



Dear Parents,

It was wonderful to see so many of you here in school last Saturday to celebrate our 139th anniversary as a school. It was a truly joyful occasion and I was so proud to see your children performing, demonstrating and showing you all that they have achieved this year.

Founders' Day provides us with a vital opportunity to celebrate what makes our school special and I enjoyed writing a speech to do just that, particularly as I was in the presence of two former Headmistresses, Ms Radice and Mrs Elliott. As I said in the speech, in this past year, we have faced significant challenges as a school community: pupils, parents and staff. I am enormously proud that in the face of those challenges we have honed our capacity for tolerance and understanding. We have navigated diverse perspectives, celebrated individual differences and fostered a spirit of inclusivity that binds us together as a school family.

It gave me real pleasure to give you a brief glimpse into the world of partnerships we have developed over the last few years. If you did not have a chance to join us on Saturday, I hope you will be able to take a moment to watch this now: [Partnership Slideshow Video 24.mp4](#) . In addition I am delighted to present the Partnership booklet, which provides an overview of partnership work that students and colleagues have been involved in over the course of the year with local schools and organisations. We look forward to having even more Channing students involved in the partnership work which provides invaluable opportunities to develop skills and engage with our diverse community: [Partnership Booklet 2024 .pdf](#) .



The importance of Founders' day is underlined by making it the moment we present the Rosslyn Hill Chapel Award. This is given each year on Founders' Day to a student that:

- Has had significant impact on a charitable cause
- Demonstrates selflessness and compassion
- Has made an obvious difference to the community in some way
- Embodies the Channing Unitarian ethos.

I am delighted to say that this year the award will be shared between three students for their outstanding commitment to our Communitas: they are Ruby Caller, Ella Darbari and Leila Levinson.

It was also a chance to remind everyone why educating girls is such a special endeavour. Everything we do at Channing is designed for girls. We take our mission of educating the women of tomorrow really seriously, cultivating well-rounded individuals, prepared to not only give their best academically, but also to navigate the complexities of the world that awaits them. They also

get the excitement and achievement which comes from taking on every leadership role, offering opinions in every debate, captaining every team and running every activity. I hope that when they leave Channing they will take it as expected, their right, that they should continue to enjoy all of these things and, most importantly, they will have the tools to make themselves heard.

On Saturday you heard me read the poem 'Legacy', by Rupi Kaur.

i stand
on the sacrifices
of a million women before me
thinking
what can i do
to make this mountain taller
so the women after me
can see farther



This is what I want for them, that they should not be daunted to climb that mountain, and that their ambition once there should be to think only about how to improve it. Growing up in, and heading into the wider world from, a school like Channing gives them the power to do that: we equip them with the tools to be capable, strong and resilient women, who have no reason to compromise themselves or their dreams for the future.

While the outside world remains unequal and attitudes which marginalise and belittle women persist, there is still plenty of work to be done. As I said on Saturday, it's work we embrace wholeheartedly to ensure that they will leave Channing ready to express themselves, stand up for their rights and beliefs, and persuade others of their position.

I am very excited that in January 2025, on the 140th anniversary of the founding of the school, we will publish our new 10 year strategy, a vision for Channing 2035. It is quite deliberate that we have been this ambitious, looking forward to what we want for the Channing School which will turn 150 in that year. The classes of 2035, 2036 and 2037 are already in the school, in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. We have found it exhilarating, challenging and, at times, deliberately uncomfortable, to think about what the world may look like and what the students of the future might need from us and their education. During the course of the Autumn term there will be opportunities for you to hear more about our thinking and the tools we believe the Channing students of the next decade need to navigate the complexities of the future.

At this point I want to thank and say farewell to those staff who will be leaving us at the end of this academic year. Mr Thomas has been with us in the Maths department for less than a year but he has certainly enlivened our existence and we wish him the very best in his next adventure. In the Junior School we bid farewell to two of our form teachers, Miss Walker and Miss Bharucha, who return home to New Zealand and India respectively after two happy years at Channing. Thank you for all you have contributed to the life of the school in your short time with us.

Our Senior School counsellor, Abisola, leaves us after three years in post to develop her professional practice beyond school. I know that hundreds of girls owe her a debt of gratitude for her time and patience in helping them navigate the difficult times in their lives with her trademark

deep compassion and skill. I know that she will be equally missed by her colleagues, who value her calm and thoughtful company.

Likewise Miss Leighton has had an impact on hundreds of Senior School girls through her LAMDA teaching since she joined the school in 2016. An actor herself, her teaching always enhanced the confidence and performances of Year 8 and Year 9 as they prepared for their exams. Having relocated out of London during her maternity leave, she has made the decision to focus on family life for now. Both Abisola and Amy both go with our very best wishes for the future.

We say goodbye also to Mrs McEwen, who has been a teaching assistant in the Junior School since 2015: she will be sorely missed by girls and staff alike. Ever resourceful, always caring and thoughtful, and with a warm sense of humour much enjoyed by her colleagues, we are sorry that your time with us has come to an end. However we wish you every happiness in the future and hope you will keep in touch.

Frau Stöckmann has been teaching German at Channing for an extraordinary 28 years. Instilling a love of the language and culture in generations of Channing girls, she is a warm and generous colleague who is much loved in return. She is utterly deserving of a long and happy retirement in the company of her family and friends. We thank you for your commitment and hard work over a long and successful career: you go with our love and best wishes.

Finally, Miss Watts is retiring as a visiting piano teacher after 41 years of teaching at Channing, having joined us in September 1983. It is a quite phenomenal achievement to work in a school for that length of time. I cannot begin to thank her enough for the extraordinary impact she has had on the lives of countless pianists and the wider life of the music department in that time and we wish her the very best for a long and happy retirement too.



After the excitement of Founders' Day you might think that we'd take it easy for the final three and a half days of term - but not a bit of it! Year 10 smashed their Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award expeditions, enjoyed a trip to the British Library and then took on their (soon to be) roles as leaders of the school during their days as Sixth Formers. Mr Gittins' gave a moving and inspiring assembly on the history of LGBT rights in the UK as part of our celebrations of Pride month and, of course, we had our very own mock general election. The results were hotly anticipated and the school was agog in Mark Reading this morning as I announced the standings:

Reform 1.4%
SNP 4.5%
Conservative 16.7%
Green 19.2%
Labour 20.2%
Lib Dem 37.4%

The Lib Dems were the winners in 4 of the 6 constituencies who voted. Year 7 had the highest turnout with 92% of the year group voting, and overall 595 votes were cast representing a turnout of 87% - higher than any general election in history!

It feels somehow fitting that we reach the end of a tumultuous year on the day after a General Election which is likely to have a profound impact on the future of the country and, of course, on

our school. You may imagine I shall be watching developments like a hawk, and will be communicating with you as soon as we know more about what the new Labour government really means for us.

In the meantime, then, thank you for your continued support of the school and of your children. I wish you all a happy and relaxing summer holiday and look forward to an exciting year ahead.

With warmest wishes,

Mrs Lindsey Hughes
Headmistress

Notices

Save the date for the Parents' Welcome Evenings in September:

Thursday 5 September: Year 7 - 17:30 - 18:45

Thursday 5 September: Year 12 - 18:00 - 19:15

Wednesday 11 September: Year 10 - 18:00 - 19:15

Thursday 12 September: Year 9 - 18:00 - 19:15

Wednesday 18 September : Year 8 - 18:00 - 19:15

New Parent Portal

Instruction regarding the new Parent Portal can be found [here](#) in the 14 June edition of Word from the Head.

Provisional Drama, Music & Sport Extra & Co-curricular Activities - Autumn Term Timetable 2024 - 25

[Provisional Drama, Music & Sport Extra & Co-curricular Activities - Autumn Term Time...](#)

GSA 150th Anniversary Survey

We are working with the Girls' Schools Association (GSA) to understand the ways in which attending a same-sex school equips girls for success in both their personal and professional lives beyond their academic years. As part of this, the GSA has asked member schools to invite parents to complete a survey. This survey will take around 10 minutes and will ask you questions about your/your child's experience of same-sex schools and their benefits. There is also an opportunity for you to share your views on how same-sex schools could better support pupils in making better-informed choices about their future. Staff and pupils will also be completing their own questionnaires.

We would really appreciate it if you were able to complete this survey. All responses will remain anonymous and will be used to better understand how to support pupils and families in GSA schools. Please click below to access the survey:

<https://impacted.typeform.com/GSAparents>

The window for this survey is open until the end of July. Thank you.



Young Art Exhibition

The 2024 Young Art Exhibition raised an amazing £80,000. Every penny will go to support vital research into childhood cancer at the Institute for Child Health, GOSH.

ARTiculation Prize

Miss Ward would like to invite students to enter the ARTiculation Prize. Those in Sixth Form next year are challenged with the task of writing and presenting a 7-10 minute talk on an artwork or building of their choice. If interested, please use the QR code on the poster to find out more and to sign up to the Channing internal heat using the GoogleForm by Friday 6 September. You have the Summer to research and explore - so have fun delving into the world of art and architecture!



Channing's Summer Holidays Wildlife Photography Competition

Every year there is a National Wildlife Photo of the year competition ([link](#)) run by the National History Museum and the British Wildlife Photo of the Year Awards ([link](#)) So we thought we would run our own summer competition. There are 2 age categories: Years 7-9 and Years 9-13. The photograph has to be of animals/plants in the wild (not a pet). Each photograph needs a caption to explain what, when and where the photo was taken. Entries must be emailed to swalker@channing.co.uk by Friday 6 September.

The best photos will be displayed on the Eco Board and prizes will be given for the top 3 entries in each age bracket. Happy Snapping!

Padel comes to Crouch End



Lauderdale House

Theatre, live music and fun for all the family at Lauderdale House this summer Lauderdale House is kicking off their outdoor summer season in style with performances of Shakespeare's 'Much Ado About Nothing'. Presented by the East London Shakespeare Festival, they are bringing their trademark twists to this sparkling rom-com for a modern,

festival-like performance full of sun-soaked mischief and audience participation for the whole family. You can also join beforehand for a kid friendly mask-making workshop with the actors. Wednesday 10 and Thursday 11 July, 7.30pm. Tickets from £15.50. Family ticket (2 adults + 2 children): £46.

Book here: <https://www.lauderdalehouse.org.uk/whats-on/much-ado-about-nothing>

Also do have a look at the August Thursday outdoor music – Latin inspired guitarists Rios & King with Cuban violinist Omar Punte on 1st August, gypsy jazz with Latchepen on 8th and the iconic John Etheridge and Vimala Rowe with their unique blend of jazz classics and African and Hindustani inspired jazz.

<https://www.lauderdalehouse.org.uk/whats-on/open-air-summer-season>



Girls Enjoying Success

CHANNING

STEM News

Year 12 Biology Field Trip

On 13-14 June Year 12 Biology students went to Epping Forest to learn about field work techniques and to complete a required practical assessment.

On day one, we began with setting up mammal traps in pairs around a woodland area. We were shown how to place them in hidden spots to maximise chances of a catch. We then moved to a site called Pillow Mounds to carry out an investigation into the relationship between soil compaction and the abundance of a plant species. Back in the classroom we used Spearman's Rank correlation coefficient to determine the significance of the relationship between the two variables. At the end of the day, we returned to the woodland area to check on our mammal traps. We were fortunate to catch a little vole which we named Lucky! It was safely released and the group watched it scurry back into the woods.



On the second day we use the capture-mark-release recapture method to calculate the woodlouse population size. We also carried out a required practical where we investigated the difference in plant height between two areas in the forest - one with high light intensity and one with low light intensity. This allowed us to practise the student t-test we had been learning in lessons on the data we collected, which provided an engaging real-life example of our in-class learning. Finally, we were led on a fascinating succession tour of Epping Forest by our instructor Oli, who explained the history of the trees and the different seral stages. Overall, this was a really enjoyable trip where we

managed to enjoy some sunshine and time outdoors, as well as putting our A Level knowledge into practice.

Sophie L and Aimee R Year 12

Enrichment Week News

Year 7



Legoland

On Tuesday all of Year 7 had the opportunity to go to Legoland and enjoy some of the activities and rides on offer. The students had a great time and even convinced some of the teachers to go on the rides several times. They also got them thinking about ride design and customer experience ready for the STEM day activities in school on Wednesday.

Rollercoaster building

On Wednesday Year 7 students had the opportunity to work with the EDT trust to design and build a roller coaster in groups. The students had a great day and in addition to testing their physics knowledge, they developed vital teamwork and time management skills.



Across the Board Activity

For the second part of Wednesday, 8Billionideas delivered a workshop titled “Across the Board” in which year 7 were tasked with designing and making a game. This involved understanding how to cater to a target audience as well as thinking about design and business considerations such as how much would you sell the game for, how would you market it and what would be the rules of the game. In addition to designing the game, students presented their ideas to each other, their teachers and even some parents. Thank you to the parents that came along to have a listen: the students really enjoyed their day.

Year 8

German Trip

During Enrichment Week, German students set out on a historical and cultural trip to Aachen in Germany via Eurostar. When they arrived, students were greeted by their surprise mystery teacher, our much-loved German language speaking assistant, Syster, and had a speaking lesson before going to the movies to see *Alles Steht Kopf 2* (Inside Out 2!)

On Wednesday, we learnt about one of the oldest cathedrals in Europe, Der Dom, and got the opportunity to go inside and see its beautiful architecture, guided by an archaeologist who has excavated



the Roman ruins underneath the cathedral. We had lessons about the city itself, and how to go around its Stadtzentrum (city centre) and even got around to do some shopping for the city's most famous gingerbread brand, *Nobis Printen!*

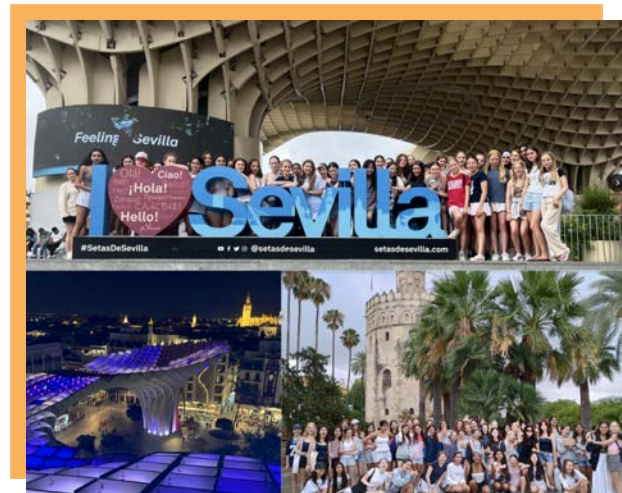


On Thursday morning, we visited the Couven Gymnasium school where we were put into fours with the students, given a questionnaire in German while the German students were given a questionnaire in English to fill out. We then visited the marketplace, did a German dance lesson and went to a cooking class where we made chicken schnitzel and mashed potatoes for dinner. The chef gave us all instructions in German! On Friday, we travelled to the Lindt factory to buy some chocolate. Next, we had a wonderful trip to an amusement park before meeting up to travel to the Eurostar, and back home. Gut gemacht, Klasse 8!

Yasmin L and Edlyn B, Year 8

Seville Trip

Spanish learners had a fantastic time in Seville during enrichment week. The trip was a perfect blend of cultural and entertaining activities. They delighted in spontaneous singing and dancing with Andalusian locals during a Rio Guadalquivir river cruise. The panoramic view of Seville from the stunning architectural site of 'Las Setas' was another highlight. The students loved their visit to Isla Mágica Theme Park and were captivated by an authentic flamenco show, where the talented dancers and musicians left them mesmerised. Additionally, they thoroughly enjoyed their morning language lessons, which enriched their overall experience.



A full write up of the trip was also done by Marta E-P & Anais K;

■ Seville Trip by Marta and Anais.pdf

English News

Founders' Day

We really enjoyed how many of you joined in with our Midsummer craft stall at Founders' Day, ably abetted by our fantastic fairy helpers. Even Mr Jacobs made a mask! It was another year of fantastic projects too. Well done Year 7 and thank you!



Primary School Partnership Debating Club

On Thursday 27 June, the five pupils from Brookfield School who have been attending the Primary School Partnership Debating Club celebrated their achievements

with a show debate on the motion, 'This house would ban zoos'. All pupils made spirited arguments and strategic points of information. The motion was carried in favour of the opposition. We are very proud of their performance and their excellent participation in the club.

Year 10 visit to the British Library

A group of Year 10 students were lucky enough to attend a workshop on Black British Literature at the British Library on Tuesday. We were hosted by Sandra Agard, a charismatic author and storyteller who has worked at the Library for 4 years. She gave us a talk on prolific Black British authors through history, pointing out important figures and stories along the timeline. We were then treated to a short tour of the Library, including the



Treasures room and the outside of the King's Library. After that, we visited the open exhibition on Black British music. We were able to see the development of Black music over time, as well as notable historical events which tied into the movement. We found the workshop engaging and enlightening, and would like to thank Sandra and the British Library for the experience.

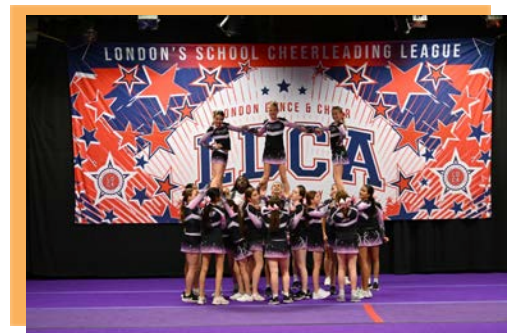
by Tal M, Year 10

Sports News

Channing Eagles

The Senior Channing Eagles cheerleaders had a busy and successful last weekend of term!

Firstly, it was an honour to perform at Founders' Day on Saturday. We performed 2 routines in the Sports Hall to parents, grandparents and other visitors before running off to our drama and music performances and showing our families around Channing.



Then on Sunday it was the Summer Final of the LDCA Schools Cheerleading League. We were leading the League after a strong showing in the earlier rounds but this was the Final, and it was serious business. All the teams were amazing and we had a few setbacks in the runup to the show so we were a little bit nervous - but went out and performed with confidence and determination. We were very proud of how the team pulled together and supported each other.

In the end, we got fourth on the day, leaving us in second place overall in the league for the whole year in a very tight competition. Thanks to our brilliant coaches Korede from LDCA and Channing alumna Ruby for inspiring us throughout the year. GO EAGLES!

By Millie W, Year 8

U15 Haringey Cricket Tournament

On Wednesday 26 June a team of Year 9 and 10 girls competed in a Haringey Cricket tournament. The format was a round robin between three schools, Highgate Wood, Fortismere, and Channing with the top two playing a final.

In the first match Channing played Highgate Wood who had just beaten Fortismere. We put them into bat first. A strong batting display from Highgate Wood saw them score consistently well through their overs and unfortunately despite some good bowling we couldn't take a wicket and Highgate Wood finished with a score of 70. In reply, there was some great running between the wickets to keep the score ticking over and Maria H scored an impressive 13 runs. However, good fielding from our opponents prevented us from scoring the boundaries and we finished on 52 runs.

In the second game, we batted first. Again good running between the wickets maintained a solid score in each over. Again Maria top scored with 10 but we were also more successful in achieving a few more boundaries. Channing set Fortismere a score of 56 to win in their overs.

This time the fielding improved considerably and we restricted Fortismere in score boundaries. The game came down to the last over with Fortismere requiring 4 runs off the last two balls. Unfortunately for us, a good hit to mid-on found a gap in the field to score 4 runs and win it for Fortismere.

Well done to all girls involved, Ella B, Ester K, Maria H, Sofia B, Finn C-B, Elfie W, Caye F-B, Sophie M, Cara P and Georgie C. A shout out also to Ella B for captaining the team so well in giving everyone the opportunity to be involved with either batting or bowling.

Mock Election

This week, the staff and students have been enjoying the excitement in the lead-up to the General Election. The Year 12 Politics students made election videos on behalf of six of the



political parties, which the students all then watched during form time to help them decide on who to vote for in Thursday's mock



election. On Tuesday, a lively and informative debate was held in the Arundel Centre, where the Year 12 Politics students representing the six parties introduced their main policies to a packed house. After setting out their main policies, the students then took questions from the audience, on a range of topics including VAT on private schools, how to achieve

net zero and how to attract foreign investment. Both staff and students then voted on Thursday, with the results due to be announced during Mark Reading.

Duke of Edinburgh's Award News

While most staff and students were enjoying the start of a long weekend in the wake of Founders Day, 49 Y10 students arrived at school at 7.20am on Sunday morning to embark on their Silver DofE assessed expedition.

The weather was perfect as we arrived in Shoreham-by-Sea, a sunny, cloud speckled sky with a coastal breeze for day one. Students were well prepared having brushed up on navigation skills in the April practice and set off with a smile. Pollen was high, impeding some, but determination to finish got the upper hand and adversities were overcome. Now seasoned hikers menus were adventurous and hearty, haute cuisine alfresco! With only a few smoking Trangias spotted.

The second night we camped at Chantry Farm, Wolstonbury Dreaming where being at one with nature in the practical sense had never been so picturesque. The rustic charm of the eco amenities

could have persuaded even those least willing to abandon their creature comforts that another



way of living might just be ok for a short time! Beki the owner commented repeatedly on how impressed she was with their adaptable attitude, polite manners and consideration in the way they used the shared facilities. We observed fantastic teamwork, mutual support and determination throughout and are very proud of what the girls achieved over the three days and their enthusiasm for the challenge.

Channing Archive

Having welcomed back the Silver Duke of Edinburgh participants we look ahead to the upcoming Gold expedition departing later this week. We reckon our alumnae from the early 1930s would have welcomed such an adventure: Channing girls don't shy away from a challenge, as evidenced in these pictures!



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