



# Moir House

## Girls School

EASTBOURNE

### STRANDS

ISSUE 1 SPRING TERM 2017

#### HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Welcome back to the start of the Spring Term. We hope that you have all had a restful break over the holidays and are raring to get on with the challenges that lie ahead.



**Moir House**  
Girls School  
EASTBOURNE

Open Morning  
Saturday 28 January 2017  
10.00am - 12.30pm

#### RIDING ROUND-UP

We have had a very busy Equestrian holiday with girls participating in many different events.



Well done to all our Moira House riders who competed at the Christmas Fun Show at Golden Cross. So many rosettes and some fantastic achievements.

Rosie Maynard-Watkin, Imogen Wells and Jemima Richenberg all won well earned prizes, while our older girls Maya Mustafa and Frankie Head jumped some of the bigger classes brilliantly, gaining really valuable experience.



Very well done to all of you!

On the hunting field Maisie Gibbs excelled, jumping the most enormous hedges in great style on our very own Jimmy!



Some of our younger riders, including Sophie Stevens, Fleur Quin and Rowenna Moss had their first gallop round Friston Forest on one of our Forest Hacks on a beautiful bright, sunny day. There were beaming smiles all the way home!

If you would like to book riding lessons, book Forest Hacks or purchase a Riding Gift Voucher for a family member, please contact our Stable Manager, Sarah Aspinall at: [saspinall@moirahouse.co.uk](mailto:saspinall@moirahouse.co.uk).

#### IMPORTANT REMINDERS

##### THURSDAY 19 JANUARY – PHOTOGRAPHS

Pret-a-Portrait will be in school to take individual and sibling photographs. Please ensure that your daughter is sent to school in her correct uniform.

##### SATURDAY 28 JANUARY - OPEN MORNING

8.25am start - normal school day with all girls in attendance.

3.00pm - Close (Minibuses leave)

## PARENT REPRESENTATIVE MEETINGS

The Parent Rep meetings for this term get underway from Monday 30 January, so please remember to get in touch with your Rep if you have any matters that you would like to raise. Your positive contributions are always most welcome. Dates as follows:

- Monday 30 January - Sixth Form
- Tuesday 31 January - Seniors
- Wednesday 1 February - Upper Prep
- Thursday 2 February - Lower Prep
- Friday 3 February - Pre Prep

Mrs Mackenzie, Head of PE, will be attendance at the Lower Prep Meeting on Thursday 2 February to answer any informal queries.

## STEPHANIE SERVES UP SUCCESSES



Many congratulations to Stephanie Vieira in Year 7 on her tennis achievements over the Christmas period.

She played in the Southampton Regional Christmas Tennis Tournament, where she reached two finals and finished runner-up in both the 12& Under and 14& Under girls competitions. Very well done Stephanie.

## A MESSAGE FROM MR CRUM

And so the new term has begun... It has been a hive of activity here as we make our preparations for the term ahead. Everyone is fired up for this crucial stage of the academic year, a time for consolidation and development of learning. Indeed our Year 11 and 13 have been taking their Mock exams which will provide the necessary 'oomph' to focus them on their summer exams, giving the opportunity for deep reflection on their learning and will allow teachers to plan personalised learning journeys to maximise each students' potential.

I wish to take the opportunity to remind everyone that our Open Day is on Saturday 28 January starting at the normal time but will finish early at 3pm. School minibuses will run as per normal in the morning and will depart school at the earlier time of 3pm. Normal curriculum lessons will be taught, so it is imperative that every effort is made for all students to attend.

The White Books have been distributed to students and a copy is also available on the website. In response to student and parent feedback there have been some changes to the lesson timetable. Please bear with us while the changes take effect.

Many thanks.

Mr Crum, Assistant Head

## A MESSAGE FROM THE ACTING PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents

I am delighted to be writing to you as Acting Principal of Moira House Girls School. I feel extremely honoured and privileged to have been chosen to continue to build upon the success the school has already achieved. Having worked at the school for nearly three years, I have built a strong relationship with all members of our community and understand what is needed to take the school forward in this new term.

My priority is to ensure that the school continues to provide an outstanding education for boarders and day girls. Indeed we have been ranked top in East Sussex across all schools, both selective and non-selective, for our percentage of students achieving grades A, A/B or higher in their A levels. This has enabled 100% of our girls to progress onto their first choice of course at their chosen University.

Our excellent interim Senior Leadership Team are ensuring that we keep up the great standards needed to meet all the needs of our girls to achieve their full potential in their academic, creative, personal, physical, moral and spiritual development.

On Monday, all staff had an Inset day including training on the new ISI inspection framework. As you know, we are due to have an inspection anytime now. When this is confirmed, you will be receiving a letter from the school informing you of the dates; at that stage, we will also be asking you to fill in parent questionnaires and so we would appreciate as many returns as possible on those.

Thank you to those of you who returned our school questionnaire at the end of last term. Time was also set aside on our Inset day for staff teams to read your comments, positive and constructive, and take any necessary actions to resolve any issues raised. Should you feel that one of your concerns has not been addressed, I would ask you to contact one of the members of the interim Senior Leadership Team (SLT) as we are keen to maintain a close partnership with parents.

For your reference the interim SLT are as follows:

- Mrs Elodie Vallantine - Acting Principal
- Mr Steve Crum - Assistant Head
- Mrs Cecy Kemp - Director of Studies Prep and Designated Safeguarding Lead
- Mrs Ollie Barber - Head of Teaching & Learning
- Mrs Tracey Bees - Head of Pre-Prep
- Dr Rebecca Swingle Putland - Head of Scholars, Director of Outreach & Pastoral Care
- Mrs Elizabeth Boonzaier - Business Manager
- Mr Graham James - Operations Manager

I look forward to seeing you all at our many events in the coming weeks.

Mrs Elodie Vallantine  
Acting Principal

## MORE SWIMMING SUCCESS

On Saturday 17 December, Michaela competed in the Hillingdon SC Winter Open Meet 2016. Michaela swam 50m freestyle and 100m backstroke, achieving the East Region qualifying time of 31.03 secs in her 50m freestyle and winning a gold medal. In 100m backstroke Michaela took nearly 3 seconds off her personal best!

The following day, Michaela decided to compete again in the 100m backstroke in an attempt to obtain the regional qualifier. She raced at the Basildon and Phoenix SC Last Chance County qualifiers meet, achieving another PB of 1.19.40, narrowly missing the qualifier by 1 second but winning a silver medal.



## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### WEEK A

#### MONDAY 16 JANUARY

#### TUESDAY 17 JANUARY

2.45pm U15 A & B Netball v Lancing (h)

#### WEDNESDAY 18 JANUARY

12.00pm Sussex Schools Cross Country, Brighton Rugby Ground (Years 8-13)

1.30pm U12 Netball Tournament at Bedes, The Dicker  
2.45pm U11 A & B Netball v LOGS (a)

#### THURSDAY 19 JANUARY

Individual & Sibling School Photographs

2.45pm U18 A & B Netball v Bedes (h)  
5.00pm Volleyball v Bedes, Years 11-13 (h)  
7.00pm MHA Meeting

#### FRIDAY 20 JANUARY

### WEEK B

#### MONDY 23 JANUARY

5.45pm U8,9,11 & 13 Swimming Gala v Battle Abbey (a)

#### TUESDAY 24 JANUARY

2.45pm U15 A & B Netball v Claremont

#### WEDNESDAY 25 JANUARY

8.00am GCSE Art & Photography Trip to London  
2.30pm U11 A & B Netball v Battle Abbey (h)

#### THURSDAY 26 JANUARY

Scholarship & Exhibition Assessments & Interviews Years 3-10  
2.45pm U18 A & B Netball v Buckswood (h)  
3.00pm U9 Netball v Skippers Hill (h)  
5.15pm Volleyball v Rikkyo (h)

#### FRIDAY 27 JANUARY

Scholarship & Exhibition Assessments & Interviews Years 3-10

#### SATURDAY 28 JANUARY

Scholarship & Exhibition Assessments & Interviews Years 3-10  
8.25am All Girls in School—Open Morning (until 3.00pm)  
1.30pm Lacrosse v Worth School (h)



Teni Ogunlesi took part in the Basildon Last Chance County Qualifying Gala on 17 & 18 December. She appeared very focused on the starting blocks. Her reward came when she picked up two Santa Claus designed silver medals in 50m Fly and 50m Back. She achieved a personal best in most of her races and sprinted victoriously to pick up another impressive

Regional qualifying time for 50m back. Well done Teni on achieving a total of two Regional Qualifying times in 50m Freestyle and 50m Backstroke.

## U13 NETBALL v BEDES

The U13 Netball team had their first match of the New Year against Bedes on Wednesday. The teams were very evenly matched and the girls worked extremely hard with outstanding defence. Girl of the game was Bronwen Trowhill, but all girls should be commended for their efforts. Sadly, Moira House lost but the future looks extremely promising.

We have plenty of forthcoming fixtures across the school and parental support is always most welcome, whether we are home or away, please feel free to come along and cheer for us! Also, don't forget to join us for the annual **MHA Netball tournament on 4 February (12.00pm - 2pm)** - the more the merrier!

*Get social with us...*



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