



Mrs Catherine Matthews
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Houseparent

MARY WINDSOR HOUSE
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Newsletter October 2023

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I am pleased to be writing to you with news from Mary Windsor. It has been a very busy start to the academic year, and I am sure all the girls were ready for the half term break. We have had lots going on over the past seven weeks, and I can't believe how quickly the time has flown by.

The girls have been involved in a wide range of activities from academic pursuits, sporting events and creative endeavours amongst others. We have had quite a few successes with various events, and I am proud of the commitment shown by everyone this term. Below are a few highlights.

The juniors started off by volunteering for the House Swimming Competition with a great deal of enthusiasm which was very encouraging, and they went on to win the House Badminton competition a couple of weeks later. Well done to Prekshya, Delisha, Millie and Elsa. We have also had some wins in senior and junior hockey fixtures, which is a testament to the girls' dedication and willingness to be involved.

In the Senior UK Mathematics challenge, we achieved gold certificates for Jin, and silver for Kamilla and Hailey. Well done to all those who participated, what a fantastic effort.

The Silver Duke of Edinburgh expedition took place over two nights in September and the girls enjoyed the experience, even though it was exhausting. The Lower Fourth enjoyed their field day walking the Malvern Hills, and the Upper Fourth had their CCF field day too, full of a range of team building activities.

We have also had some musical events this term, Sofia participated in the Scholars concert, and Rukhsang and Maria A worked hard behind the scenes providing sound and lighting for the Drama Scholars' performances. It really was a polished performance and very enjoyable.

Last week, the Lower Sixth including Rukhsang, Irouma, Tiffany, Janice, Cherry and Norah organised a very spooky Halloween party for the House which was a great success. We had a haunted house interactive experience which was so scary that even Mrs. Whitfield was terrified. This was followed by a treasure hunt around the School grounds (hampered a little by the terrible weather!) completed by a McDonalds dinner at the end. Well done to the party committee, it was a hilarious evening and I hope everyone has now recovered!



Chairman of Governors: Michael Luckman

The next House Social event will be the Christmas party on Sunday 10th December from approximately 6.30-10.00pm at Grafton Manor, Bromsgrove; further details will follow.

The highlight of the House events this term was the House Song competition, ably led by Lily, and assisted by Iruoma. The chosen song was 'FourFiveSeconds' by Rhianna, Kanye West and Paul McCartney. The girls practised the song every day during the week for three weeks and the progress they made was great. Accompanied by Hailey on the piano, the song sounded brilliant in the competition, all the House staff and I were extremely proud of everyone. If you haven't seen the performance, you can follow the link below to view;
<https://youtu.be/tY1fgtsFSpE>

We have now had the first of the year's AE grades and your daughter should have discussed these with their tutor for further guidance if needed, and parents. I would like to encourage all students to focus on the next set of grades coming up at the end of November, ensuring that all prep is completed, deadlines achieved and prep time in the evening is used productively. When we return on the 5th November, the Upper Sixth A Level students are straight into examinations, so members of the House will need to be considerate whilst they are working.

Finally, a couple of reminders from me, if I may.

Firstly, there is the Senior School Remembrance Service in Chapel on Sunday 12th November, the first Sunday after half term. All students must attend this service unless they have express permission from Mr. McClure, Deputy Head Pastoral. The first service will be at 9.50am and the second service will be at 10.55am.

Secondly, please could I ask that when requesting an exeat weekend, your daughter looks at the sporting fixture list to check if they may be selected for a match and asks permission from the sports staff to miss the match, in advance. The guidance is to request absence from a fixture two weeks before so there is time to adjust the team.

I would like to thank the girls for their positive approach so far this year, even if I haven't mentioned you in this letter, your contributions are very much appreciated. I am so proud of what you have all achieved. I would also like to thank parents for your continued support. I hope everyone returns in a couple of weeks well rested and ready for another busy half term.

Kind regards,

Catherine Matthews
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