite ready for bed by the time we got back to school!

Thank you to Mr Martin, Miss Godley and Mrs T who came along for the fun!



CELEBRATING THE MOON FESTIVAL

On 15 September the girls celebrated the Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival, also known as the Moon Festival, as it is the time of year when the moon is at its roundest and brightest. This is the second grandest festival after the Spring Festival in China.



We brought Chinese Moon Cake from China and shared it with the girls. Nowadays, people present Moon Cakes to relatives and friends to demonstrate that they wish them a long and happy life. We wish the best to all the girls!

A MESSAGE FROM UPPER PREP

If any Upper Prep parents find that they need to drop something off during the school day for their daughter, please could it be left at the Main School Reception and not taken to Dunn House, as this disrupts lessons.

Many thanks.

PERFORMANCES IN THE WINGS

The Performing Arts Team are looking forward to a busy term ahead. Following the increasing success and audience numbers at our concerts we will be taking our Autumn Concert to the spectacular All Saints' Chapel in Meads.

This term will also see our girls involved in many other concerts and events including the Seaford Proms, Harvest Festival, Advent Carol Service, Pre-Prep Production and Meads Magic to name but a few.



As of this week our twilight programme has recommenced and if you would like your daughter to be part of this then please contact Mr Cousins, it's not too late to join in the next couple of weeks.

Finally, we are excited about some imminent developments including a new Chapel Choir and news of some of this year's productions. We look forward to seeing you at a concert or event soon!

MORE SUCCESSES IN PERFORMING ARTS

Many congratulations to Chloe Crockett in Year 6 who achieved a Merit in her Modern Dance exam and Distinction in her Tap Dance.

In Year 4, Jasmine Lee achieved a Distinction in her Grade 2 Piano exam over the summer period. Keep up the fantastic progress.

Well done to Eve-Jolie Kerswell, also from Year 4, who achieved a High Distinction in her Grade 1 Violin exam.



Well done to all our girls who are achieving fantastic results both in and out of school— you have great commitment and all of your hard work is really paying off!

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents

We are all having a very busy week as we prepare for Open Day on Saturday. Thank you in advance for any arrangements you have made to enable your daughter to be here. I know that a number of parents will be coming along to help us on the morning so thank you to you also.

Saturday is also the Official Opening of our Equestrian Centre. We are all looking forward to the arrival of our old girl and Olympian, Gemma Tattersall and several other invited guests, including our Mayor, to the event. If you are coming to the afternoon event at the Manège can you please arrive by 1.45pm. We are expecting to finish and dismiss the school by 3pm.

Our MHA AGM has taken place this week and I would like to thank all of the members for giving their time so willingly to support us. We are very fortunate to have such excellent support who work tirelessly to provide some of the year's high points. If you are new to the school I know they will be very happy to hear from you if you wish to get involved.

I hope by now you have had contact by email from your daughter's Personal Tutor. I know that they are getting in touch with home to ensure that we have the correct communication channels open. Please get in touch if you have not heard from us.

Thank you to all parents who have sent their best wishes to Mrs MacKenzie. I am pleased to say that she had a successful operation and is on her feet and recovering. It will be some time before she returns, but she is on the mend. Thank you for your understanding with our staffing issues as we had an unfortunate number of staff absent almost immediately on our return. Please be assured that we always make decisions based on the best for the girls in any circumstances and we feel that we are getting on top of things now. The staff will make sure that the girls catch up!

We are currently working on a programme for our Saturday Activities. Some parents have expressed an interest in such a programme and we do, of course put on events for our boarders. We are looking to offer a range of Saturday morning activities that might be of interest to all the girls. We currently have a full horse riding programme, swimming activities and our Performing Arts sessions lined up with some other ideas to add to this. We hope that you will find them of interest and should you wish to suggest any activities to us please contact Mr Crum at scrum@moirahouse.co.uk.

I look forward to seeing many of you on Saturday.

Mr James Sheridan
Principal

DRAMA IN LOWER PREP

Year 5 have been very expressive this week, whilst acting out a drama, based on Chapter 3 of Varjak Paw. First, we read Chapter 3 and thought about the role of each individual character. We acted each scene until our director (Amelie) told us to freeze for a photograph.



'Family Council is now in session' declared the Elder Paw above the hubbub in the room.



'Generations of Paws have lived in this house since Jalal's time.'



'I believe the Contessa is dead.' The older cats gasped (in fright). I don't believe the Contessa is dead. (Father)



'This is absurd,' said Aunt Juni. 'We're pure-bred Mesopotamian Blues, the noblest of cats. Nothing bad can happen to us.'



Varjak couldn't stop himself. He had to speak. 'I saw the men carry something away,' he said, 'It could have been the Contessa's body.'



'Shut up you stupid insect!' snarled Julius. Father began to circle the Elder Paw, wordless and menacing. The Elder Paw backed away. Suddenly he looked tired and old. 'This Council is over... Let's go.'



A MESSAGE FROM MRS VALLANTINE

As we have been blessed by ongoing warm weather we will continue to wear Summer Uniform for at least the next week, including Open Day. We will, of course, advise you as to when we will switch to winter uniform, depending upon the weather conditions. I am aware that this contradicts the letter recently issued, asking for girls to wear winter uniform for Open Day, but we are being led by the Great British weather!

May we please ask parents not to attend school during the day to watch their daughters' lessons, particularly those outside activities, such as horse riding, as this can be distracting for the girls.

A reminder that parents accessing school property, must be signed in and accompanied at all times, in line with our Safeguarding procedures. The safety of our girls is paramount and we must be particularly vigilant as we have an open campus. We would be most grateful for your co-operation with this matter.

Mrs Vallantine, Deputy Principal

NEW FORM CAPTAINS IN UPPER PREP

In Upper Prep this week we have elected our new Form Captains. Congratulations to Alice Granea and Esme Scanlan in Year 6; Lauren Freitas and Beau Hagan in Year 7 and Issy Barnes and Amelia Finch Mitchell in Year 8.



SWIMMING SISTERS' SUCCESS

Last Saturday Bethany and Gemma Collins competed in their club's annual International Swimming Gala. This year the Greven team travelled from Germany to Crowborough. It is always a great gala and the Germans really enjoyed their weekend away in Sussex. The Beacon team won and there were many medals given out. Well done girls!



U11 A & B NETBALL V BURGESS HILL

Our U11's played their first matches of the season against Burgess Hill on Wednesday. The A team played some excellent netball, with good court organisation and passing. The first 3 quarters were very even but Burgess Hill pulled away in the final quarter to win the match by 9 goals to 3. Player of the game was awarded to Camryn Gibson, in Goal Defence.

The B Team played a super game and narrowly lost by 5 goals to 6. Our team dominated possession, with some lovely phases of passing play and we had plenty of shooting opportunities. Player of this game was awarded to Millie McKay in Goal Attack.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Saturday 24 September

Open Morning and Equestrian Centre Opening –
(Girls in school from 8.25am–3.00pm)

Monday 26 September

9.00am U16 National Hockey Tournament
Eastbourne College

Tuesday 27 September

3.00pm U15 Hockey v Battle Abbey (a)
6.00pm **SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING**

Wednesday 28 September

3.00pm U10 & U11 Hockey v Claremont (a)

Thursday 29 September

5.30pm Eastbourne College Invitational Gala (Yr 3-6)
Sovereign Centre, Eastbourne

Friday 30 September

8.00am Nursery Parent Representatives Meeting

A MESSAGE FROM MR CRUM

Do please remember that the Open Day commences at the normal school start time 8.25am and finishes at the earlier time of 3pm. We are following the Week A Monday timetable for lessons 1-5 and we will miss out the activity session for the day.

As well as what is set to be a great event on Saturday, I also want to bring your attention to the Sixth Form Open Evening on Tuesday 27th September. All Year 10 and 11 are invited to attend, and we encourage you to do so. It's tempting for existing students to think that they know the school, but the Sixth Form marks a significant shift in life at Moira House and this is a fantastic opportunity to gain a better insight into Sixth Form life.

Mr Crum, Assistant Headteacher

HOCKEY ROUND-UP

U15 v Lewes Old Grammar School 0–5

Well done to the girls for their commitment in the first match of the season. We played a strong LOGs team who had two club players that dominated the match. Katy-Anne Burr led a determined defence who never gave up. Well done to Jessica Frisby for stepping up to play in goal where she made some fine saves. The midfield and defence never gave up showing a real 'can do' attitude as the match progressed.

U13 v Claremont 0–1

In their second match the team continued to build on their sturdy defence, supportive midfield and nippy attack. Jasmine Wright again played in goal and made some fine saves. Megan Lee and sisters Grace and Darcey Russell showed great pace and tenacity at the back to keep out the Claremont attack. On her debut match Eleanor Finch Mitchell was played some clever through balls to Cheyenna in attack. Eastbourne club player Pippa Carrington showed why she is a regular in the 'chicks' side as she sliced through the opposition.

U18 v Claremont 2-2

In their first match the Year 11–13 girls showed great potential as a team. In defence Lauren Davison played a pivotal role in defence stealing ball after ball and directing the play to midfielders Chloe Hughes, Annie Smith and Poppy Horne. Up front Jade Buck made some excellent runs and star goalkeeper Sorrel Jordan again showed great determination to clear a number of strong shots.

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