



The Catarina Ferreira Drama Prize: Wednesday 25th January Year 12 assembly: This was a very special event as we could finally present the MGS drama prize. This award has been set up in remembrance of Miss Ferreira who passed away in March 2021. Miss Ferreira first joined our school in 2015 when she trained with us as a drama teacher. She worked across Drama and MFL. A teacher, performer, writer and linguist; Miss Ferreira was a passionate advocate of the Arts. She firmly believed in the power of storytelling, and of theatre's transformative quality.

We were delighted to announce the students who have been chosen to receive the Drama prize (2021/2022) based on their performances in March last year of the Greek tragedy, *Antigone*. We were delighted to welcome back former Subject Leader for Drama, Herr Wellens to present the award, and then deliver a bespoke directing workshop to our A Level Drama students. The winners of The Catarina Ferreira Drama Prize 2021/2022 are: Elizabeth S (12CSW) and Praise O (12HHN). Congratulations to both Elizabeth and Praise! We are looking for our 2022/2023 winners – will it be you?...



The Wills Library Opening Event: Drama takeover, *Pages to Stages*, took place on 27<sup>th</sup> January. Students and staff enjoyed a series of staged readings of different works. We had a song, poems, famous passages from novels and plays, (in English



as well as Spanish, French, Mandarin, and German). We even had some original work being read by our budding KS3 writers. A hugely enjoyable afternoon to open our wonderful new library; a huge 'thank you' to everyone involved.



On 8<sup>th</sup> February, German exchange students and their English partners visited Greenwich. They visited the National Maritime Museum, to see a variety of exhibits detailing the rise and dominance of the British Navy, alongside exhibits explaining the wider use of the sea by Britain for trading, and the prominence of the trans-Atlantic slave trade in British maritime/colonial history. They later explored Greenwich town centre and finished the day with a visit to the Royal Observatory to watch a narrated lecture in the planetarium about space and the universe. Thanks to Herr Lobo and Frau Hauschild for organising the day as well as Mr Porritt and the teachers from Klaus-Groth-Schule, Neumünster for their support during the day trip.



Year 12 Mandarin students went to the British Library on 9<sup>th</sup> February to visit an exhibition called "共叙英华" (Chinese and British) exploring the Chinese community in the UK. The exhibition looks back on Chinese history through personal stories and moments of national significance,

encouraging students to reflect on contributions Chinese people made to British society. After that, students went to Chinatown, where they visited the Chinese bakery and bought bubble milk tea. They also enjoyed talking to members of the public in Chinese.



### Looking forward

#### Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February-Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March

German Exchange students in Germany

#### Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February

Year 7 Assembly in the Hall (IGN/JFT)

Year 10 Biology trip to Royal Holloway

#### Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February

Year 9 Assembly in the Hall (FC/JMT)

#### Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March

Year 12 Assembly in the Hall (BST)

Year 9 Options Marketplace in the Hall at lunchtime

U18 Netball at Gravesend Grammar

#### Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March

Year 8 Assembly in the Hall (ANN/JFT)

U16 Football at Longfield Academy

World Book Day

#### Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March

Targeted support for Years 10-13

#### Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March

Year 9 Parents' Evening

#### Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March

International Women's Day

Year 7 Football at Cobham Hall

#### Friday 10<sup>th</sup>-Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March

Year 12 Geography field trip

#### Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> March

Targeted support for Years 10-13

#### Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March

Year 8 Parents' Evening

#### Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March

'The Tempest' trip

Year 7 Netball District Tournament, 1pm (home)

Year 8 Netball District Tournament, 1pm at DGGS

#### Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March

Voice in a Million

U18 Netball v. GGS (home)

## Assembly theme

**This week's Assembly theme:**

**Being true to yourself**

Standing by your beliefs; making your own choices; self-respect; having courage.

## Our School Environment

Please continue to ensure all areas of school are left litter free.

**Litter duty: 7D** Please collect the litter picks and black sacks from Mrs Kemp's Office by 1.45pm and report to your Learning Leader and staff on the field at the end of lunchtime, 2.15pm.

**Water:** Please use the water stations around the school at break and lunchtime and remember to bring a bottle each day to minimise use of single use plastic bottles.

## Wills Library Update

The Library has now been open to all for just over three weeks: in this time 1167 fiction books have been issued, as well as 253 non-fiction ones. At present we have 411 fiction and 96 non-fiction books out on loan. It is wonderful to see such a great level of engagement from the student body! It shows how well received the library is: our students waited for it for a long time and are now truly making the most of it.

The Library is open before school, from 8am, and is particularly popular at lunchtime, with students using the space to work and revise. It is also available to students in the afternoon, after school, by signing in onto the After School at the Library club on EduLink.

The Student Librarians have been working very hard during their shifts, and have helped with shelving, tidying, processing books and managing the space during busy times. The Library Advisory Board (LAB), made up of Student Librarians from each year group, has had its first meeting: its role is to inform the Librarian and provide advice on both logistical and strategic issues for the Library. The LAB has put forward some excellent suggestions, which will be implemented in the coming months, so watch this space!

## Reader's Corner

**World Book Day is on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023.**

**What is World Book Day?**

World Book Day was created by UNESCO on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 1995 as a worldwide celebration of books and reading. It is marked in over 100 countries around the globe. The first World Book Day in the UK and Ireland took place in 1997 to encourage young people to discover the pleasure of reading. The easiest way to celebrate World Book Day is, of course, to read! Read as much as you can independently or with someone else – whether it's old favourites or something brand new, nothing beats curling up with a good book! Look out for our World Book Day quizzes and details of how we will mark the event over the coming weeks...



## Reminders

**Canteen Notice:** Please can you make sure you bring your entry card with you when you wish to purchase items from the canteen. This speeds up the service and everyone can be served. We will not be able to serve you without it.

**Drama Notice:** *A Midsummer Night's Dream* auditions have begun – sign yourself up on EduLink if you'd like to audition for a role. If you'd like to be involved backstage/with design, we will have a meeting before the Easter break – watch this space! Audition information can be found via the Clubs on EduLink. Rehearsals will begin after Easter – after school Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays with some weekends nearer the performance time, (schedule tbc). Performance week: 19<sup>th</sup> June, evening.

**Road Crossing:** A reminder that when moving between sites you should use the zebra crossing near Bainbridge building to cross Pelham Road. When crossing other roads please ensure you are not on your mobile phone and are paying careful attention to your surroundings. Please can we also remind you that Parents/Carers may not drop off or collect from the school site unless a previous arrangement is made. Parents/Carers should park in marked areas only, keeping school exits clear.

## Exploring risk, keeping safe

Equaliteach came in last week to deliver workshops to Year 12 and Year 7. Pupils enjoyed their opportunity to discuss issues and find ways to support positive changes in society.

Key Stage 3 have been learning what sexting is, the dangers surrounding it and how to protect their online privacy.

Sixth Form students have been considering ways of keeping safe when going out with friends. They have looked at how they should ensure that they are safe on public transport, with large groups and how to identify suspicious behaviour.

## House Merits

	Merit	Community	Sport
Atholl	86	89	63
Chadwick	100	80	71
Darnley	71	100	85
Lynton	97	102	79
Penfold	87	79	79
Reekie	81	85	57
Westbrook	97	108	115