

Word from the Head

14 June 2024

Dear Parents,

With internal exams completed and public exams slowly but surely coming to an end, we are now looking forward to Enrichment Week. The programme is an exciting mixture of activities and I would like to wish all pupils and staff a wonderful week with many new experiences. This is especially true for those going on residential trips. We know how important these shared memories are for our pupils and they will talk about them for many years to come. Taking trips is no small feat and I would also like to express my thanks to all of our staff for giving up their time to accompany your children.

Once we are back from the various activities that take place next week we immediately jump into preparation for Founders' Day, Saturday 29 June. It is a uniquely Channing tradition and a wonderful opportunity for the whole community to come together. I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents that Founders' Day is a compulsory day for all pupils and, in turn, the school is closed on Monday I July.

Whilst it might seem that the academic year is coming to an end, we are certainly not slowing down. In fact, we are introducing you today to our new Parent Portal. I will therefore keep this Word from the (Deputy) Head short and would ask you to pay particular attention to Mr Grossman's letter below. It explains the details of this new portal as well as giving you the all important joining instructions.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Freddie Meier Deputy Head

Dear Parents.

As we approach the end of another school year, I wanted to share with you some news regarding the way we communicate with you, and in particular your child's end of year academic report. I am excited to announce the launch of our new Parent Portal, an online platform powered by Firefly and designed to enhance communication.

We understand the importance of clear and accessible information about your child's academic progress and life at school. However, we also recognise that navigating the current online platform for reports can be challenging. We want to make accessing key information about your child a seamless and user-friendly experience.

The new Parent Portal addresses this need and offers several significant benefits:

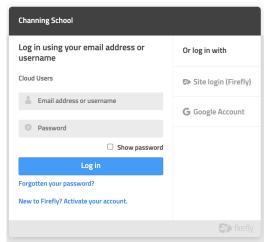
- **Enhanced Communication:** The new Parent Portal will provide a centralised platform for accessing all school communications, including your child's progress reports, upcoming events, and important school news.
- Improved User Experience and Accessibility: The new Parent Portal boasts a user-friendly interface, making it easy to find the information you need quickly and efficiently. It will be accessible both on desktop and laptop computers, and on all tablets and mobile devices through a dedicated app. This allows you to access your child's information on the go, whenever it's most convenient for you.
- Streamlined Information Retrieval: No more searching through emails or the school
 website. With the new Parent Portal, key information such as important documents,
 upcoming deadlines, and past reports will be readily available in one easy to search location.
 This not only saves you time but also allows you to easily track your child's progress over
 time.
- Personalised Information Management: The Parent Portal grants you access to specific information pertaining to your child. You will also be able to easily update details such as contact information, medical information and emergency contacts, ensuring everyone has the most recent

Getting Started with the Parent Portal:

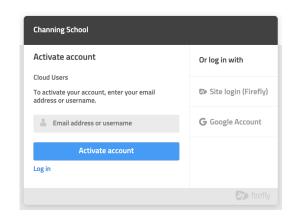
information.

To access the Parent Portal, please follow these simple steps:

Click on the link below:
 Channing Firefly Parent Portal.
 This will take you to the Parent Portal login page:

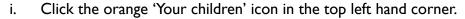


- 2. Click 'New to Firefly? Activate your account.', at the bottom of the menu, then enter the existing email address you have provided to the school when prompted, and click 'Activate account'.
- 3. You will receive an email asking you to create a password for your account.
- 4. Once you have created your account, please log in to the Parent Portal using the link above, and check that your username and password work.











- ii. Select the child's name you wish to view.
- This will take you to your child's profile page. Click on the tab labelled 'Documents': iii. this is where your child's final academic report for 2023-24 will appear on the last day of term.

If you wish to use the mobile app, please visit your app store and download the 'Firefly for Parents' app (blue icon), and use the app code: **CHANNING**. For help with this, click here.



Dashboard

Your Children

If you encounter any difficulties setting up your account or navigating the platform, please don't hesitate to contact the dedicated IT Support Team at helpdesk it@channing.co.uk. The team is available to assist you and ensure a smooth transition to the new platform. For more detailed instructions and a video walkthrough of how to use Firefly's many features as a parent, please click here.

Next academic year we will be adding more features and information to the Parent Portal and improving our communication with you further, but for now please feel free to explore and familiarise yourself with the platform.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Dan Grossman Director of Digital Learning and Technology

Notices

Requests for help from the Careers Department:

Work Insight Volunteers - Friday 21 June

Could your organisation offer a Work Insight visit for some Year 10 students on the morning of Friday 21 June 2024? We've only received half the number of visit spaces we need to accommodate all Year 10 students. Small groups of students, accompanied by a member of staff, spend some time in a workplace, finding out about the world of work. Sometimes organisations ask pupils to complete a pre-visit task, and the visit itself might include a site or office tour, discussions with employees and a work-based simulated group activity. We are particularly looking for visits to organisations involved in law; business services; the creative sector; retail and those where foreign languages are critical. Please get in touch by completing this form.

Careers Convention - Thursday 20 June

Offers of help are also still needed for the afternoon careers fair and networking session on Thursday 20 June. If you, or someone from your organisation, could spend a couple of hours talking with students in an informal way about your career and ways to get into your sector, we would love to still hear from you. If you are a parent new to Channing, or have not volunteered before, please do so here.

Channing Association News

Second Hand Uniform sale - Monday 24 June

We will be holding a second hand uniform sale on Monday 24 June 3-4pm in Founders' Hall. Parents/guardians and students are all welcome to attend. We prefer card payments but do accept cash as well.

Donations of clean, gently used uniform can be left with the school office until Monday 24 June. No non uniform items and no shoes/coats please. This is a great opportunity for year 11 families to start clearing out uniform before your girls move to year 12 in September.

Channing Association Open Positions - Secretary and Co-chairs

Our secretary Caroline Kent will be stepping down at the end of this school year and we would like to thank her for all her help over the last two years. The CA is looking for a new secretary to start in September. The position involves taking minutes at CA meetings (5 meetings a year in total). Additionally, the CA are looking for a new co-chair to join Ms Menendez and Ms Bennington for the next school year.

If you are interested in becoming more involved with the CA and would like to help with either the secretary or co-chair positions please get in touch with Alex Bennington or Lucy Menendez directly on Classlist.

Year 13 Leavers

The CA were very happy to present our outgoing class of 2023 with Channing Bears as a memento of their time at Channing, we wish the girls all the best for the next stage of their lives. We would also like to say a huge thank you to the Year 13 parents who have organised the leavers' party for the girls on Saturday 22nd June.

We hope exams are going well for everyone, thank you for your support this year and we wish you all a relaxing summer break.

Who Should I Contact?

Please use this document to find contact details for members of school staff:

Who should I contact 2024.pdf

Chatting with Channing: Navigating the Admissions Process

Listen on:

- Spotify
- Apple Podcasts
- Channing website



Rosie Gilleece, Channing School's dedicated Registrar. Rosie oversees every aspect of the <u>admissions</u> process across both the Junior and Senior schools. Join us as we dive into her journey into admissions, the unique aspects of Channing's admissions process, and the common questions prospective parents have. Rosie shares insights into what drew her to the world of admissions and how her background in analytical science has equipped her for the role. She gives a detailed overview of the admissions timeline, from the initial inquiry to the final offer letter, and explains the different intakes at Channing, including the main entry points at 4+, 11+, and 16+.

Rosie also highlights the importance of getting to know each prospective student personally, through one-on-one interviews and comprehensive assessments. This episode is packed with valuable information for parents considering Channing School for their child and offers a behind-the-scenes look at what makes the admissions process at Channing unique.

Tune in to "Chatting with Channing" to hear more about how Rosie and her team ensure a seamless and supportive experience for every applicant.

Lauderdale House: Pride and Prejudice in Words and Music

Alumna, **Leora Cohen** (Class of 2017) will be performing in the *Pride and Prejudice in Words and Music* event at Lauderdale House on Wednesday 22 June, as well as at other venues in Cambridge this summer. Please go along, it is sure to be an event not to be missed!





Girls Enjoying Success

English News

This week in English, 8MH read 'The Monkey's Paw' by W.W. Jacobs - a classic horror story that warns readers of the dangers of tampering with fate and urges us to consider the unintended consequences of our actions and desires.

If your child enjoyed this story, Ms Ramsden and Dr Hayward also recommend reading the following:

<u>'The Tell-tale Heart'</u> by Edgar Allan Poe
<u>Tales of Terror</u> by Chris Priestley
<u>Monsters: The passion and loss that created Frankenstein</u> by Sharon Dogar



STEM News

National Scientific Thinking Challenge

In May, all Year 10 students took part in the National Scientific Thinking Challenge during one of their Science lessons. The challenge was developed by a

group of friends from six different university Chemistry Departments (Warwick, Southampton, Bristol, Newcastle, Manchester and Oxford Universities). The questions do not require recall of taught material; instead, the students have to look at data, graphs and text and make deductions, spot trends, suggest hypotheses and identify anomalous results. Well done to all Year 10 for taking part; there were some impressive results across the cohort.



Particular congratulations go to the following students who gained gold awards and were in the top 10% nationally:

Diya B, Lillia H, Ava N, Anna R-B, Valeria D, Kiki T, Anya J, Rana M, Amelie R and Kira S. Congratulations also goes to the following students who gained silver awards and were in the top 25% nationally:

Aria B, Rachel C, Ella C, Daisy L, Alexa L-B, Eleanor M, Rose B, Siana C, Allegra L, Yutao W, Daisy A, Cristina C, Dinah G, Bella K and Tabitha W.

And finally, congratulations to the following students who gained bronze awards and were in the top 40% nationally:

Darcy G, Isla M, Tal M, Yuli O, Kaia T, Saara T, Bea A, Carlotta B P, Ella F and Sasha M.

Teen Tech

We are immensely proud of all the students who took part this year. The judges have been blown away by the high standard of the entries and the amount of work students have put into their ideas. This year two Channing teams' projects were judged as Gold standard. Anna G and Finn C-B from Year 9 created an app 'Batter Up ". They have made it to this year's Teen Tech Finals. We are busy preparing our videos and posters for the final and wish team **Batter UP** all the best.



LAMDA News



Here are collages of the students who performed in the Tuesday Evening Showcase. The recordings of both evenings are now available on the school performance website here.

You can enjoy their wonderfully contrasting performances, with by turns hilarious comic timing and complex, mature expression of emotions. Bravo and congratulations to all 64 performers.

Channing Archive

In case you were wondering how or if The Bank might have changed over the years, you needn't wonder any longer: here is a photo from circa. 1885-1900. And yes, that is Channing House on the corner!







channing_school







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