



More House School Even More 2018-2019

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Co-Heads' Foreword



At More House School, we aim to develop inspiring and successful young women by fostering commitment, integrity, and compassion. Looking back at the events of the 2018-2019 academic year, we can confidently say we have succeeded in that regard. Reading the stories in these pages, we cannot fail to be impressed by our pupils' talents and achievements and the ways they exceed our expectations every day. We are proud of the commitment they display in their classroom studies, the integrity they show through their strong moral and ethical values, and the compassion they exhibit towards one another, the local community, and society at large.

The rich education we provide shines through this issue of *Even More*. It is abundantly clear that we not only offer a first-class education that paves the way for success in adult life, but also a breadth of activities outside the classroom that nurtures pupils and helps them develop into the well-rounded girls we see off at the end of their seven years with us.

No publication can ever do justice to what we achieve at our school. Nevertheless, we hope you enjoy this retrospective of the 2018-2019 academic year and the glimpse it offers of a life lived at More House.

Mrs Leach & Mr Keeley Co-Heads



Head Girl's Reflection



Where do I begin? It is hard to believe that seven years have passed and it's time to say our goodbyes.

More House will stay with me forever. It opened up my world to a plethora of wonderful opportunities. The friends I have made and the lessons I have learned will shape both my future and the futures of my fellow classmates. More House is a unique place and only 'us girls' will every fully appreciate its outstanding qualities. It is a wonderfully warm environment, which we will greatly miss as we delve into the wider world.

Although I am sad to leave this chapter behind, More House's lasting gift to us is the endless happy memories we made and timeless life lessons we learned within its walls, which will stay in our hearts forever. As we embark on our individual journeys and begin the next chapter of our lives, we want to thank the tireless staff who saw us through our school journey from start to finish, helping shape us into the people we are today. They cared for us as individuals and nurtured us through the good times and the bad – for that, we are eternally grateful.

Finally, it was an honour serving as Head Girl in the 2018-2019 academic year. The role taught me so much about leadership and responsibility, two skills I will continue to nurture in the future. I wish Danielle all the best with her Head Girl journey next year.

Molly Chapman Head Girl



Themed Weeks



Last year saw us hold two 'themed weeks' in the spring term: Wellbeing Week and Careers Week. The success of both these weeks prompted us to repeat the format this year, with a different themed week planned for each week of the spring term.

The Country in Which We Live

We kicked things off with 'The Country in Which We Live'. Coordinator Miss Devine had pupils going back in time to show them that diversity has always been commonplace in England. She took us on a history tour looking at the impact of the Saxons and Huguenot and their contributions to the silk trade and architecture around Spitalfields, and Africans during the Tudor times. Miss Minto also arranged 17th century folk dancing for years 9 and 10 in the courtyard – a particular highlight of the week!

Around the World

The second themed week, 'Around the World', featured a wide range of clubs and activities on offer – something for everyone.

This was a specially coordinated effort by the MFL, Geography, and Classics Departments, who organised a wonderful week of activities for the girls. Moreover, a number of pupils helped run the clubs during this themed week! Special thanks to Judy, who led Arabic club on Monday, Sara, who made a handout and gave a taster session in Japanese on Tuesday, Alina, for her Russian lesson on Wednesday, and Emma and Vicky who taught Mandarin on Thursday. All the lessons were a great success and we were extremely impressed with the pupils' preparation and delivery!

Other clubs: Niamh, Emma, and Laura led a



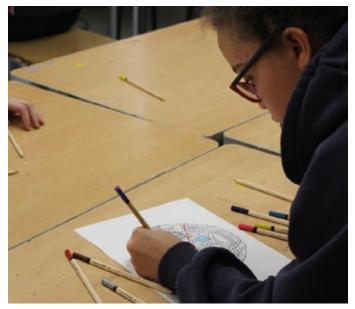












fantastic Irish dancing session and Julia taught year 7 pupils to make cranes in origami. Miss Wijay held a popular Bollywood dance session and Ms Henvey introduced year 10 pupils to the world of percussion, while Mrs Mercer had the girls embrace their inner zen with a session of Tai Chi!

Wellbeing Week

Miss Brown put together a wonderful week of inspiring speakers and activities. We raised awareness of harmful behaviours and shared coping strategies for girls who may feel stressed or anxious at times. We are proud of the various strands of support available to the girls at More House – peer mentors, form tutors, school counsellor, Miss Brown, Mr Keeley, and Mrs Leach. Ensuring the girls are aware of these support networks is paramount.

of clubs and activities focused on promoting pupils' wellbeing. Nutritionist Kelly Mulhall came to talk to girls in years 9 and 11 about healthy eating habits and showed them the hidden sugar content in some products. Year 7 were introduced to mindfulness and practiced sitting still like a frog. Year 8 discussed puberty and personal care with Miss Brown, while year 10 practiced a guided meditation and discussed how they could use these techniques for relaxation and take advantage of school clubs such as dot-to-dot, just dance, lying down, story time, and yoga. We hope that the girls found these activities helpful and that they have been inspired to use the techniques taught during Wellbeing Week in their own time. Thank you as well to those who attended our parents' talk, where Dick Moore gave a presentation on adolescent mental health. Dick gave parents information on how to assess the mental health of their children and explained that during adolescence, young people can be driven by emotion and act impulsively. He encouraged parents to:

- avoid imposing your own aspirations on your child;
- seek to build resilience whenever you can;
- encourage the discussion of emotions; and
- be aware that negative remarks have three times the impact of positive remarks.

Careers Week

On the 4th – 9th March, it was National Careers Week. Schools all over the country were taking part in activities and seminars that are designed



Themed Weeks





to get pupils thinking about their futures and engaging with what they need to do to achieve that future. More House was no different! We had an exciting programme of speakers visiting to talk to the girls about a variety of careers, online seminars, and the annual WE Day concert for the WE volunteers.

Monday saw a visit from an exploration geoscientist from BP. Hannah had worked at BP in a variety of roles before starting her current job. She told us of the importance of meeting the energy demands of the world, finding new sources of oil, and protecting the sources that are currently available.

Tuesday's speaker was one of only four female gas engineers working at British Gas, who came to talk to us about apprenticeships. She discussed the different apprenticeship programmes available at British Gas and her own experience choosing an alternative route to university.



Wednesday featured a talk from a recruiter at Egon Zehnder, who shared fantastic insight into what employers are looking for from prospective employees and how to successfully market yourself for certain jobs. She also taught us a lot about the world of recruitment and how to become a part of this industry.

Thursday saw a visit from a digital advertisement specialist who works at Hearst Magazine. They wowed the girls with their range of titles and clients! This talk was a firm favourite with the pupils, as the day-to-day tasks were so varied and creative.

On Friday, our final day, we squeezed in two speakers to really make the most out of our National Careers Week programme. A publicist from the BBC and a senior social media director from the PHA group rounded off our speakers, discussing their roles and the paths they took in their careers that led them to success.

The week was jam packed, full of inspiration



and rife with opportunities to get the girls thinking about their futures – whether that was the older pupils thinking about job applications and CVS or younger pupils just starting to think ahead. The week was a great success!

Science Week

We kicked things off with a school-wide science quiz, with lots of challenging pictures and questions! The junior section was won by Harriet and Lily and the senior section was won by Lily, Amanda, Ursula, Katie, and Lobna. There were many exciting clubs on offer throughout the week, often opening the girls' eyes to a variety of interesting STEM career opportunities. Year 9 got to see some amazing chemistry demonstrations on Monday: Ms Wijay scooped up some methane bubbles, which were then set alight by Mrs Steed! It certainly looked like Ms Wijay's hands were on fire, although she came out of the experiment unscathed. Year 10 learned how taste-testing

sweets is actually a STEM job they could aspire to: a food technologist. A group of year 7 pupils were introduced to the fun world of coding and robotics. Many girls enjoyed exploring the world of Newton's first law of motion with balloon and chemical-powered rockets. Cosmetics were thrown in, too – year 8 girls used chemistry to make bath bombs!

Sports Week

We enjoyed so many fun events during Sports Week. Some of the activities on offer included:

- sponsored swim;
- lunchtime clubs: cup pong, shuffleboard, question of sport, step-a-thon, netball shoot-a-thon;
- dodgeball tournament; and
- the annual fancy dress fun run!

Here are some of the highlights...







Themed Weeks



DODGEBALL TOURNAMENT

As any good athlete knows, there are 5 Ds of dodgeball... Dodge, Duck, Dip, Dive, and Dodge! Sports leaders took on the challenge of running a whole school dodgeball tournament in aid of sports week. A tough task, as they had over 50 girls sign up! It was very closely contested, with all girls putting in 100% effort and commitment. In the junior competition, we saw some great sling throws from Ella and some great catches from Tavy. Overall, it was very close, but the purple team became champions of the junior competition! Well done to Charlotte, Poppy, Emily, Skye, Malak, and Jemima.

The senior competition was extremely competitive. The sixth form, reigning dodgeball champions, decided to really put their skills to the test and challenge a joint team of years 10 and 11 girls. Enthusiasm was at an all-time high for the sixth form, until Aoife was taken down at the hands of Lizzie. Struggling to pull it back, the sixth form went into panic mode. Amazingly, though, as the juniors watched in amazement, the sixth form pulled out all the stops and eventually managed to pull it back and successfully defended their title!

A huge well done to all that participated and a massive thank you to the sports leaders that assisted in running the competition (Molly, Flora, Cara, and Dunia).

NETBALL SHOOTING

How many goals could girls shoot in an entire lunch time?

Yasemin - 25

Emily - 65

Lucy - 46

Grace - 92

Kiera - 3

Emily - 100

Ella - 50

Well done to Emily, who managed to score 100 goals in 20 minutes!

MORE ELITE – SPORT DEVELOPMENT TALK

On Thursday 21st March, the More Elite, GCSE, and A-level students were invited to a lunchtime seminar with Alishia Williams-Gayle from Epic Sport (RBKC Borough Sport Development Officer) on careers in sport. Alishia guided us through her role and how she got into sport development, before showing us some footage of some of the projects that she'd worked on, including the London Youth Games and cross-country competitions. We were surprised to hear the number of projects she's been involved in, especially because students in the room had been involved in those projects themselves.

Alishia asked the students about their sporting backgrounds, what sports they play, and what level they play at, before discussing the wealth of opportunities that they could enjoy if they pursued a career in sport. It was interesting to hear about some of the lesser-known career paths, as well as examining the more familiar routes such as sports coaching and sports science. Alishia also talked about a number of volunteering projects that we could be involved in within the borough and recommended some contacts for those who have just embarked on the Duke of Edinburgh award in year 10. Our sixth-form sports leaders were also invited to help out with borough festivals that are taking place later in the year. Finally, Alishia spoke about a grant that the borough can provide for those who are interested in pursuing a coaching pathway and want to gain a qualification at Level 1/entry level.

We would like to thank Alishia for providing us with a fascinating insight into the world of sport!







GOALBALL

On Tuesday, the year 8 students were treated to a special P.E. lesson, where Stephen and Steve from Goalball UK led a fantastic intro session into the sport. Goalball is a Paralympic sport, where players play in teams of three on a volleyball-sized court and try to score goals by bowling/throwing a ball with a bell in it to a goal at opposite ends of the court. Despite it being a Paralympic sport, it is fully inclusive so both visually impaired and sighted individuals can play together. However, to make it fair, all players must wear eye shades.

We had great fun diving across the floor of Imperial College Sports Hall to save goals and then bowl the ball back in the opposite direction to try and beat the opposition. The game started off quite slowly, as we learned the rules and got used to having to use other senses rather than relying on our vision, but we quickly got the hang of it and we were soon bowling and throwing the ball at great speed.

We were surprised to learn that international players can throw the ball up to 60mph! That was a bit faster than we could manage in our first session.





Faith in Action



This year, the Religious Studies Department introduced a school-wide 'Faith in Action' project. Combining faith and education together in our school life ensures we are teaching pupils to be active, compassionate members of the school, local community, and wider society. Through Faith in Action (FIA), More House pupils emerge from their education as committed citizens, determined to promote social justice for all.

Members of the FIA team determine the termly projects and plan how best to fundraise on behalf of various charitable endeavours, such as the Cardinal Hume Centre, St Vincent de Paul, Cafod, and others. During Fairtrade Fortnight, pupils raised awareness about the importance of buying fair-trade products by selling fair-trade cakes, raising over £300. The FIA team also supported the drama production, raising

proceeds to send children on a pilgrimage to Lourdes through the Hosanna House and Children's Pilgrimage Trust.

In an important lesson on the value of our democracy and citizen rights, the FIA pupils wrote hard-hitting letters to our local MP, Rt Hon Greg Hands, urging the government to do more to reduce the effects of climate change. The protection and preservation of our 'Common Home' is in line with Pope Francis' instructions to his Papal encyclical – Laudato Si'.

This new endeavour is just one way we weave the Catholic ethos into school life. Our Faith in Action project encourages pupils to be conscious of their privileges and ready to share their blessings with those less fortunate.











Netball Champions



The netball season kicked off in September with More House entering the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea's Netball League once again. We had the highest number of entries in the league: U12, U12/U13 All Stars, U13, U14, U15, U16A, and U16 All Stars. Matches are played in a round-robin format, with each team playing one another over the course of the season.

Notable performances throughout the year included: the U12/U13 All Stars team beating St Thomas More 3-1; the U13 team beating All Saints Catholic College 9-0, the U14 team beating Holland Park 6-4 and St Thomas More

9-4, the U15 team beating Kensington Aldridge Academy 8-1, and the U16 team beating Kensington Aldridge Academy 23-4 and Queen's Gate 9-5 in their final league game.

We were delighted to discover after the U16 team's final win that they had won the league. We were then even more excited to discover that both the U14 and U16 teams qualified to represent the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea at the London Youth Games! Congratulations are also due to the U13 netball team, who came 2nd place in the league, narrowly missing 1st place. They will definitely be gunning for 1st place next year!





RA Young Artist's Summer Show





Hennie's Art Success

We were thrilled to learn that one of our youngest Art Club members, Hennie in year 7, had her artwork chosen to be exhibited in this year's Royal Academy Young Artist's Summer Show. There were over 6,200 submissions, so this was a real honour! 328 were selected for the online exhibition and 139 – including Hennie's – were selected for the exhibition at the Royal Academy. What a fantastic achievement!





England Netball Experience



In November, Miss Minto took the U13 netball team to the England Netball Coaching Experience at the Copperbox Arena in Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, ahead of the England vs Uganda International match that evening. This special, aspirational trip allowed the pupils to sample a day in the life of an England netballer!

First stop: a behind-the-scenes tour. The England team were enjoying their downtime before the game and they had left the changing rooms free for pupils to have a snoop around. They saw how the players decorated the room to facilitate focus and relaxation before the game. They also saw the ice baths that the players use after the game as part of the recovery process! Each player had their own spot on the bench, adorned with a festive stocking filled with fun surprises and snacks. The tour guide talked about surface training

(where the players train in the morning to get used to the court, lights, and LED advertising boards), player superstitions (did you know that the team all have to sit in the same places on the team bus?), and the anti-doping process that three players from each team have to undergo at the end of each game. They also discussed the pre-match routine – the pupils were surprised to learn that some members of the England team like to juggle!







German Exchange Trip

In March, Miss Minto and Miss Brown accompanied a group of year 9, year 10, and year 11 pupils to Lörrach in Germany to take part in the first half of an exchange visit with Hebel Gymnasium. They attended lessons (where, among other things, they learned Pythagoras' Theorem in German) and partook in cultural activities with their exchange partners. Highlights included: trying Goulash at a local restaurant, visiting the town hall by invitation of the town's education representative, completing a Stadtrallye, working in groups with the German students, and eating lunch with their exchange partners and their families.

In May, it was the German students' turn to complete the return leg of the exchange and visit More House. To welcome our guests, Miss Brown hosted a tea party for the students and the Senior Chamber Choir performed some of their favourite pieces. They had a busy week of events scheduled for them. They enjoyed a variety of year 9 and year 10 lessons during their stay – notably, they joined the year 10 German lessons and helped the More House girls prepare for their oral exams. More importantly, though, they learned to play rounders in a P.E. lesson! After school, the More House pupils took their exchange partners for pizza, showed them their favourite haunts on King's Road, and went to see The Lion King on the West End.

A huge thank you to all the teachers who hosted the pupils and also to all the More House parents, pupils, and choir who supported the exchange. Last, but not least, a huge thank you to Miss Brown, whose hard work made both trips so successful! The Hebel Gymnasium really enjoyed their stay with us and we hope to welcome them back to London soon.





Sportswoman's Awards Ceremony



What better way to conclude the sporting season than having a celebratory awards evening at the prestigious Royal Automobile Club in Pall Mall! A whopping 160 pupils, parents, and staff donned their glad rags (black tie only!) to attend the event. It was particularly nice seeing the girls get out of their P.E. kits. We were lucky enough to be joined by special guest speaker Naida Hutchinson, who spoke openly about the trials and tribulations she endured on her journey to become an elite netballer. She spoke of the pressures one faces in order to reach peak level in sport and also gave us a rather generous insight into what happens when everything comes tumbling down after a terrible knee injury.

We enjoyed truly luxurious food. The mini doughnuts went down particularly well! Miss Minto, Mrs Mercer, and Miss Hails spoke of the fantastic individual and team achievements More House girls have enjoyed throughout the year. Sports Captain Flora also spoke eloquently about her time at More House and some of the sporting initiatives she worked on during the academic year.

Several live performances were dotted throughout the evening – Issy in year 7 (gymnastics) and Laura in year 7 and Niamh in year 10 (Irish dancing). They provided stellar entertainment for all the guests.

Congratulations to the following pupils who received awards on this special occasion:

Junior Sportswoman - Lucy Intermediate Sportswoman - Eleanor Senior Sportswoman - Aoife Sports Leader - Honey Netballer of the Year - Lizzie Team of the Year - U16 Netball Services of the PE department - Molly and Flora







Advent Calendars



Year 7 and year 8 pupils put their creative skills to good use during Advent by creating an Advent calendar that demonstrated the true meaning of Christmas: the Incarnation. Pupils were advised to think of ways to illustrate how Christians should prepare for the coming of Christ by living out the Gospel values, such as helping those less fortunate and visiting the sick and elderly.

The girls were also challenged to include at least two significant quotes from either Luke or Matthew's Gospel accounts. The results not only looked wonderful but they were also very inspiring. We enjoyed opening the calendars each day to determine what we could do that day to shine light into the lives of others.





Enrichment Programme



In May, we launched our brand-new enrichment programme for year 8 pupils. Mrs Alexander introduced the programme by talking about neurodiversity in assembly, highlighting how all brains are different. This often means girls will do better when they have opportunities to learn and work in different

ways – ways that suit their brains – and put their unique talents and gifts to use.

The enrichment programme initiative seeks to do just that: develop the girls' knowledge, selfesteem, and self-discipline by supporting them as they pursue projects beyond the classroom.



It allows them to explore the things that really interest them and extends the learning experience of each individual pupil.

Classroom lessons are very structured, in order to cover the range of subjects required by the curriculum. Project learning allows pupils to broaden their horizons and develop a whole range of skills where they can drive the project – they decide the topic, the methods, and present their findings. It enables the girls to independently develop their study skills and investigate a wide range of sources as they research their topic.

Each pupil has an opportunity to get involved in project learning, where they research, write up, and present an idea of their choice, derived from a subject about which they are passionate. They are required to demonstrate the ways in which they have deepened their critical thinking, problem solving, communication, and collaboration skills. While they receive some support and guidance from a supervisor, the project mainly originates with the girls themselves. After the final delivery of their project, pupils are assessed and awarded a

grade for their work.

Some year 8 pupils tested the project-learning programme in a pilot study. Here are some of their thoughts...

"My title was 'Is Dyslexia a Barrier to Learning?". I realised that people with dyslexia just have different brains, which demands a different approach to learning. It doesn't mean you can't learn." Lucy

"I wanted to look at the quality of vegan food, so I conducted a scientific trial, spoke with vegan cooks, and recorded my research and results." Maysie

"I was interested in the power of money in the economy – how does money work and why are bits of coin so popular? I wanted to research how money brings power and looked at how that power is then used." Lilly

"My interest was in hypnotherapy. I researched its history and how it can be used. I think it is really beneficial to wellbeing and I wanted to find out more about this." Hattie

"My interest was in how the brain develops, particularly in teenage years. I made a model of the brain and then researched the different functions of the brain, looking specifically at how hormones affect teenage brains." Grace



Sports Day

Yet another academic year was kicked off with a fantastic Sports Day. The sun was shining, the birds were singing, and everyone's competitive side was ready for action. We kicked things off with a fantastic house parade, with many pupils in full face paint and all pupils full of excitement for the day ahead.

There were some fantastic performances throughout the day with lots of records broken. Grace in Iona threw a mighty 15.5 metres in the Junior Javelin and Lucy in Santiago broke the 1500m record with a new time of 6 minutes 20 seconds.

As the track heats got underway, we quickly realised that this year was going to be a big year of records. There was a fierce battle between Issy in Walsingham and Maya in Iona for the 200m Gold, with both girls beating previous years' records and Maya finally coming out on top. Congratulations especially to Maya, who also broke the junior school record for the 100m in an earlier heat of the day.

Phoebe in Walsingham showed us all that she's not just a long-distance runner by sprinting to victory in the Junior 100m. The Middies 100m was dominated by year 10, with Niamh in Iona in 1st place, Lana in Walsingham in 2nd place,

and Daphne in Santiago in 3rd place.

Canterbury had a 1-2-3 in the Middies 200m, thanks to Emma, Amalia, and Mia. And in the Senior 100m, Eya in Walsingham smashed it and ran to a new record time of 13.57s, ahead of Issy in Iona and Honey in Iona. The Senior 200m saw Eya crowned sprint champion, with another 1st-place win, closely followed by Hope in Santiago and Zahra in Walsingham.

All was going well, until the staff / parent relay – Mrs Hunt, who duly volunteered to take place in the Walsingham squad, took the baton for 1st leg. She set off, all guns blazing, and made it an entire 8m before her hamstring popped. This meant Miss Minto had to sprint 92m in the opposite direction to retrieve the baton before doing her own 100m leg and passing the baton to Mrs Mazewski on 3rd. Thankfully, they had an Irish Whippet Miss Henvey on the anchor leg, who put out a storming performance and overtook TWO teams on the home straight, meaning Walsingham didn't finish last after all!

Nonetheless, it wasn't to be for Walsingham, nor Canterbury, nor Santiago to win Sports Day. Iona were again crowned champions and took the trophy for a record 6th year running!







The Tempest



Each year, the Drama Department stages a whole-school production in the autumn term. This year's production choice was *The Tempest* by William Shakespeare.

Prospera, the deposed Duchess of Milan, and her teenage daughter Miranda, have been stranded on a remote island for the past 12 yeas. Their only companions are Ariel, a magical spirit enslaved by Prospera, and Caliban, a native of the island who is also enslaved. The play opens in the midst of a storm, as a ship carrying the Queen of Naples and her party struggles to stay afloat. On land, Prospera and Miranda watch the storm envelop the ship. Prospera created the storm with her magic and delights in the unfolding drama as all her enemies are washed ashore.

After months of rehearsals, the eagerly-awaited performances took place at the conclusion of the term. The production was met with outstanding reviews from parents, staff, governors, and pupils. The unique fusion of immensely professional Bollywood dances (choreographed by Miss Wijay) and the enchanting and magical world courtesy of the Art Department's excellent stage design was truly captivating. Miss Jackson was delighted by the outstanding quality of the production. Most importantly, all pupils involved thoroughly enjoyed their fun and creative theatre experience.





More's Household Speakers





Leon McCarron - first speaker of the year

The exciting programme of speakers coordinated by More's Household always holds something special for everyone. Pupils and parents were warmly welcomed to the various events held throughout the year and were thrilled by the diverse programme.

Leon McCarron

The first speaker of the year was Leon McCarron, who had also visited us four years ago. Since his last visit, Leon's expeditions have taken him around the world on a bicycle and 3,000 miles across China on foot. He's walked through the largest sand desert on earth, followed Iran's longest river from source to sea, ridden a horse across Argentina, and walked from Jerusalem to Mount Sinai exploring the Middle East at ground level. In 2017, he was honoured with the Royal

Geographical Society's Neville Shulman Challenge Award and spent a month with the Israelite Samaritans documenting the way of life of perhaps the world's smallest and oldest ethno-religious group. He has made a television series for National Geographic, produced three independent films, and published two books – *The Road Headed West* and *The Land Beyond*. He showed us images of his walk from Jerusalem to Sinai, discussing all the different peoples and cultures he encountered along the way.

Kiko Matthews

Our next speaker was Kiko Matthews, returning to visit after achieving the record for fastest female to row the Atlantic alone. We had tracked her journey throughout the weeks she was at sea and watched on BBC news as she finally arrived in the Carribean. Kiko has raised yet more money and awareness for King's College Hospital, to thank them for saving her life. She shared pictures and stories from her journey with us. The girls had endless questions – especially regarding her next adventure! For now, Kiko wants to focus on her charity and encouraging people to be more involved in cleaning up the world's waters.

Sir Paul Coleridge

Our final speaker for the term was Sir Paul Coleridge. He discussed the Marriage Foundation. After 40 years working in family law, he – together with other experts – started the Marriage Foundation, in the hopes of addressing the rising divorce rates. He discussed statistics, examples of certain common situations, and most wonderfully the declining divorce rates.



Easter Choral Concert



One of the jewels in the music department's crown has always been the annual Easter Choral Concert. This special event showcases a large-scale choral work, accompanied by a professional orchestra, and features solo performances from pupils with outstanding musical talent.

This year's concert was held at Holy Trinity Church, Sloane Square. The audience was

delighted by the performances, which included Bob Chilcot's *Five Days that Changed the World*, featuring mixed choir, upper-voice girls' choir, solo piano, and timpani. The Senior Chamber Choir wowed the audience with their rendition of Monteverdi's *Confitibor Tibi* and the Junior Chamber Choir's performance of contemporary composer Ola Gjelio's *Northern Lights* was especially moving. An evening to remember!





The Terrible Infants



Directed by Miss O'Callaghan and supported by Drama Captain Nessie, *The Terrible Infants* tells the story of a group of girls having a sleepover to celebrate a birthday party. They are amazingly well behaved and well mannered. The girls fall asleep, but in the night are overtaken by the spirit of terrible, naughty children. Each child has a story to tell about their cheeky and mischievous antics. The cast's rendition of these sensational characters left the audience in fits of laughter!

Miss O'Callaghan had the wonderful idea to use the performance as an opportunity for raising awareness and funds for Hosanna House and Children's Pilgrimage Travels. HCPT is a registered charity that offers pilgrimage holidays to Lourdes in the South of France for disabled and disadvantaged children from all over the UK and further afield. We

were thrilled to be able to fundraise for this important cause – thank you to all those who donated so generously.

Furthermore, part of the pupils' preparation for the performance involved the girls inviting 14 Hill House pupils to an intimate performance of the play followed by a drama workshop. This provided the More House and Hill House pupils with a unique, enriching, and creative experience. The Hill House visitors enjoyed the performance, sitting on the edge of their seats, fully engrossed by the enchanting world before them. This was followed by an immersive workshop that allowed the Hill House pupils a chance to fully participate in the play. Then, both More House and Hill House pupils performed side by side to a delighted audience of teachers and parents.







St Thomas More's Day



Four houses, one new venue, one trophy: it was time... for Inter-House Rounders! On Friday 21st June, we spent an exciting and tense day in the sun at Barn Elms Sports Ground playing rounders, to celebrate St Thomas More's Day!

As always, the day was packed full of impressive and exciting play – the biggest question on everyone's mind was, of course, would Santiago take the title again for the third year running? All girls put in maximum effort to give their house the best chance of knocking Santiago off the top spot. The pressure was on. Santiago needed to defend their title!

There were some fantastic rounders on pitch 4 from Izzy (Canterbury), who sneakily hit the ball over 1st base, making it nigh impossible for Walsingham to stop her from scoring. A great left-handed catch from Amalia saw Canterbury take down one of Iona's best players. The triangle of doom from Santiago's Daphne, Flora, and Katharine intimidated all of the other houses. But would it be enough for them to hold their title?

On pitch 1, there was some amazing leadership from Walsingam's Eenes, who impressively

supported all of her team ensuring they had a tactical advantage. There were some powerful hits from Iona's Saffron and Rebecca. Canterbury demonstrated great team work, with Steele and Lily as a double-threat backstop. But Santiago proved too dominant, winning all of their matches.

With all pitch scores contributing to the team competition, every rounder counted. There were a whopping 400+ rounders scored on the day. What an amazing total!

Finally, the results were in. In an unbelievable turn of events, Santiago and Iona had drawn for first place, both with 42 points. There was silence in the scoring tent as Miss Revell and Mrs Mullins worked out the difference in rounders scored vs rounders scored against between the houses.

The results were announced, Iona had done it! They stole the title from Santiago with a rounder difference of +22 to Santiago's +14. Congratulations, Iona! And well done to absolutely everyone who threw themselves into play.













Art Exhibition



The annual art exhibition is the highlight of the art department's calendar - it is an important opportunity for girls to showcase their academic achievements and this year's event certainly did not disappoint. We are so grateful to Miss Devine, Ms Rigby, and Ms Yate for their efforts in ensuring the event was such a huge success. Thank you also to all the pupils, family members, and staff who joined us to celebrate the girls' hard work and the talents they have been developing in art throughout the year.

It was fantastic seeing the new projects the girls have been working on in and out of class: year 7's pop art boats, year 8's sumi-e concertina books and plaster cast relief tiles, and year 9's bedrooms in a box. In the public examination years, the GCSE and A-level artwork was especially stunning.

Huge congratulations to our prize winners in all year groups as well as each pupil who has produced work for this year's show. The level of enthusiasm and creativity was truly impressive!



We were also thrilled to receive great feedback from our guests of honour, Dr Sophie Dauvois and Rachel Ortas, founders of OKIDO. It is always interesting seeing how the subjects we study in isolation can complement each other in the working world!

Prize Winners

Year 7 Trix Eugenia	Year 10 Anjali
Tallulah	Year 11 Olivia
Year 8	
Lucy	Year 12
Olivia	Stella
	Katie
Year 9	
Skye	Year 13
Clemmie	Zahra









Netball Tour

An incredible opportunity arose for the year 8 and year 9 netball teams – a chance to go on tour to Bristol! They thoroughly enjoyed their trip, full of diverting activities to keep them busy between matches.

After a three-hour train journey from Paddington, full of excitement and laughter, the group arrived in Bristol safe and sound. First up: a visit to the We the Curious museum, an interactive science museum where nothing is off limits and you can touch and experiment with anything! The girls milked cows, stepped inside a womb, weighed brains, and created animations, making full use of the various exhibitions on show at the museum. After lunch, though, it was time to get ready for the games at Bristol Grammar School Sports Hall. They began to warm up in their teams and enjoyed a stirring team talk to get them in the mood!

Then, the games got underway. Year 8 kicked things off at a furious pace, with More House quickly took the lead. The combination of Issy, Yasemin, Grace, and Sophia in attack was unstoppable! Once Lucy was subbed on to the court, she immediately made an impact

by bringing the ball up court. Meanwhile, the defensive unit of Phoebe, Amelia, and Maysie were in a fierce battle with the Bristol Grammar School girls in attack, making it harder and harder for them to make a comeback. After a well-fought, long game, the score ended 13-5 to More House! Grace and Yasemin were named players of the match.

After seeing their peers do so well, the More House year 9 team was fired up. Adiva started with a strong centre pass to Francesca, who passed the ball to goal shooter Charlotte. After a fantastic attacking triangle move, Francesca had the ball once more and scored! All was well until the third quarter, when Bristol Grammar School seemed to find a second wind. However, strong tactics and cool heads meant the More House team powered on undettered. Mia continued to mark the goal attack out of the game and forced a long ball to the goal shooter, which more often than not was intercepted by goal keeper Anna. Finally, Katrina stepped up into the goal shooter role and used her speed and agility to keep the defenders guessing. The game finished 10-6 to More House, with Francesca and Anna being named players of the match.





World Book Day



Perhaps the highlight of the English Department's ca was the whole-school enthusiasm for World Book Day. As has become our tradition at More House, each year group discussed their favourite books in form time and selected one book to use as inspiration for the décor of their form room door. The results were stunning and the teachers judging the competition of whose form door looked best really struggled to pick out winners. In the end, *Harry Potter* came first, *Around the World in 80 Days* came second, and *Nerd Word* came third. The creative displays all over the school clearly demonstrated a love of books, which always makes for a very happy English department.



Trip to the Roman Baths



Mrs Tunnicliffe led year 8 on the annual trip to the Roman baths in Bath. This is a always a highlight of the department's calendar. The group met at Paddington Station and, after some unforeseen changes to the train's schedule, finally arrived in Bath ready to go straight to their workshop. In this session, they learned a little more about the history of the baths and were able to handle some objects – such as strigils and oil bottles – that would have been common items used by the Romans at the time.

After lunch, the group studiously followed the audio tour around the museum, which showcases some of the incredible finds from the temple and baths complex. The baths themselves are fascinating – from the hypocaust system to the original pipes that fed water into the different rooms. A few of the girls tried the natural hot spring water at the end of the tour. It is so full of minerals that it has a unique taste!

Some went back for more, while others were quite happy with just the one sip.

However, the trip to the baths is not only an opportunity for the girls to see one of the more famous Roman monuments in Britain or sample the delicious fudge on offer in nearby shops. Most importantly, it features as a topic for study in the Cambridge Latin Course textbook and forms part of the end-of-year exam. As the girls have to study the features of the Roman baths for the exam, it is a wonderful opportunity to take them to see this remarkable structure for themselves.

The trip to the baths certainly created a longlasting impression – not only because of what pupils were able to see on the day, but also because of the understanding they gained about another civilisation's customs and behaviours. It was a perfect complement to their curricular studies!





University of Cambridge



In May, a group of pupils were thrilled to be given an opportunity to go on a day trip to Cambridge.

On arrival, the group embarked on a two-hour walking tour around the town, which looked its absolute best in the sunshine. Their tour guide took them along various back streets where they were able to visit some of the university's oldest colleges and then on to a pub where the discovery of DNA was announced. The girls were especially excited by their visit to King's College Chapel, where their guide shared the building's long and fascinating history. In the afternoon, the girls walked to Quayside where they took two chauffeured punting boats down the College Backs while eating lunch. The chauffeurs talked about some of the colleges and their links to the Secret Service. The girls were particularly impressed with the Mathematical Bridge!





Here is what some of the girls had to say about their trip...

"Eton was founded for poor boys, something that 1) is no longer the case, and 2) bemused me beyond words."

"The Wooden Bridge is a bewildering sight as it is a (partial) circle made up of only straight wooden planks, with an even more bewildering explanation regarding its mathematical properties."



Malta Music Tour



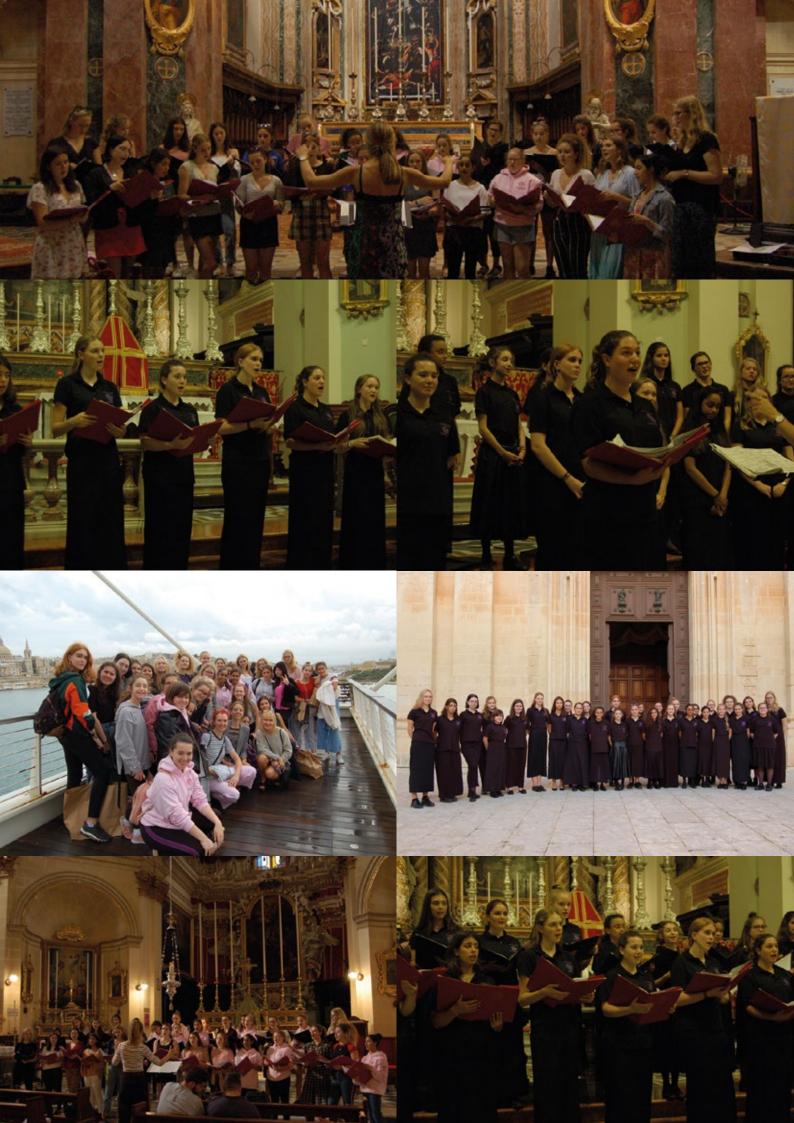


More House is one of the only London day schools to take pupils on an international music tour every year, with past destinations including Barcelona, Athens, Rome, and New York. This year, the More House Combined Choirs travelled to Malta, where they performed concerts and Catholic Mass at various venues. They were warmly received by the local community. A highlight had to be when they witnessed a proposal during their rendition of Howard Goodall's 'Love Divine'!









Ski Trip

On the last day of the spring term, 34 excited pupils and four excited staff arrived at Gatwick Airport, where they were set to fly to Denver – the 'Mile High City' – for their annual ski trip.

This year, given the high altitude in Denver and Winter Park (our ski resort), we stopped over on the first night of the trip so we could all acclimatise to the conditions. We were treated to a pizza party and fresh lemonade in our hotel – how American! The following morning, we headed to Cherry Creek shopping mall to get our annual fill of Sephora, Victoria's Secret, Journey's, and Levi's. Laden with newly-heavy suitcases, we made our way onto the coach, ready to be transported to Winter Park.

As with previous ski trips, the weather was kind to us and a significant amount of snow had fallen in the week leading up to our trip. This meant we were in for a fun week of skiing, sliding, and slipping (in some cases!) on the snow-filled slopes. After collecting our skis, poles, boots, and helmets, we met our instructors: John, J.T., Johan, and Eric. They divided us into our ski groups for the morning session.

Winter Park really does have some amazing terrain. From the wide, beginner slopes, to the Discovery Park, to the technically challenging (particularly for Mrs Mercer!) narrow paths in Dilly Dally Alley, to the half pipe and huge rollers in the terrain park, there was a wide array of entertainment for all ability levels.

We also had the luxury of being able to ski two ski parks: Winter Park and Mary Jane. The Mary Jane terrain was much more complex and consequently only tackled by the more advance skiers, but the beginners did get to visit it via the new \$120 million gondola, which took them safely up to the top of the slopes and back.

The week was filled with hilarity. Maysie and Lucy were treated to some lift-pool karaoke

from Miss Minto, Mrs Mercer, and Miss Hails; Erin gave up skiing on the slopes, but then accidentally skied into the safety net, ending up wrapped in plastic; Tilly managed to ski through her instructor's pole and snap it, so he spent the afternoon with a tiny stump for a pole; Megan (despite being awarded the wally tutu for her exploits the day before) and Maddy managed to ski into each other, causing a serious pile up; Lana and Daphne mastered skiing through each other's legs; and the trees proved as challenging as ever, causing many of us to end up covered in snow!

There was a lot to be learned throughout the week and the instructors were thrilled with all pupils' progress by the end of our visit. On the final day, the following pupils received special ski awards from their instructors:

Beginner Skier of the Week - Nora Beginner Best Attitude - Hennie Intermediate 1 Skier of the Week - Amalie Intermediate 1 Best Attitude - Daphne Intermediate 2 Skier of the Week - Alix Intermediate 2 Best Attitude - Aoife Advanced Skier of the Week - Nicole Advanced Best Attitude - Eleanor Best Air - Amalia Ski Tripper of the Week - Lucy

In addition to the fun on the slopes, our evening programme of activities saw us making S'Mores, swimming, and throwing ourselves down the tubing course on giant rubber rings. We also organised a 'dinner safari', which meant we were able to dine around town rather than eating at the same venue each night. This meant we enjoyed a greater variety of dinner options and proved popular with all!

After our fun at the slopes, we hopped back on to the coach in order to travel back to Denver and make our way to the airport. We went via the Colorade Mills shopping mall and the Hard Rock Café! All was going so well... until the



Ski Trip











antenna broke on our plane, resulting in our flight being cancelled at the last minute. As a result, we were forced to spend another three and a half days in Denver while we waited for a new flight! Unfortunately, these things do happen – it was a massive inconvenience to all, but in true More House style, we made the most of our newly acquired mini-break in Denver.

On the first day of our newly-extended trip, we swam in the hotel pool and used the outdoor hot tub, before going to Casey's Diner, where we were treated to a performance from a live singer while we dined. Liv got up on stage and did a duet with him, which was very well received by the other diners!

The following day, we took the bus downtown to the aquarium. We were even able to touch

some stingrays, which were pretty slimy! In the afternoon, the older pupils went to watch the NBA Playoffs game with Mrs Mercer and Miss Minto, where the Denver Nuggets took on the San-Antonio Spurs. It was a really exciting experience and such a privilege to be able to procure tickets to watch an NBA game live! The younger pupils went to Olive Garden and the cinema with Miss Brown and Miss Hails. Both groups had a really wonderful time! On the Sunday, we packed up our hotel rooms and collected our luggage for our second attempt at flying home. Thankfully, we were successful and made it back to London safe and sound.

It was certainly an eventful week and thoroughly enjoyed by all. We can't wait for next year's trip to Killington, Vermont. Have you booked your spot yet?



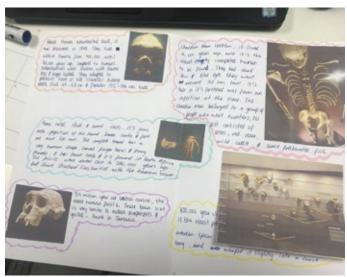
Body Worlds Exhibition

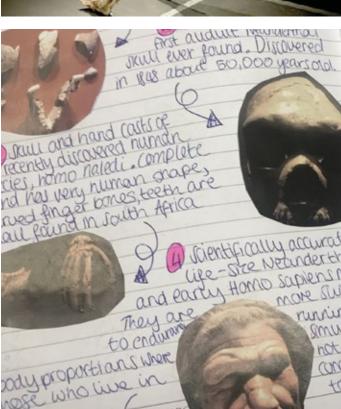


Year 12 scientists visited Dr Gunther von Hagens' renowned exhibition of real human bodies in Piccadilly Circus. They were able to journey through the human body and discover the magic and mysteries that lie beneath our skins! It was a unique, exciting, and interactive experience for all.

Pupils took plenty of pictures and here are their posters on the exhibition.











MFL in Salamanca

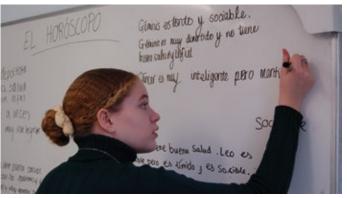


As you would expect, studying languages offers opportunities to learn outside the classroom. This year was no different! February saw More House pupils taking a trip to Salamanca in Spain.

A group of year 9, year 10, and year 11 pupils were joined by Ms Gremillet and Mr Carroll on a week-long stay in Salamanca. They attended Spanish lessons, cooking lessons, walking tours, salsa dancing lessons, and practiced their Spanish speaking skills in the shops, cafes, and markets around the city. The market, in particular, was a memorable experience for

all the girls – they were shocked to see that very little goes to waste in a Spanish butcher! Unsurprisingly, they preferred to spend their money on fresh fruit, cakes, and pastries instead.

The students and teachers stayed with host families, where they were immersed in Spanish culture. The girls' comprehension, listening skills, and speaking skills had greatly improved by the end of the week! Thank you to Ms Gremillet for organising such a brilliant and memorable trip.















Young Voices



One of the highlights of the music department's year was the exciting 'Young Voices' performance at the O2. In February, year 7 travelled to the O2 to consolidate the hours of preparation since September for Young Voices 2019.

After a picnic lunch and copious amounts of flying saucers consumed by the girls, they were ready and raring to go! At level four of the arena, the heights were quite something. Moana Mash Up was a clear favourite and It's A Swing Thing combined three-part dance with several parts of vocal harmony. Lead singer Tony Hadley of Spandau Ballet was a clear hit with many of the parents and the effortless vocals of 15-year old Beau Dermott exemplified talent and hard work. Our girls were bowled over!

Renowned conductor David Lawrence led the

8,000-strong crowd of voices and the girls paid careful attention to his necessary adjustments, ensuring the performances were as polished as possible. It was certainly a memorable experience that the girls will cherish forever.





History of Art in Paris





Sadly, the French do not allow their greatest artworks to leave France... Happily for a group of sixth-form artists and art historians, they were able to experience some of the most influential art in the Western world in the flesh!

Moreover, they benefited from witnessing these pieces in a context more closely connected to its original, intended context. It allowed pupils to develop their understanding of 19th- and 20th-century art, as they feasted their eyes on art, sculpture, and architecture dating from the French Revolution to the post-Modernist era.

Here is what some pupils had to say about their stay in Paris...

"The Musée d'Orsay held all the key 19thcentury French works we are studying. It was amazing to see the re-functioned train station as a home to the industrial revolution! Courbet was so well-located and so impressive... It was brilliant to see the works we have studied in such detail on canvas – not in a book. The scale was monumental and the colours were so vivid. It made understanding the works so much more accessible. The Water Lilies at the Orangerie and again at the Marmottan showed a development of styles and ideas on a theme that was breathtaking in its scale. We have learned so much about the development of artistic ideas that sprang up in Paris in the 19th century."

"For me, the architecture was the best bit! The variety at the Pompidou with its coloured pipes, denoting functions of the M & E services; the mad collocation of styles in the Opera; the imperial pomp of the Arc de Triomphe, made human by the tomb of the unknown soldier; the dignity and humanity of the memorial wall at the Shoah and the sheer absurdity of the Eiffel Tower; the elegance of Haussmann's boulevards; the pyramid of glass at the Louvre... connecting classical and modern, the amazing construction of Notre Dame – what a feast for the eyes!"







"I loved Brancusi's sculpture and the way he used different materials to represent ideas of pelt, flight, and speed in his abstracted animals. The Cubism and De Stijl exhibitions were amazing — they have given me a real understanding of abstraction, which I can develop in my portfolio."



Wonderlab Visit



The year 7 and year 8 pupils enjoyed a stimulating trip to the Science Museum. They spent an informative hour and a half in the Wonderlab, carrying out experiments and taking advantage of the impressive equipment on offer. Thermal cameras, lightning strikes 2m across, hydrogen explosives, pulleys, water dancing from sound waves, mathematical puzzles with no numbers... They were also treated to a 3D Imax screening about the international space station and its significant role in scientific research.

This trip provided them with an ideal opportunity to deepen their knowledge in both

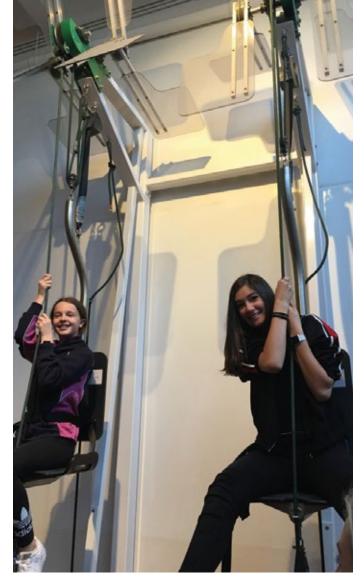
science and geography beyond the classroom. Here is what some of the girls had to say about their outing...

"It was great to see many of the features we've been learning about in geography up close, as well as learn more about the effects humans have had on our beautiful planet."

"It was wonderful seeing how scientists from all over the world – different countries and different political backgrounds – are working together to protect the planet that is home to us all."









Activities Week



Year 7 in Boppard

DAY 1

We met bright and early on Monday morning for a 7 AM departure, full of enthusiasm and excitement. Despite the 11-hour trip (+ two hours' delay at the Eurotunnel), our girls remained positive, entertaining themselves with singing, films, more singing, games, and even more singing to pass the time. The time was also broken up by meal stops – the girls enjoyed the strangeness of eating their three main meals in three different countries in one day! After arriving at the hotel and settling into their rooms, everyone was delighted to hear breakfast would be served at the later time of 9:30. Lie ins all round!

DAY 2

Day two got off to a hot start: we woke up at 8 AM to a temperature of 30 degrees celcius. The temperature later reached a high of 38 degrees, with the heatwave set to continue for the rest of our stay. Lots of water breaks, sunscreen breaks, and shade breaks made the heat slightly more bearable.

We took a relaxing boat trip down the Rhein to the small town of St Goar to visit Rheinfels Castle, which was first constructed in 1245. The tour guide was excited to show us through the secret tunnels and dungeons of the castle. Despite the teasing about spiders and snakes, the girls were happy to be in the cool shade and out of the hot sun!

We returned to Boppard to have ice creams, cold drinks, and even buy fans in the 1 Euro shop. The highlight of the afternoon for some, however, was taking advantage of the natural





Activities Week









water fountains in the town centre! At the time of writing the girls have been given an hour and a half in the hotel to have cold showers, change, and relax before the evening events. Our driver, John, is currently trying to tempt More House's favourite karaoke host out of retirement to put on karaoke in the hotel for the girls tonight or tomorrow night. John can be persuasive so fingers crossed! If there's no karaoke, the girls will be taking part in some team-building games in a shady part of the park by the Rhein river!

DAY 3

We kicked off day 3 with a walk around Boppard's town centre and a trip to the swimming pool - the girls were pleased to get out of the hot sun! We followed this with ice creams, before dinner. One year 7 pupil remarked we were being very rebellious! After an exhausting day, the girls took advantage of an opportunity to get an early night before day 4.

DAY 4

The girls awoke excited, ready to find out their groups for the theme parkt trip. Mr Carroll and Miss Kempin's groups went on the faster rides, while Miss Stojanovic's group opted for a more laidback day on the slowe rides. The girls in the faster group queued for 80 minutes in the hot sun to go on the Taron Rollercoaster, which has been named the fastest multi-launch rollercoaster in the world! After a 75-second ride, the girls returned shell-shocked, delirious, and with new hairstyles.

Most girls then opted for the water rides, ready to cool off. Temperatures began to cool off... to a mere 36 degrees! After an exhausting day of rides in the hear, the girls purchased final snacks, ice creams, and bottles of water before returning to the hotel for dinner and a clean up.



Activities Week



Y8 in the Isle of Wight

DAY 1

An excited coach full of year 8 pupils departed from More House bright and early to head to the Isle of Wight. On the way to the ferry, we stopped at Gunwharf quays for a short (but expensive) shopping trip. All shopped out, we headed to the port. We got the most amazing view of the coastline as we took our seats on the top deck of the ferry next to a very friendly dog. We travelled through the windy country roads of the Isle of Wight for 40 minutes before we reached our destination - luckily with no travel sickness!

With all the travelling done, we began our first activities: buggy building and an obstacle challenge. Bayan showed off her nimble skills whilst crawling over a net in the obstacle challenge, only to be sabotaged by Ella who wobbled the course, causing Bayan to fall through the holes. The other group of year 8 girls showed off their engineering skills as they managed to build a working buggy! Miss Hails and Miss Minto enjoyed a ride courtesy of Harriet, Merelina, Olivia, Steele, and Elisa. Our first day ended with a 'whodunnit' style murder mystery. Dr Thomas Baker (Lily) was branded the evil culprit by the detectives. Well done to all of the suspects who demonstrated some great acting skills that had us all laughing.

DAY 2

The year 8s were well rested ready for our first full day of activities! Amongst other activities, group 1 showed their teamwork skills whilst completing a blindfolded obstacle course and group 2 had fun seeing how far they could shoot their bottle rockets across a field.



Activities Week





At lunch, we joined groups to play a mega volleyball game. With some great digs from Phoebe and some brilliant spikes from Erin, their team were crowned champions.

Our jampacked afternoon saw group 1 try to emulate group 2's success when building buggies. Meanwhile, group 2 perfected their duelling skills in fencing. Finally, all groups joined forces to complete a series of problemsolving tasks.



After our very active day, we were glad to hear that our evening activity was a movie night! All of the girls snuggled up on some huge beanbags and watched *St Trinian's* with some hot chocolate... the perfect end to a very busy day.





On Wednesday, we had an action-packed day filled with activities that required courage, tenacity, and ultimate commitment. They were certainly not for the faint hearted. Not only did we tackle the abseiling wall, where we had to lower ourselves off a tower block, we also completed the 'Leap of Faith' activity where we had to climb a 30ft telegraph pole, step onto a platform and jump off to high five a ball suspended from the air.



After lunch, we met our team rep to take us to the beach. Coming from a school in the middle of London, we relished being by the sea and enjoyed paddling in the (very cold) water. We even played some frisbee. To end the day, we took part in mini-olympics.

DAY 4

Our last full day at Kingswood saw us working in pairs to climb 'Jacob's Ladder'. Horizontal logs are suspended from wires to resemble a ladder, however, the logs get further apart the



higher you climb - making it essential to work in pairs to pull (or push) each other up. Well done to Lucy, who managed to get all the way to the top with the help of her partner Phoebe! The sun was shining after lunch as we put our rather sandy wetsuits on and headed to the beach. We spent the whole afternoon bodyboarding. Ella Bea managed to ride some pretty big waves all the way back to shore. As the waves quietened down, we ditched the bodyboards and played in the sea. To finish our afternoon, we all enjoyed an ice-lolly on the beach.

For our final evening, we all sat round a campfire and took part in a *Pitch Perfect* style 'riff-off'. Kiera, Merelina and Olivia demonstrated some amazing harmonies. We roasted some marshmallows as we reflected

on our exciting week at Kingswood and all the activities we'd enjoyed.

DAY 5

All packed up and ready to leave, we headed off to our final activities. Kingswood saved the best till last... zip lining! Girls showed how brave they were as they swallowed their nerves and took a running jump off a 20ft tower attached to a zip wire. Everyone let out screams of excitement (and a little fear) as they zoomed through the field.

Exhausted, we loaded our things back on the coach and headed to the ferry port. We have had an amazing week here at Kingswood. Girls have been resilient, brave, and enthusiastic. We can't wait for activities week next year!



Year 9 in Kent



DAY 1

The sun shone – indeed, it blazed down – for our arrival in Kent at Grosvernor Kingswood Activities Centre. It was a busy, bustling centre! Lots of schools were arriving at the same time, but eventually, More House pupils were allocated rooms. After the luggage was carried off to the accommodation blocks, the fun could begin.

First up: a variety of problem-solving challenges, elasticated ropes to navigate, benches to balance upon, and sorting and sequencing tasks. Jemima showed great agility by squeezing under the rope without touching it once, Clemmie was quick and smart in sorting people by age and height while balancing on a very small board, and India and Eleanor turned out to be the quickest at working out how to balance on the huge seesaw.

In the evening, there was a great scrap heap challenge! The girls had to create a robot figure out of old cardboard boxes – there were some quite surprising and amazing results. The catwalk of robots was a sight to behold!

DAY 2

An early breakfast – scrambled eggs, sausages, and beans – set the girls up for a full day of activities. Jungle vines was tremendously challenging, as the girls were climbing up very steep inclines. Although they were roped and secured from below, it was nerve wrecking all the same! Miss Reid was particularly quick at this task and set the pace from the outset. At ground level, the other girls watched while listening to a beat box, entertaining us with their eclectic choice of music.

Raft building provided a pleasant relief – partly because it was on ground level and partly because it allowed the girls to cool down on











this especially warm day. They were split into two groups and it was a race against time! Ellie, Stacie, and Charlotte showed some particular skill with the knots, so their team was quickly ahead of the other as they constructed a raft out of plastic barrels, logs, and ropes. Soon, they were ready for launching! Off they floated on the lake. On the other team, however, Adiva and Mia were sinking – clearly none of them could tie a rope securely enough to ensure the raft was watertight! As a result, they were forced to swim quite a bit instead.

The Mini Olympics seemed to be everyone's cup of tea. Jemima, Malak, Ellie, Annie, and Georgie demonstrated real skill and agility – they could all run, tumble, and hulahoop at some speed. In addition, when the girls saw the empty volleyball court, they quickly asked for a ball. Soon, we had two enthusiastic teams on our hands, with some powerful serving from Rose, Eleanor, and Mia, and some tremendous defense from Rose.

DAY 3

Wednesday was another day of ropes and water. In the morning, the girls went to the climbing wall and their renewed confidence was now evident. Annie, Stasie, Ellie, and Malak all went up and down the wall face incredibly quickly!

After lunch, the girls went canoeing – this proved to be great fun, with many races and challenges taking place. Sometimes the girls would attempt to stand up in their canoes, paddles in the air! Other times, they would attempt to swap canoes. They achieved varying measures of success... there was quite a lot of swimming involved! The swimming was also pretty speedy, as none of the girls liked the feel of the slimy green material under the surface. Charlotte was the exception – she spent more time in the water rather than on it!

A campfire in the evening rounded off a glorious day. The only spoiler was that we were



not allowed to roast the marshmallows for health and safety reasons!

DAY 4

Thursday was upon us too soon – we went back to the ropes. Only this time, it was a steeper and higher climb! The girls not only had to climb a 10m pole, but then also had to crawl onto a moving ledge and balance upon it. It wasn't an easy task, but many managed it. Francesca was particularly impressive, overcoming her fears and reaching the top successfully. Jemima, Malak, Annie, Adiva, and Stasie was also all brilliant at this challenge.

In the afternoon, the girls were set the task of building a chariot. This was confusing for some – you could tell none of the girls had ever built any Ikea furniture! Ellie's team was especially successful at this task. They were very soon pushing and pulling their chariot around the field.

Nearing the end of our stay, it was finally time for a disco! All dressed up with somewhere to go. The More House girls inevitably put in a lot of song requests and very quickly the music was good and the company was fun. Although, it was a busy venue so it quickly got sweaty inside! At 9 PM, the music was off and it was back to their rooms for lights out at 10 PM.

Duke of Edinburgh Award



DAY 1

We arrived in Sussex bright and chipper, bags overflowing with kit, and were greeted by the threat of thunderstorms. Therefore, task one was for the girls to rid themselves of everything they wouldn't need for the day and pack all their kit into waterproof bags inside their rucksacks. They then head out on their first trial walk! While the girls met the humidity and heavy bags bravely, they were less stoic when it came to horseflies and beetles – there were plenty of squeals and screams.

After three hours out in stunning countryside, it was back to camp to learn how to put up tents and cook on a camping stove. We learned that the phrase 'a watch-pot never boils' should really be reserved for camping stoves, where everything takes three times as long as it does on a hob. As the threat of thunderstorms became very real, everyone retired to their tents and tried to sleep through the torrential rain.

DAY 2

The next morning, the rain kindly abated at a very well-timed 7 AM. Most girls were up bright and early, delighted to find that they weren't cooking on camping stoves again but instead were greeted by a breakfast of hot bacon, hash browns, and beans that had been delivered.

We then settled in for a more gentle morning of map reading and navigation skills. After lunch, the challenge really began in earnest, as the groups were given a map and a local route and had to navigate from one checkpoint to the next. All returned successfully and feeling confident in their map-reading abilities.

DAY 3

The delights of civilisation awaited the girls









on Wednesday! On this 'day-off', the groups headed into town to have some lunch and shop for their expedition food. Sainsbury's and Starbucks were met with a palpable sense of excitement and relief.

After returning to the campsite, the afternoon was spent completing route plans for their assessed expedition. The reward for completing their routes was a session on the terrifying high ropes in the woods, where several adrenaline junkies went for a second round. Miss Devine showed off her campfire skills in the evening and as darkness fell, we all roasted

marshmallows and tucked into s'mores.

DAY 4

'The Big Day' - Thursday was the first and longest day of the assessed expedition. Girls cleared up camp in the morning, packed tents and stoves into backpacks, and headed out to walk the 12km to the next campsite. The beautiful weather, while very much appreciated, was a little hot for hiking with so much kit. The shady and cool woods at the lunch stop were a welcome relief.

All the groups arrived at the stunning scout campsite hidden in the woods mid-afternoon, after a very successful first day of expedition. Tents were set up, followed by much napping, relaxing, and recuperating. The expedition assessors popped by to check on their cooking skills at dinner. The girls then showed that they'd been taking campfire 'tips' and made their own campfire, celebrating with a great 'DofE song'.

DAY 5

To make the return coach, the girls packed up camp early in the morning (though not before one group had made pancakes on their camping stove) and set off to walk back to their original camp by a slightly shorter route, taking them along a very pretty reservoir and through a nature reserve. With no-one getting lost, the girls speedily made it back in time for lunch and collapsed, exhausted, in the sun.

A great time was had by all, helped by the weather. All the girls have now completed the expedition phase of their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award!





WE Volunteers





We were honoured to once again be invited to the WE Day Concert at Wembley Arena. This annual event celebrates those who have given their time or money to causes at home and abroad. Pupils who attended this year were rewarded for their volunteer work, for the purchases and sales of Rafiki bracelets, or for taking part in the Faith in Action activities.

We were in the midst of a crowd of 12,500 other individuals and groups who were also being rewarded for their charity work and were treated to musical performances from Jack and Jack, Pixie Lott, Tom Walker, and One Direction member Liam Payne. We heard inspirational stories from students in London who have been working with other your people to put an end to knife crime. Model Iskra Lawrence spoke about body positivity and encouraged us all to be aware that people's social media pictures are only their greatest hits. She vowed never to photoshop her own images because "we are all unique" and these differences should be celebrated. Mental health was certainly a

key theme of this year's concert – Tom Walker, Connor Franta, and Naomi Campbell all stressed the importance of looking out for one other.

Unanimously, the highlight of the day was the introduction to Prince Harry, the Duke of Sussex. He stressed that young people "need to stand up" if we want to create a fairer and better world. He discussed the importance of looking after our planet and our environment. He urged us to listen to people more, even if you disagree with their views, and to get off our screens and spend more time face to face instead. We were also treated to a surprise visit from Princess Megan, the Duchess of Sussex, who was reluctantly dragged on stage by her husband to a standing ovation from the very excited audience at Wembley Arena.

Huge congratulations to all our pupils who won tickets to this rewarding event – we are so very proud of the kindness the More House community has displayed this past year.



charity

Race for Life



On Wednesday 5th June, an eager 69 pupils, staff, parents, relatives, friends, and pooches went to Battersea Park to participate in the annual Cancer Research UK's 5K Race for Life. It's an important event in the More House calendar – part of our ongoing endeavour to instil a social awareness in our pupils, ensuring they continue to contribute positively to the lives of others in the local community and wider society.

Cancer Research UK is the world's leading charity dedicated to beating cancer through life-saving research. They have saved millions of lives by discovering new ways to prevent, diagnose, and treat cancer. Survival has doubled over the past 40 years! The Race for

Life is always a fantastic occasion for the More House community and we were delighted that this year's entries were also open to male participants for the first time – lots of eager dads were able to join in on the run, too!

Donning our custom-made, bright pink 'More House unite – cancer we fight!' t-shirts, we made our way to the stage area for the aerobic warmup. A rather excited announcer put us through our paces to make sure we were fully prepared for our run, with some grapevines, leg kicks, arm reaches, and other moves.

It was then time to take to the start line. Some very enthusiastic year 8 pupils went straight to the front of the crowd, ensuring they got







Race for Life



the best starting position for their race. "Go" and we were off! The pre-race jitters lifted and off we went for our two laps of the course, all moving at varying paces. The course was populated with marshals high-fiving and supporters cheering all the participants along. With great determination and resilience, everyone crossed the finish line in under an hour!

The first pupil home was Phoebe in year 8, who absolutely smashed it and ran the entire race. The first staff member home was Miss Minto (kindly enabled by Mrs Steed having to pull

out with a knee injury earlier in the afternoon). The first parent home was Mrs Kilby. We were delighted to see so many of you joining in for this worthy cause – many participants set a new personal best, which is something we should always strive for!

We have been especially overwhelmed this year by the generosity of parents, family members, and friends – so far, we have managed to raise a staggering £4,080 plus £805 in Gift Aid. Thank you to every single sponsor for supporting this amazing charity.













Fairtrade Fortnight

For two weeks each year, thousands of individuals, companies, and groups across the UK come together to celebrate the people who grow our food, people who live in some of the poorest countries in the world, and who are often exploited and badly paid. This year, Fairtrade are focusing on the people – in particular the women – who grow the cocoa in the chocolate we love so much.

As a result, the Faith in Action pupils determined that they would bake chocolate cakes and cupcakes and sell these in the dining room on the 1st March for Fairtrade. They raised £140! Their efforts continued the following week, when they hosted a 'Hot Chocolate' morning on Shrove Tuesday to raise more awareness and money.

The FIA pupils wanted to get involved in Fairtrade as it is a simple way to make a difference to the lives of the people who grow the things we love. This is achieved by making trade fair and is in keeping with Pope Francis' Laudato Si quest to help our 'common home' and those living in it.

Fairtrade is unique. They work with businesses, consumers, and campaigners. Farmers and workers have an equal say in everything. Empowerment is at the heart of what they do. The mission is to connect disadvantaged farmers and workers with consumers, promote fairer trading conditions, and empower farmers and workers to combat poverty, strengthen their position, and take control over their lives.

It was a really successful day of fundraising and raising awareness, and the pupils had great fun. Thank you to all those who were involved and supported this worthwhile endeavour!









departmental review

Art



It was a year of change in the art department! Ms Beatty had left us, Ms Yate had joined us as our part-time textiles specialist, Ms Rigby remained as our painting specialist, and Ms Devine stepped into the role of Head of Department. As a result, there were lots of changes in the studios, but the girls, as ever, rose to the new challenges we set them. It's always incredibly rewarding seeing pupils progress from one stage to the next, making huge improvement in their work and their confidence throughout the year.

Year 7 pupils kickstarted the year with two projects: 'Brand New' and 'I like it, what is it?'. These topics introduced academic drawing and contemporary art movements and artists. Year 8 were introduced to the idea of 'photo safaris' as starting points for some beautiful mixed-media works, which built embroidery upon monoprint as a collage. Year 9 began thinking about expressive uses of materials and the graphic design of page layouts. It is always exciting watching pupils develop an ability to present their work beautifully.

Year 10 and lower sixth were given an opportunity to experiment with materials and subject matter, producing some super portfolio sheets. Both years joined the trip to Margate, to visit the Turner Contemporary Gallery and see the work of Patrick Heron. Back at school, lower sixth were inspired to put on a show of their own and asked permission to take over the dining-room walls with a special, group exhibition. Their theme was 'London' and they produced a diverse representation of the capital – looking at knife, the impact of Brexit, and the role of the royal family.

The spring term ushered in exam season for

our GCSE and A-level pupils. Exam themes this year were: 'Variations and Similarities' for A level and 'Reflections' for GCSE. It is always an exciting period of time as we observe the girls approaching their themes in such varied ways. Year 10 started the year with a trip to the National Gallery, to support their Artist Analysis project. The gallery educator introduced the girls to ways of reading paintings, in order to develop their critical thinking. Back in the classroom, they researched artists as diverse as Barbara Kruger, Yayoi Kusama, and Turner. The lower-sixth pupils put their first term's learning into practice and began working on independent projects, including death, colour and light and dark, and nature.

Summer term means exam season for all year groups: girls were well prepared and as always produced an astonishingly impressive level of work under pressure. As a result, the art exhibition was a roaring success! It was lovely seeing so many old girls back for the event. Dr Sophie Dauvois and artist Rachel Ortas, founders of media company Okido, were the guests of honour and were overwhelmed by the work they saw. Excitingly, we also had a new prize to award – the 'People's Choice Award' from the previous week's year 9 art sale. Ms Rigby had asked all year 9 pupils to produce an abstract painting, which was then sold to raise funds for Crisis. The inaugural prize went to India!

Finally, congratulations to Galliane, who secured her place to study an art foundation yet at Bournemouth University, and to Cara, who has a place to study photography at Salford University.



Business



"We mean business!" heads the news board in C43, our new home, and it has never been truer. Both the upper and lower sixth have been exceptionally innovative this year. The lower sixth began the year by exploring small, independent businesses in the local year and finished the year with a trip to Peter Jones to study customer service and glimpse the large, multinational businesses they will be studying in the second year of the A-level course. Meanwhile, the upper sixth visited the new businesses in Pavilion Road during Chelsea in Bloom. Along with throngs of tourists, they had their photo taken inside the floral shell at the entrance to the pedestrianised part of the street.

At the start of the spring term, both classes devised an entrepreneurial competition for the lower school based on the festival challenge they had completed themselves in the autumn term. They ran the challenge during 'Money Week', one of the themed weeks, for year 10 pupils. Other year groups explored personal finance topics such as budgeting and attitudes to saving and spending.

A highlight of the year saw the lower-sixth pupils decide they would like to take part in the 'Young Enterprise' competition in autumn 2019. To this end, they prepapred a proposal and presentation for the Co-Heads and Bursar, in order to gain the necessary funds to enter the competition. Their enthusiasm and tactics were most impressive and we're looking forward to hearing whether or not they've been successful. Watch this space!

Classics

Is there more to classics than Roman baths and gladiators? In a nutshell: yes. It is one of the most diverse subjects in the secondary school curriculum. It enables a deeper understanding of the long histories and traditions that underpin the language, politics, architecture, philosophy, and literature of Western civilisation today. In exploration the ancient world, we are able to make sense of the world we live in today!

At More House, we are thrilled to be able to offer this subject to our pupils and enrich their studies with a variety of extracurricular trips. This year, the sixth form once again attended the Sovereign Education lectures in the autumn term. They were thrilled by the opportunity to listen to university lecturers, who are experts in their field, speak about Greek theatre and *The Iliad*.

When Mrs Gilbertson returned from maternity leave in January, thrilled to be reunited with the pupils and department after a year away, she was especially delighted to find Ancient Greek Club still thriving. Meeting once a week, Mrs Tunnicliffe and a group of pupils worked their way through John Taylor's *Greek to GCSE*, learning new grammar and vocabulary. They are now able to translate quite complex passages! The Greek alphabet that borders the classics classroom serves as an apt reminder that this ancient language is still relevant today, with several letters used as symbols in mathematics and science.



departmental review

Drama



For a subject like drama, it is imperative that multiple extracurricular opportunities be provided throughout the academic year, giving pupils a chance to appreciate the art form at its very best. In the autumn term, several such opportunities arose! Lower-sixth drama pupils went to see a technical rehearsal of *The Trench* by the West End theatre company *Les Enfants Terribles*. It was wonderful for the girls to see the designers and production managers at work, as they built the staging, rigged and focused lights, and positioned speakers and microphones in preparation of opening night on Wednesday. They also got to see some of the puppets getting ready for their big night!

Also in the autumn term, the lower-sixth were mesmerised by Arinzé Kene's one-man show, *Misty*. Described as an amalgamation of "gig theatre, spoken word, live art, and direct address", *Misty* challenged the audience to view modern London through a different less. Kene's powerful and magnetic performance explored the character of Virus, a young man plagued by various fights and struggles with friends, family and the law. The poetic and raw performance and innovative set design provoked many passionate discussions about life and theatre!

GCSE drama pupils enjoyed a production of Willy Russell's *Blood Brothers* at the New

Wimbledon Theatre. Russell's acclaimed musical melodrama explores the powerful social concepts of nature versus nature, fate, and destiny. The girls were captivated by the creative and imaginative staging and the flow of this episodic piece. It was an invaluable opportunity to strengthen their knowledge and understanding of section B in their written exam!

Caryl Churchill's 1982 play *Top Girls* centres on highly-ambitious Marlene, who grapples with the heavy decision to raise a child or pursue her career. Churchill reflects on the roles available to modern-day women and the price it can cost – a thought-provoking play for the More House girls to watch in this day and age. Here were some of their thoughts:

"The episodic structure was a challenge at first, but once I tapped into Churchill's use of surrealism, especially in Act 1, the overarching themes of feminist politics and women in careers shone through. It was highly intriguing." Nessie

"The use of staging was incredibly creative and engaging. The speed with which the theatre technicians changed sets was impressive and provided me with a great deal of inspiration for our upcoming Churchill production, *Love and Information*." Maddy



English

It was a busy and exciting year for the English department. We saw in the new year with plenty of change – first, Miss Travers had left us to work with the government's Prevent programme, then Mrs Garwood went on maternity leave, quickly followed by Mrs Boulter. This resulted in Mr Hegarty moving up to Head of Department. What a shake up!

We hit the ground running at the start of the academic year by throwing ourselves into National Poetry Day. Posters appeared around school, encouraging pupils to get involved in this annual celebration of poetry. This year, the topic was change. Pupils were given the opportunity to recite their favourite poems on that topic as well as recite their own personal poems. For the budding poets, this event was complemented by the trip later in the term to Poetry Live at the Apollo Theatre, where year 10 and year 11 pupils heard a range of GCSE set texts recited and discussed by the poets themselves. How wonderful to hear the likes of Carol Ann Duffy and Simon Armitage live!

Every year, the department strives to take pupils to live performances of the set texts they're studying in the classroom. It's a wonderful way of bringing their studies to life! As soon as the autumn term got underway, Mr Hegarty and the sixth-form English students were off to see their first production. They travelled East to Wilton's Music Hall, an interesting and atmospheric venue, for a funfilled performance of Shakespeare's Twelfth *Night*. This is an A-level text that pupils study from a comic genre perspective and this production fitted the bill perfectly. Its famous opening, 'If music be the food of love, play on', was accompanied by the entire cast playing a wide range of instruments to create a traditional jazz club atmosphere – lively and comedic at various points. This production contrasted with more conventional performances the students have seen, however, it was no less

illuminating and will undoubtedly enhance their understanding of the text. In addition to this thought-provoking adaptation, all exam candidates were also fortunate enough to see the Barbican production of *Romeo and Juliet*. This modern adaptation thoroughly absorbed the girls.

Sometimes, there's no need to go to the theatre – the theatre comes to us. Redheart Theatre Company captivated the GCSE pupils with their unique adaptation of *Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*. Using only the author's own words and carefully avoiding clichés of smoking potions, hairy hands, and behind-the-sofa transformations, award-winning playwright Justin Butcher crafted a subtle and compelling new adaptation. Alternating between Utterson's







departmental review

narrative and Jekyll's 'Statement of the Case', this one-man show successfully brought the disturbing fable to life. It was performed by Rupert Mason, kitted out in Victorian costume, with atmospheric lighting and sound effects that rendered the production extremely spooky – fitting for that time of year when night falls quickly. Another visiting theatre company visited us in the autumn term – this time, Quantum Theatre delighted the younger years with their festive and spooky performance of *A*

Christmas Carol.

Sadly, the end of the year brought with it one very sad farewell in the English department. Mr Hegarty leaves More House, after over ten years in our midst. We are extremely grateful to Mr Hegarty for his unfailing dedication to the department, the pupils, and English language and literature, and we wish him all the best in the future.

Geography

The geography department has had a hugely successful year, with 20 girls taking GCSE geography and all pupils benefiting from the many field trips available to them. Moreover, the pupils continue to benefit from the fantastic resources on offer in the geography classroom, including Lego, play dough, Chromebooks, and Google VR kits.

In the lower school, year 7 explored the world through maps and enjoyed an OS map treasure hunt to review their learning. They also investigated life without water, including an overview of the adaptation that animals and plants have made in order to survive in the desert. Year 8 explored the wonders of China and its influence on the rest of the world, after taking a virtual trip down the course of a river. They also thoroughly enjoyed the explosive geography in their unit 'Risky Places', which covered volcanoes and severe weather events.

Year 9 spent the year developing vital skills for GCSE geography – they carried out detailed studies of Africa and what makes it such a unique continent. This culminated in a free-choice presentation and the projects they produced were excellent. Year 9 also benefited from the unit on climate change – they produced their own TED talks on the topic, after being inspired by Greta Thunberg's 2018





TED talk.

In the exam years, year 10 embarked on their GCSE journey with enthusiasm and focused especially on data interpretation and exam question skills. They were also introduced to online revision tools, answering over 2,000 questions between them in preparation for their year 10 examinations. Meanwhile, year 11 pupils enjoyed 3 days of field work in Taunton. They visited the coast to measure sediment size, draw beach profiles, and study the effects of longshore drift on the area. In the town, they carried our research on the services available in the area and practiced their interview skills. This information was then consolidated back in class in preparation for their paper 3 examination.

The year 12 geography class, though small, enjoyed a fantastic year of study and field trips. They travelled to the Museum of London Docklands to enhance their studies on regeneration. Year 13, who have reached the end of their secondary school geography journey, submitted their final research projects at the end of the spring term. They were then treated to an informative revision session run by David Holmes of Excellent Journey, which was exceptionally useful for their examination preparation.

Beyond the classroom, the department was thrilled to have a hand in running the 'Around the World' themed week – they ran a very successful map racer session and VR trek for the whole school.

History of Art

Taking advantage of our close proximity to some of the world's best museums and galleries, history of art pupils benefited from a range of trips throughout the year that enrich their classroom studies. Here are some of the highlights...

As part of their topic on appropriation, year 8 pupils were able to see a brilliantly curated juxtaposition of works both influencing and influenced by Van Gogh at the Tate Britain. Here's what some of the girls had to say:

"There were a lot of works from different periods in his life, which allowed us to learn more about his career. He learned his craft by copying other painters like Whistler and Sickert. This was evident in his genre of paintings."

"We looked at how his work was appropriated by early 20th century artists, yet he only sold one painting during his lifetime."

Year 9 were thrilled by their visit to the Tate Modern to see the German expressionism







departmental review





exhibition. The post-war art showed the rise of wealth and the development of the Weimar Republic.

"Some works depicted truly shocking images that magnified how chauvinistic society was at the time. However, man's dominance over women was somewhat contradicted by the presence of bright colours, demonstrating a satirical approach by the artists of the period." Ursula

The sixth-form art historians took groups of year 7 pupils to see selected works of the 19th and 20th century and enjoy the delights of the Edward Burne-Jones exhibition at the Tate Britain. It was wonderful to see the girls sharing their ideas and learning from each other.

"You could see through his use of colours that he was inspired by medieval art. This was also enhanced by the styles of the elongated and elegant figures and by the stained glass and use of precious metals. The work either reflected myths, chivalric heroes, or Biblical allegories. One of my favourite pieces in the exhibition was his large embroidery of the birth of Jesus." Fran

Other exhibitions the history of art pupils enjoyed this year included the Renzo Piano and Klimt / Schiele exhibitions at the Royal Academy.

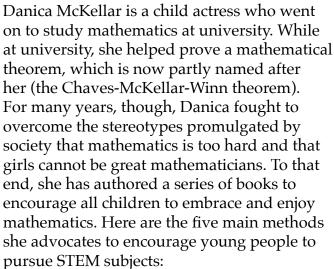
"The exhibition, compiled of the sketches, annotations, 3D models, and photographs of Piano's work, enabled us to gain real insight into the work and thought processes behind the architect who has designed some of the most significant postmodern buildings of our age – including the Centre Pompidou in Paris and the Shard in London."

"It was interesting to see how Klimt had influenced Schiele and the close relationship they shared as artists. Schiele was particular influenced by Klimt's 'gold period'. It was also good to see some of their lesser-known works, particularly Schiele's earlier works, which focused on composition and style."

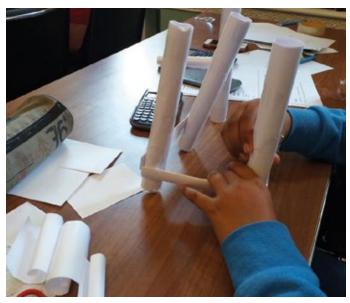
Maths







- 1. Highlight important role models in STEM. Two thirds of girls who know another woman in STEM will consider studying STEM courses.
- 2. Ditch the stereotypes. Mathematics needs better PR and support.
- 3. Use mathematics to empower children. Girls need to believe that intelligence is empowering.
- 4. Avoid the instant gratification culture. Children need to realise the importance of investing themselves in their long-term development.
- 5. Be a vocal advocate. Speak to children about the importance and merits of mathematics and science.



These are certainly the methods we use at More House, to nurture strong ambitions in mathematics and encourage girls to pursue STEM subjects to a higher level. Enriching their classroom studies with extracurricular activities is a significant part of that.

This year, Amelie and Emma in year 9 had the privilege of attending the mathematics masterclasses at the Royal Institution of Great Britain. They had the opportunity to extend their skills beyond the normal scope of the classroom. There were sessions about polyominoes (exploring patterns), piling (making strong pillars from weak materials) an ultra-secret story, completing the square, a brief history of infinity, and games and moral calculations.

Meanwhile, pupils in years 7 and 8 took part in the prestigious UKMT Mathematical Challenge. In this competition, students are set stretching tasks that require thinking outside the box. Bronze certifiaates were awarded to Clemence, Tavy, Natsuko, Harriet, Olivia, and Georgia. Well done, girls!



departmental review

MFL



This year, we were thrilled to have pupils sitting GCSES in French, German, Spanish, Italian, and Mandarin! Miss Gremillet, Miss Stojanovic, Miss Brown, and Mr Carroll were joined by Mrs Howard-Würz in the department, who worked with GCSE and A-level pupils as our new German language assistant. Mrs Howard-Würz was a very popular addition and even ran an extra holiday exam session for year 11, to help them prepare for the oral exams in April. We would like to extend a massive thank you to Mrs Howard-Würz for all her hard work this year! We would also like to thank Ms Ciciretti, who worked tirelessly to help our year 9 Italian students prepare for their GCSE exams.

Beyond the classroom, the upper-sixth French pupils were given a wonderful opportunity to see a sold-out production of *L'Étranger* by Albert Camus, one of their set texts for the year. It was adapted for the stage by Booker prizewinning author and director Ben Okri OBE. The fascinating interpretation of the book had us talking for days afterwards and we were especially struck by how much more dramatic the events of the novel appeared onstage compared to the protagonist's nonchalant narrations of them in the novel.

The sixth-former French pupils were treated to another trip outside the classroom, this time to the British Film Institute on the South Bank for a special workshop and lecture on French cinema through the ages – complety taught in French! We were particularly interested in the cinematic techniques used by a range of filmmakers and how these applied to our film of choice in class, *La Haine* (1995). This trip was also a useful insight into university education, as the upper-sixth pupils were taught among hundreds of other sixth formers

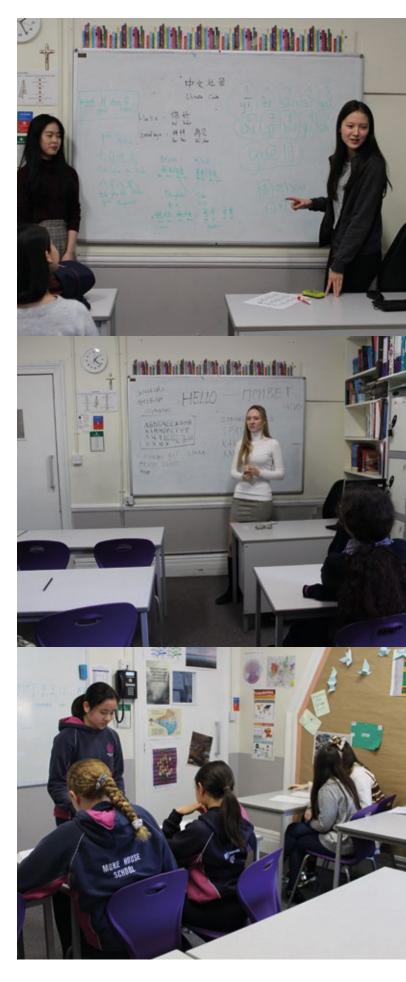




in a university-style lecture theatre. It was therefore particularly impressive to see Galliane analyse a particular scene in the film, in front of the whole theatre! The day finished with a screening of the Palme d'Or winner film *Entre les murs* (2008), which we discussed at length upon our return to class the next day.

Not all extracurricular events took place beyond the classroom, though. Back at school, Miss Stojanovic held our first 'French Film Night'! The film screened was *La Famille Belier* (2014), a heart-warming film about a teenage singer who is the only hearing member of a deaf family. The year 9 and 10 pupils who attended the screening not only thoroughly enjoyed the film, but also learned new French vocabulary and improved their listening skills! They were also keen to show off some of the sign language they had learned from the film as well. We are looking forward to hosting more of these film nights next year and are open to suggestions!

The MFL department was keen to get in on the themed weeks action. Working in conjunction with the geography and classics departments, we offered pupils opportunities to learn Chinese, Japanese, Russian, and Arabic during lunchtime clubs. We would like to say a massive thank you to the pupils who helped run these clubs: Judy who led Arabic, Sara who made a handout and gave a taster session in Japanese, Alina who led Russian, and Emma and Vicky who taught Mandarin. All the clubs were a great success and we hope this will lead to new members of the department in 10 years' time! Another popular club held during this week was a foreign cartoon club, where pupils enjoyed episodes of Tin Tin in French. Perhaps the highlight of the week, though, was when we hosted a very popular French breakfast. C32 became a café, where croissants, pains au chocolat, crepes, and orange juice were served, with donations going to WE. The French accordian music Mr Carroll chose to set the mood was certainly not as popular as the food, though....





Music



The music department enjoys a high profile, both within the school and in the wider community, presenting four significant concerts each year at local venues, including Cadogan Hall. We are very proud of the commitment and dedication displayed by students in the musical life of the school, with over three quarters of students taking part in some form of musical activity. Singing is central to our activities and there are eight different choirs operating throughout the school year. These choirs play a key role in life at the school, not least with their contributions to school worship at all major points in the Christian calendar.

In year 7, every girl is given the opportunity to study either the violin, the clarinet, or the trumpet, and this year we added the option of the ukulele, as part of timetabled academic lessons. This has proved very successful and the ukulele group more than earned its place in the summer concert with an enthusiastic reception from the audience. Many of the pupils involved have since chosen to continue with private lessons.

Unsurprisingly, instrumental music has picked up considerable momentum at the school and the string group has become one of the school's most dedicated and accomplished ensembles. Last year, their performance of 'Pachelbel's canon' at prize giving was exemplary. The school is also lucky enough to own a full set of hand-bells, which teaches valuable ensemble and teamwork skills for all abilities. During our Christmas concert at Christ Church in Chelsea, Mr Keeley led the group in Carol of the Bells as well as traditional carol arrangements. The Christmas concert also featured a prodigious joint effort uniting all singers from years seven to nine, as well as a stunning performance of Eric Whitacre's 'Seal Lullabye' by our Senior Chamber Choir.

The department organises regular field trips to make use of the wealth of musical opportunities in London and further afield. This includes theatre trips to the West End and classical concerts such as the London Philharmonic Orchestra. The girls were also treated to a workshop this year with the Grammy-







nominated vocal ensemble Stile Antico, giving them a rare chance to rehearse alongside professional singers with a busy international performance and recording schedule.

Rarely a day goes by when the music department is not working hard with our students to prepare for the many musical events that More House has to offer. We are extremely proud of the varied talents of our girls and we enjoy each and every opportunity to showcase these skills, while watching the girls develop and grow as both performers and individuals.





Physical Education

Once again, it was a busy year for the P.E. department, with a mighty 48 before- and after-school clubs and 25 lunchtime clubs throughout the 2018-2019 academic year. New clubs introduced included the step aerobics and box-fit lunchtime clubs and all years badminton club. We hosted a number of inter-house competitions throughout the year, including sports day and the netball and rounders tournaments. Students also had the opportunity to watch elite level competition through attending the England Netball International match at the Copperbox Arena in November.

A new addition to the physical education programme was the development and introduction of More Elite. Sports Captain Flora worked closely with Miss Minto to prepare and deliver the programme. Students are invited to join the More Elite programme if they are talented in a particular sport, competing at







club, county, regional, or national level, and have a high level of demand placed upon their time. The More Elite programme aims to support students by providing them with the best possible learning opportunities and enable them to work to their full sporting and academic potential. They are assigned mentors and invited to attend lunchtime seminars aimed at improving their knowledge and understanding of the sporting world. One of the sessions this year was a flexibility clinic with Miss Dakoda, aimed at developing flexibility in order to prevent injury – it is well known that stretching can improve and enhance performance! Another lunchtime seminar included a talk on injury prevention from Ed Clarke at Pro-Sports Physio in Kensington. Students learned how to prevent and treat injuries as well as how to better prepare for competitions.

The introduction of the Community Sports Leaders Award within the 6th Form Sport Programme has been a resounding success. Nine students signed up to participate and have completed the award. One of their first voluntary projects was to marshal the Mini Marathon Trials. Alishia Williams-Gayle, organiser of the event, was thrilled with their leadership skills and wrote to the school saying: "Thank you so much for the marshals. They were great! They did what they were asked and supported the runners from beginning to end. In particular, Honey and Ella who were marshalling the car park, did a fantastic job. Mo, the lead marshal, was very pleased with them, so thank you again for sending such an awesome bunch of girls to help out! We are happy to have them anytime!" The group also planned and led the charity dodgeball competition during sports week.

Netball

In non-league netball fixtures, some notable results included: U12 wins against Portland Place 8-1 and Queen's College 9-3, the U12/U13 All Stars beating Fairley House 11-3, the U13



team beating Portland Place 7-5, and the U16 team beating Queen's College 18-3.

The netball training wasn't restricted to lunchtime and after-school sessions – the early morning GCSE netball lessons with Mrs Mercer and Miss Minto proved as popular as ever. Pupils developed their skills, tactics, and abilities through specific coaching session, including one on stage 3 defence: how to dictate where a player moves on the netball court.

Rowing

The rowing programme continues to grow in popularity aided by our club, Fulham Reach Boat Club introducing a new fixture programme for 2018-19. Fixtures were held on Thursday evenings and were against all schools who take lessons at Fulham Reach Boat Club. Successful race wins were recorded against Lady Margaret's, Chelsea Academy and West London Free School. In March, Miss Minto took the rowing squad to the National Junior Indoor Rowing Championships at the Copperbox Arena. It was a fantastic day with lots of team spirit, determination, and resilience shown by all participants. Our favourite event was the boat race where students had to row as far as possible in 16mins 19seconds. The group of 8 students had to show efficient changeovers in order not to waste time and maximise their distance. It was a fantastic event and More House finished 17th.

A new addition to the rowing calendar this year was the participation in the Thames 100 rowing event organised by Fulham Reach Boat Club. The Thames 100 involves rowing a section of the 100-mile course from Trinity College, Oxford, to Fulham Reach Boat Club, in an effort to raise £10,000. The U15 rowing squad were required to row a 20-mile section of this course. Before the event began, we were given a tour around Reading University by the President of the Rowing Club. It was great to see the university's facilities and the opportunities that would be available to students in the future should they choose to row at university. The rowers got off to a great start on a very frosty morning and managed to row over half of













the planned route before lunch. Luckily, the sun came out and it was a beautiful afternoon for the girls to leisurely complete their row, finishing at Dorney Rowing Club earlier than expected.

Football

FC More House continued to go from strength to strength. The senior squad achieved a record win beating Queen's College 6-0. Hana scored a hatrick, Amalia scored a brace, and Mia scored the sixth goal. The junior squad enjoyed a number of competitive fixtures, but are yet to record their first win. Mr Carroll took the senior squad to the Paddington Recreation Ground to take part in a five-team tournament hosted by Queen's College. The mixed team of year 9 and year 10 pupils played four games in the group stages, in windy and drizzly conditions, with the aim of qualifying for the final. The first game was a tightly-contested affair against a very confident St James A team. After a stray shot early on fell right to their strikers' feet, More House conceded their first and only goal of the tournament. St James A won the game 1-0, but this loss inspired a comeback from More House, who went on to win the next three games, beating St James B 1-0, Queen's College 2-0 and South Hampstead School 1-0. By holding their nerve in the crucial final fixture, More House qualified for the final with three clean sheets.

St James A were relentless in the final and attacked from the kick off. More House had no choice, but to defend and did so with a lot of determination and resilience. Thanks to some crucial saves from Anna, More House held on and took the undefeated St James A to a penalty shootout with a chance of winning the tournament. More House won the toss and chose to shoot second. With Anna in goal, More House matched St James right through to Sudden Death, when unfortunately St James stole the victory.

The girls' team work, communication, and



dogged determination paid off as they finished runners up in a very closely-fought tournament. Special praise must go to Hana, who captained the side and led by example, scoring all four of our goals. A lot of praise also must go to the defence: Malak, Anastasie, Ella, Adiva, Margot, and Anna, who only conceded one goal all day. Mia and Amalia also put in tireless performances on the wings and played every minute of every game with an impressive amount of energy.

Hockey

The U12 and U13 hockey teams had a successful season, with both teams getting through to the finals of the Queen's Gate tournament. The U12 team finished 4th overall and the U13s finished 5th. In a friendly match, the U13 hockey team beat Queen's College 6-0. The season finale was a U12 vs U13 hockey match for the Junior Cup. The U13s won 4-0, with Ana and Grace nominated as players of the match.

In the summer term, the rounders season got off to a good start with U15 team beating Queen's College 14-10 and Portland Place 14-6. There were some significant improvements in the batting and fielding tactics shown by our students. This translated to some excellent wins, including: the U13 team beating Queen's College 16-11.5 and Portland Place 10-4 and the U14 team beating Queen's College 5.5-4.5. A novel experience for the German exchange students was to participate in a England vs Germany rounders tournament in Battersea Park. More House students were exceptionally helpful in translating, explaining, and demonstrating the intricate rules and regulations in rounders. It was particularly novel as, for once, More House were taking on a mixed team – and the boys were pretty good at hitting the ball! Overall, the German students put up a good fight, but the mighty More House girls won the game.

Mini Marathon

In October, More House put on a show at the annual Mini Marathon Championships in





Holland Park. We entered a number of girls across all year groups. In the U13 race, Lucy finished an impressive 4th and qualified for the London Youth Games in November, held in Parliament Hill. Other results included: Beatrix finishing 7th in the U13 race and Charlotte finishing 10th in the U15 race; both of whom also qualified for the Youth Games event. Beatrix finished 214th and Charlotte's U15 girls' team raced among 193 participants finishing an impressive 3rd out of the 26 boroughs taking part.

Following Lucy's successful run in the Youth Games, she was selected to represent the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea squad in the London Mini Marathon, where she finished 106th.



Religious Studies



Religious Studies have had another incredibly successful and busy academic year. The intellectually rigorous curriculum has generated interesting and engaging classroom discussions spanning all year groups and pupils have demonstrated a love of learning and a passion for the subject. The pupils are religiously literate and engaged and are developing the knowledge, understanding, and skills to reflect spiritually and think ethically and theologically.

In KS3, pupils participated in a 'Faith In Art' project, whereby the pupils selected an artist such as Caravaggio, St John of the Cross, and Leonardo Da Vinci to name but a few, and examined through a particular choice of picture the symbolism, context, colours, and depiction of Jesus. They also had to reflect on what they believed the artist was trying to convey. Some of their work can be seen here. Meanwhile, the pupils in year 9 examined Michelangelo's Creation of Adam and had to identify the theological truths contained within, such as "God is transcendent and ineffable", "creation ex nihilio" and "imago dei".

The year 12 pupils went to Douay Martyr's Catholic School to listen to Eduqas A level specialists Dr Greg Barker and Dr Mark Lambe deliver a two-day revision programme. The two days proved to be a very successful overview. Some of the time was very effectively spent on addressing the all-important essay writing skills and the pupils felt more prepared for their impending end-of-year exams. Having this bespoke revision session with A-level exam specialists is a real benefit to our pupils and we pray that all our pupils enjoy the exam success that they so richly deserve.

To draw the academic year to a conclusion, pupils were given a choice of world faiths and a checklist of criteria that they were to adhere to and they had to create a presentation of the faith of their choice. The quality of the presentations was excellent and we learned some really interesting facts about Islam, Hinduism, Judaism, Buddism, Sikhism, and other strands of Christianity. The standard of ICT skills was also impressive also and pupils really enjoyed exercising their independent thinking skills.

Science

Year 10 biologists enjoyed their biology lesson at the Natural History Museum early in the year. The girls learned about the theory of evolution and how humans may have evolved over time. They visited the Human Evolution exhibit, where they got to see several ancient specimens, including the world's oldest hominin fossil. It was an insightful afternoon where the girls embarked on a seven-million-year journey, from the first hominins to the last surviving human species: us. They even got to see the Cheddar Man skeleton and gained fascinating insights into the cultural practices

of early modern humans in Britain, including a peak at a human skull shaped into a cup. They took plenty of pictures of different specimens and here are some of their posters on human evolution.

Physics in year 9 took a real life look at the physics that impacts our natural and man-made world. How can we warn coastline settlements that tsunamis have occurred? How many ways do we use electromagnetic waves? X-rays, wifi, remote controls, ear pods, mobile phones, cancer treatments... the list is getting longer

every day and it was so interesting to see what kind of ideas the students came up with themselves! We finished the year off thinking about how the energy resources we use have a direct impact on the environment. By studying energy flow and insulation, the year nine students designed (and in some cases, built) models of small, eco-friendly houses. During Science week, the students tested Newton's Third Law by making balloon-powered cars and then racing them around the Science department.

Year 10 experienced a sugar high during science week as they looked at the material properties of sweets. They discovered just how much strawberry laces will stretch under force, graphed the differences in texture between different chocolates, and uncovered the number of dyes in each colour of Skittles. In lessons, year 10 students have tested their geophysics skills exploring for oil and gas using real seismic data from offshore Angola.

In April, the sixth-form physics pupils spent a fantastic day with students from the Oasis Southbank on the HQS Wellington, a decommissioned warship now moored on the North Bank. Here, they applied their physics knowledge to ship-based problems, led by an Institute of Physics tutor. After an introduction to the history of the ship and a tour, they sharpened their pencils and pulled out their calculators to complete a series of challenging physics problems. They successfully used forces to work out the maximum load the ship could carry, performed an experiment to calculate the thrust of the propellers, and used a sextant to work out the height of the Shard.

The highlight of our department this year was once again the arrival of the chicks. More House School had the amazing opportunity to watch 10 chicken eggs hatch into fluffy and adorable chicks. This year, Ana, Yasmine, Leah, and Georgia all adopted a little chick. We hope the girls enjoy watching them grow!



Faith

We began the new school year by coming together to celebrate Mass at our parish church, St Mary's. Mass was celebrated by Father Lawrence and it proved, as always, to be a really lovely way to begin the academic year and to set the tone for the year ahead. We are grateful to Father Lawrence for leading this and all our weekly celebration of form masses in school. Thank you also to all the parents who attended the whole-school masses this year. The ever growing numbers of parents in attendance is a most pleasing boost to the school community.

In addition to All Saints Day, Christmas, Ash Wednesday, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and Easter liturgies and Masses, we also introduced house masses. These provided a useful occasion for pupils to reflect on the pilgrimage their houses – Santiago, Walsingham, Iona, and Canterbury – are attached to and their associated Saints.

Christmas saw a joyful liturgy of prayers and carols in the dining room. Pupils and staff read beautiful excerpts from Matthew's version of the Nativity and interspersed these with rousing renditions of traditional carols. A

profoundly beautiful carol called 'Noel' was sung by Olivia and the pupils from Prayer Club concluded with their carefully penned and individual prayers.

Lent began with the incorporation of More House Lenten Challenges 2019. Here, pupils and staff were invited to complete a challenge every day from a list of forty. The challenges ranged from initiating a prayer walk, doing something nice for a stranger, writing a 'thank you card', to helping an elderly neighbour or adopting an alternative lifestyle to protect the environment. The pupils really enjoyed these Lenten preparation for Easter.

Confirmation

Five Year 9 pupils were confirmed at Westminster Cathedral by Bishop Paul McAleenan on June 1st. Emma, Amelie, Giulia, Francesca, and Eleanor all had the pleasure of being confirmed in this inspiring venue alongside other pupils from London. The Bishop's homily on using the gifts of the Holy Spirit – knowledge, understanding, courage, and fortitude, to name but a few – resonated significantly, and the pupils were moved when





Bishop McAleenan asked them about their choice of Confirmation name. It was an unforgettable experience, especially as family members travelled from far and wide to be present for the celebration of this sacrament. We are thankful to the parent Catechists, Julie Casey and Caroline Randle, for leading the weekly Confirmation classes.

Through the Confirmation course, pupils were privileged to attend the Glasshouse Shelter in Hammersmith and set up dinner for the homeless one Sunday evening. This proved to be a most humbling and gratifying evening for all involved. Additionally, we visited Tyburn Convent, an enclosed convent where nuns pray before the Blessed Sacrament twent-four hours a day (in thirty-minute rotations). Despite this being an enclosed convent, the nuns that we met were vibrant, positive, and so full of life, that it really did leave us questioning the necessity of material wealth and gain.

Retreats

The Year 8 and 10 pupils were delighted to have RISE theatre come into the school and lead them for their retreat on June 17th. This professional Christian theatre company, with a passion for delivering exciting, original, and transformative theatre, brings both faith and hope to life. The aim was to inspire the pupils to realise their full potential in every aspect of life. Faith-based stories were used that sparked the imagination and spoke to the hearts and minds. The incorporation of theatre that holds a mirror up to who we are and who we want to be proved to be a useful tool for the pupils. This allowed them to explore their sense of identity and purpose in the world and not only was it great fun but it was a positive way to end the year after the intensity of exams week.





Houses



Our four houses, Canterbury, Iona, Santiago, and Walsingham, offer a wonderful opportunity for girls to bond across year groups and immerse themselves in the More House family. The various events and competitions held throughout the year testify to the strong and loyal house spirit forged among girls and staff. Congratulations to Walsingham, who were crowned House of the Year! Here are the highlights & totals from the 2018/2019 academic year...

Sports Day



Iona

Mrs Leach's heart dropped when she was asked by Iona to compete in the 4x4 100m relay race, especially as Mr Keeley would be competing in the lane next to hers. Thankfully, her nerves were needless – although Iona didn't win the race, she certainly gave Mr Keeley a run for his money. And Iona did win Sports Day, for the sixth year running! Congratulations to all students and staff, and big congratulations to the parents who joined in the joint staff and parents relay.



Bake Off



Santiago: 50



Iona: 40



Walsingham: 50



Canterbury: 40





Brains of More House



Canterbury: 60

Iona: 80

Santiago: 40

Walsingham: 100



This year saw Brains of More House return in a different format – the girls battled it every lunchtime with a game of Trivial Pursuit!

Rounders Day



A fierce battle between the houses, with everyone anxious as to whether Santiago would take the title for the 3rd year running... It was not to be! Iona were victorious.



House Entertainment

This year's theme was 'Musicals'!



Santiago: 100

Walsingham: 50





Iona: 75

Canterbury: 25





CANTERBURY: 3977





Leavers 2018/2019





Yara University of West London
Lobna City, University of London
Alana Oxford Brookes University
Molly Swansea University

Sylvia University of Winchester
Cara University of Salford
Alina King's College London
Francoise Durham University

Zahra Manchester Metropolitan University

Ahana London Southbank University
Sara Nottingham Trent University
Flora Loughborough University
Galliane Bournemouth University

Law with Foundation International Politics

Psychology

Human Geography Childhood Studies

Photography

German and Management

Liberal Arts

Art History & Curating

Baking Science & Technology Fashion Marketing & Branding

Geography & Sport Science

Foundation in Art



Co-Heads' Afterword

And so, another year draws to a close. We are always taken aback by how quickly the terms fly by and how much we manage to squeeze into them!

The end of the academic year brings the inevitable goodbyes. The end for the upper sixth is always bittersweet – we are proud of their achievements and ambitions as they set off to university, but sad to see them go after so many years at More House. We wish this year's upper sixth all the best as they embark on adult life and look forward to seeing them return at Prize Giving.

Finally, it's always a loss when our valued staff members leave our midst, but circumstances change and we always wish them well as they set off on new adventures. This year, we are saying goodbye to Mr Hegarty in the English Department, who after ten years is jet setting off to be an examiner overseas; Miss Minto, who after transforming the P.E. Department into the overwhelming success it is today is leaving us for America; Mr La Frenais in the Geography Department, who left us at the end of the spring term; Ms Kempin in the English Department who is joining Harrodian School; Mr Young in the History Department; Mrs Julia Barnwell in admissions, who has retired after many happy years with us; and Miss Jackson in the Drama Department, who will be leaving us for a few months on maternity leave. We want to warmly thank them all for their tireless commitment to the school and its pupils.





