



# Moir House

## Girls School

EASTBOURNE

## STRANDS

ISSUE 4 AUTUMN TERM 2017

### NEWS FROM PRE-PREP

**Student Council Reps** - Congratulations to Erin Hillyer, Alice Raeburn and Felicity Stone who have been selected as the Student Council members for the Pre-Prep. The girls will be involved in School Council meetings and will be responsible for gathering ideas from the Pre-Prep.



### RECEPTION

The Reception girls have settled in brilliantly to school life at Moira House. Our current Learning Journey is 'Marvellous Me' and we have been enjoying getting to know each other, making self portraits and talking about our likes and dislikes. The girls have enjoyed getting stuck in to all aspects of school life and especially enjoyed the visit from the Year 1 girls who came to share the stories they had written with them.



### YEAR 1

Year 1 have been busy writing their own stories about a lost toy, taking inspiration from 'Dogger' by Shirley Hughes and 'Knuffle Bunny' by Mo Willems.



Our budding authors then enjoyed reading their own stories to the girls in Reception. Sydney said she was a little nervous before going in but really enjoyed reading to her friends.



### YEAR 2

Year 2 have been learning about Medieval castles as part of their topic work. The girls have designed their own coat of arms and used the design to make these shields.

### INTRODUCING THE BOARDERS' CHOIR

Last Friday, the Boarders made history by coming together and creating their very own Boarders' Choir. It was a very momentous occasion and was great to see so many excited and enthusiastic boarders coming together to create something very special. Mrs Wheatley led the choir with the help of Daisy Ai on the piano and Jade Fenton teaching the beautiful harmonies. Miss Lewis, Miss Talkington and Mrs T were also on hand and enjoyed the sing along too.

We are hoping to perform to everyone very soon so watch this space! Not only is singing great for the soul but it brings people closer together. On Friday night the boarding house was alive with the sound of music! The Boarders' Choir will take place every Friday from 6.30pm - 7.30pm.



## EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES

On Tuesday 26 September, Years 6, 7 and 8 celebrated the European Day of Languages. The Library staff produced some beautiful displays in the lead up to the day to get everyone thinking about the rich diversity of languages.

The students were treated to a number of language-based activities including a set of language logic puzzles, a general knowledge quiz in the form of a game show, a taster Russian lesson and to finish, a poster-designing competition entitled, "Why Learn Languages"? In true MoHo style, all year groups participated very enthusiastically. It was impressive to see how good both their levels of deduction and their ability to relate one language to another were.

All of the activities were hotly contested and the winning Pyramid will be announced once the poster competition has been judged.

Thanks go to Mr O'Reilly, our Spanish and Latin teacher and Mrs Westwood, our Spanish and EAL teacher who both helped to make the morning's events a great success.

*Madame McNamara, French and Latin Teacher*



## WELCOME TO HARRY

We are very pleased to welcome handsome Harry this week as a new addition to our Equestrian Centre.

Harry is a Registered New Forest Pony and he is settling in nicely with his stable-mates. He will be joining the riding lessons in the next few weeks.

## A MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

Dear Parents

Well done to all the girls who performed brilliantly in the Eastbourne Schools Partnership Gala Concert at the Winter Gardens on Monday evening; it was such a treat listening to them. Thank you to Dr Swingle Putland for organising the whole event and for giving the girls this opportunity which allowed us to raise funds for Chestnut Tree House. I am grateful to all the members from the Moira House community who attended to support the girls.

Thank you to everyone who returned their parent surveys a couple of weeks ago; these are now being analysed. As you know, Roedean staff and students have also been in Moira House on a couple of occasions to visit the school to get to know us. We will start doing the same from next week, with a group of our School Knights and Captains visiting Roedean on Thursday. Our Senior Leaders will also visit Roedean and Deepdene to share good practice. A parent meeting with Mr Oliver Blond, Executive Head, and myself will take place on Monday 9 October at 7.30pm. The aim of the meeting is to share with you findings from the surveys and visits that have been taken place since the beginning of term. I hope you can all join us.

From today, I am meeting with all form groups in the school. I am looking forward to hearing from the girls about their experiences, what they like in the school and what could be improved! I know the younger girls will mention the playground at the back of Boston; we are working hard to get it refurbished as soon as possible. I am pleased to report that the issues we had in the Nursery Garden have been resolved and it is now back in use for the children.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend after Open Day.

*Mrs Elodie Vallantine*  
Head of School

## NEWS FROM OUR STUDENT HEAD OF BOARDING, CAITLIN EMERSON

The boarding community in Moira House is a constantly evolving family, and reconciling with girls from all over the world after a long summer apart is always an exciting start to the school year. Welcoming new girls into our midst is also exciting, and getting to know each other through games and a picnic as part of our Cuckmere induction event ensured we were all as close as ever, and that our new girls immediately felt a part of our boarding life.

Of course, it is difficult to resist being a part of boarding life once you are here - having refurbished our common rooms, thanks to the prefects' excellent interior design choices on a trip to Ikea, the constant communal activities running in the evenings for our girls including Knitting Nights, Hot Chocolate Evenings, and Film Night Friday, are always a great way to come together across all age groups. These friendships seem to inevitably lead to new opportunities and clubs, including the newly launched Boarding Choir, which promises yet another avenue for our girls to bond, excel, learn, and most importantly, enjoy themselves. It is this creative and dramatic streak I cannot wait to watch in School House's production in celebration of the Moon Festival this weekend, an event which will epitomise the friendships constantly built in boarding, friendships that span culture, language, and age to put together a creative and enjoyable piece of theatre.



## FOCUS ON ACTIVITIES

### DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

Congratulations to the following girls who have received their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Awards in assembly on Wednesday; Georgia Harris-Moss, Natalya Chance, Lana Harffey-Burkhill and Maisie Gibbs. Many more girls have nearly finished their awards, so please encourage them to get everything uploaded onto the Duke of Edinburgh website.

Parents should have received this year's Duke of Edinburgh Award booklet by MoHo mail this week, and the Award was promoted in assembly. If your child would like to take part please contact me for further information at [ddodd@moirahouse.co.uk](mailto:ddodd@moirahouse.co.uk)



### EASTBOURNE SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP GALA CONCERT

On Monday night, 48 MoHo students from Years 4-13 opened the show beautifully at the Winter Gardens. The evening was to both showcase local talent and to raise much needed funds for Chestnut Tree House.



Our students performed three songs from the musical Wicked: 'For Good', 'One Short Day' and 'What is this Feeling'. The Year 4 & 5 girls danced and acted while the older girls gave vocal support. It was a perfect example of how our students work together and support each other. This collaborative effort was best exemplified by the rousing finale of Madonna's 'Like a Prayer'.

### A BIG DRAMA IN YEAR 5!

The girls in Year 5 are currently studying the mystery novel, Varjak Paw.



In their lessons this week they have re-enacted the Family Council to explore how Varjak would be feeling and have used their drama to help them to write persuasively.



### A SERIOUS SHOPPING SPREE

Last Saturday, a team of prefects and senior girls set out to visit IKEA, with Mrs T, Miss Lewis and Miss Talkington. This was an opportunity for the girls to choose items to brighten up the boarding house communal areas. They had discussed in advance, very democratically, how they would like to spend their budget. Top of both lists were plants, and although Boston House considered the fake variety, in the end they settled upon some low maintenance cacti. There were also plenty of photo frames, coffee tables and cushions chosen, all of which will enable the girls to put their own stamp on their houses and make them feel more homely. A great day was had by the whole group and the girls are pleased with their new additions.



## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

## WEEK B

## SATURDAY 30 SEPTEMBER

- 8.25am **WHOLE SCHOOL OPEN MORNING (3pm finish)**  
 12.30pm U12 Netball at Burgess Hill - CANCELLED

## WEEK A

## MONDAY 2 OCTOBER

- 8.15am - Open Parent Coffee Morning, Pre-Prep & 8.45am  
 Nursery, Sitting Room  
 3.15pm U9 Netball v St Andrews (a)  
 5.30pm Swimming Gala at Roedean - Junior, Inter &  
 Senior Squads (late return)

## TUESDAY 3 OCTOBER

- 2.45pm U14A & U15A Netball v Buckswood (a)

## WEDNESDAY 4 OCTOBER

- 8.15am Senior Parent Reps Meeting, Sitting Room  
 2.45pm U10 & U11 Netball v Burgess Hill (a)  
 2.45pm U13 Hockey v Buckswood (a)

## THURSDAY 5 OCTOBER

- 8.15am - Open Parent Coffee Morning, Prep, Sitting  
 8.45am Room  
 3.00pm U16 Netball v Brighton & Hove High School (a)  
 4.30pm U18 Netball v Farlington (a) (late return)  
 6.00pm SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING, Boston House

## WEEK B

## MONDAY 9 OCTOBER

- 8.15am - Open Parent Coffee Morning, Seniors,  
 8.45am Sitting Room  
 1.05pm U9 Mini Tennis v Bede's (h)  
 5.30pm U13, U15 & U18 Swimming Gala v Ardingly (h)

## TUESDAY 10 OCTOBER

- Sixth Form Scholarship Assessments  
 2.30pm U13 & U15 Cross Country Cup, Worth School (a)  
 4.15pm U14 & B, U15A Netball v Benenden (a) (late return)

## WEDNESDAY 11 OCTOBER

- 8.15am Lower Prep Parent Reps Meeting, Sitting Room  
 11.00am ESSA Relay Qualifiers, Horsham (a)  
 2.30pm U11A Netball v Windlesham School (h)  
 2.45pm U10 Hockey v Skippers Hill (a)  
 3.00pm U12A Netball Knockout Cup, Burgess Hill (a)

## THURSDAY 12 OCTOBER

- 8.15am - Open Parent Coffee Morning, Sixth Form,  
 8.45am Sitting Room  
 2.45pm U18A & B Netball v Buckswood (h)  
 4.00pm U13 & U15 Indoor Rowing v Roedean (a)  
 5.30pm Prep-Prep & Lower Prep Parents' Evening, Boston  
 6.30pm U10&11 Swimming Gala at Sovereign Centre

## U12 &amp; U13 NETBALL v BUCKSWOOD

The U12 team had a brilliant match against Buckswood this week winning 32-0. The girls continued to go from strength to strength throughout the match, with some outstanding plays. The play was consistent throughout with strong defence from Alice Granea (who was awarded Girls of the Game) and fantastic shooting from Beth Beeby.

Our U13 team also provided Buckswood with a difficult game taking the lead quickly in the first quarter. The defensive play from Stephanie Vieira made it hard for Buckswood to score and excellent shooting from Teni Ogunlesi continued to extend our the lead. Well done Tia-Lana who was awarded Girl of the Game.

## U11 HOCKEY v CLAREMONT

Our U11 Hockey teams played Claremont in a 5-a-side festival tournament on Wednesday. The girls worked really hard with Gabriella Soars stepping into goal for the first time. We were kept in the game by brilliant defence from Beata Sperling-Tyler. Freya Mason and Zoe Whittington demonstrated strong captaincy skills with both teams. The girls had a mixture of wins, draws, and losses and showed true resilience throughout the matches. Great Job!

## GSA NETBALL AT CONDOVER HALL

Last weekend ten Year 9 girls participated in the annual GSA Netball Tournament at Condover Hall. The girls played fabulously with some brilliant team work and outstanding centre court work. The first day was extremely tiring as we played against big schools such as Whittington, St Catherine's, St Swithun's and Tormead. The girls' play was consistent but they really found their stride on Sunday where they won every match in their group and progressed to the semi finals. Sadly they lost in the semi-final in an extremely exciting and nail biting match. Megan Lee was the outstanding player of the tournament, being voted for by all of the umpires and coaches representing the 400 girls present. Pippa Carrington captained the team brilliantly and kept their heads high when the matches came down to the wire. Well done girls, you did yourselves and Moira House proud.



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