
Ottlie Hild House



Dear Ottlie Hild parents, students and staff,

It has been a wonderful start to my tenure as Houseparent, and I have loved every moment of getting to know the girls and celebrating their many achievements. The first half of the Michaelmas term is the longest of the academic year and I know the girls (and the staff...) are looking forward to the half term break. There have been sporting successes, academic achievements and all the other highs (and sometimes lows!) that go with being part of a vibrant community within a busy school. The highlight of the Michaelmas term is traditionally the House Song competition: the girls have been busy rehearsing for several weeks, ably led by Phoebe H and Emily J, U6th, who have stepped up to the conducting challenge magnificently. This newsletter gives a flavour of the Michaelmas term so far. For the U6th especially, time will need to be set aside over the half term break for study as two days of mock exams commence on November 6th. Students, staff – and parents! - need to also make time to recuperate from a long and busy term, however, and I look forward to seeing the girls rested, renewed and re-energised when we return on November 6th.

With very best wishes,

Ms R A Powell, Houseparent, Ottlie Hild House

WELCOME TO OUR NEW STUDENTS

The newest members of Ottlie Hild have settled in extremely well and are a wonderful addition to our community. Adjusting to a new school or stepping up to Senior School is never easy and it has been a pleasure to see them settle in so well and thrive.



Ottlie Hild House in the late summer sunshine

WINTER UNIFORM

Please remember that girls should return to school in their **winter uniform** after the half term break. A full list of uniform is available on the school website.

REMEMBRANCE SERVICES

All students should attend a Remembrance Sunday service at the School on the morning of **Sunday 12th November**:

Fourth Form – meet in House from **9 a.m.**; the service is at 9.30.

Fifth and Sixth Forms – meet in House from **10.15**; the service is at **10.45**.

Siblings should attend the earlier Fourth Form service.



HEADS OF HOUSE AND MONITORS

Flos S takes up the mantle this year as Head of House, ably supported by Freya L as Deputy. The applications and interviews were so strong that there were Monitor roles for several of the U6th, so the House Team is completed by Erin D, Emma D, Georgia H, Phoebe H, Emily J, Lily R, and Fiona S. They have lots of ideas about how to make Otilie an even more welcoming, integrated House than it already is.



HARVEST FESTIVAL DONATIONS

A huge thank you to everyone who donated food items for our Harvest Services: we were overwhelmed with donations in aid of the Bromsgrove Basement Project, which helps support disadvantaged people in our local community.



HOUSE SPORT

The inter-House sporting competitions got underway this term, with Imogen W, Isobel B, Iseoluwa O, Yasmin H, Daisy J (L4th) and Sammy R, Xanthe M and Holly D (U4th) representing us in Junior House Swimming, where we came second to a strong Thomas Cookes team. This was followed by Junior House Badminton, where Daisy J, Imogen B, Daisy A and Yasmin H eagerly volunteered to do the House proud. We look forward to seeing many of our girls involved representing the House in a variety of sports over the coming term.

ACADEMIC SUCCESSES

The first round of AE grades reflected the hard work, enthusiasm and academic talents of the Otilie Hild girls. Overall, we had the highest Engagement grade average of all the Houses, and we know that while attainment is important it is hard work and determination that sees long term overall success. The Fifth Form are our intra-House winners, with an average of 3.59, closely followed by the L6th with 3.58. The U6th, U4th and L4th follow with 3.54, 3.49 and 3.31 respectively. It has been a super start to the year, and the challenge now is to maintain that focus as we head towards Christmas. Commendations – academic, co-curricular and for all manner of good deeds around the school – come thick and fast and the following girls should be congratulated for accruing the highest number of commendations in each year group – L4th: Grace Laurenson; U4th: a tie between Freya B and Sammy R; Fifth Form: Ilerioluwa O; L6th: Maya W; U6th: Emily J.

The Fifth Form have achieved the most commendations this half term, with a grand total of 109 between them: a fantastic effort!

Maya W, Ffion W, Flos S, Xanthe M and Rebecca W all took part in the Senior Maths Challenge which was as difficult as it sounds! Impressively, Rebecca achieved a Silver certification, and Maya achieved a Bronze.

There have also been outstanding individual achievements. Xanthe M, Upper Fourth, has won the Immerse Education Essay Competition with a prize of a partial

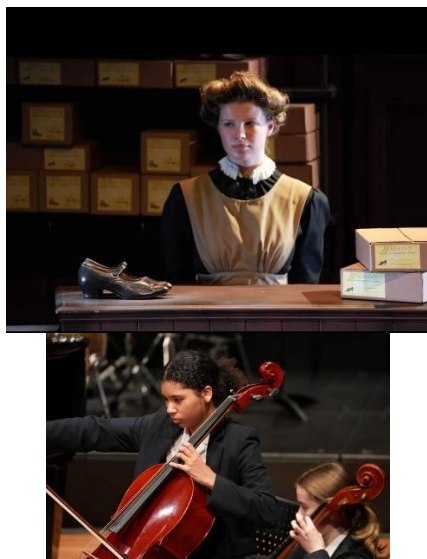
scholarship to follow an introductory Law course at a prestigious university next summer. Well done, Xanthe!

OTILIE TALENTS

Ottilie Hildeans are a talented bunch. On October 3rd, we enjoyed the Drama & Music Scholars' Concert where Phoebe D and Liv M made us laugh in 'Hobson's Choice', Tilly R delighted in both 'Hamnet' and 'The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie', and Xanthe M gave a performance beyond her years in 'Our Country's Good'. Musically, we were treated to beautiful performances from Flora B (flute), Grace L (bassoon), Isobel B, Lydia M,



Amina M (cello), and Liv M and Grace (voice). If you missed it, make sure you catch it here: [Performing Arts Scholars' Evening 2023 - Music in Routh Hall \(03/10/2023\) - YouTube](#) [Performing Arts Scholars' Evening 2023: Drama in Cobham Theatre \(03/10/2023\) - YouTube](#)



SPORTING SUPERSTARS

There is a wealth of sporting talent within Ottilie Hild, and there have been plenty of opportunities for the girls to shine in matches against other schools. Bromsgrove Senior School hockey, netball and football teams always feature a number of Ottilie Hildeans, but special mention must go to Sammy R, U4th, for her goalkeeping and penalty taking abilities in the ISFA cup match last week, and to Ava C, Emily B and Liz S, L6th, for their commitment to the powerhouse that is the

U18A netball team and their Sisters n Sport and ISNC competitions. A number of our girls play for teams and clubs outside of school, but Lili-Rose H (U6th) is in a class all of her own, winning the ISGA AQ Invitational (on her 18th birthday!) and representing England on the U18 team. During the summer, she and her team won the mixed boys' and girls' trophy, and the girls' trophy, at the Home internationals: Lili-Rose won all of the 6 matches that she played.

She balances extensive training and playing commitments alongside A level studies, and we are all immensely proud of her!



Striking a pose: Isobel B, Zara L-S, Daisy J and Sammy R



The U18A netball team, including Emily B, Ava C and Liz S

HOUSE EVENTS

Hallowe'en came early to Otilie, with students and staff decorating the House in spooktacular style, with prizes for the most spook-tastic study. A themed bake sale was also held on Wednesday 17th October to raise money for our Parents' Association, who work so hard to make House life even more comfortable – providing, for example, cosy blankets for when the temperatures start to drop. A huge thank you goes to everyone who donated cakes, muffins, cookies and other delicious goods: in total, we raised almost £600! The U6th and L6th also worked together as a very efficient team to (wo)man the stalls at Break and lunchtime.



The termly tradition of House Breakfast continues, with students and staff enjoying bacon, sausages, hash browns, croissants and pain au chocolat. Next term, the Upper Sixth will be treating each year group to hot

chocolate and marshmallows on Fridays as a welcome treat on cold, dark mornings.



HOUSE SONG COMPETITION

The House Song competition is one of the big calendar dates of the school year and as always, was hotly contested. This year's theme was 'numbers', and the girls of Otilie Hild performed 'I Want You Back' by the Jackson Five. Although we didn't win this year, every single girl did herself and the House proud, not just on the big day but during the hours of rehearsals over the last three weeks. The performances will all be available on the School YouTube channel, and we are seventh in the running order.



House Song rehearsals

HOUSE CHARITY

Each year, the monitor team of Otilie Hild choose a House charity, which becomes the

focus for fundraising events throughout the year. For 2023-34, we will be looking for ideas to support research and treatment for Motor Neurone Disease.

OTILIE HILDEANS ARE GOOD CITIZENS, TOO

This term, Otilie Hildeans have also shown that they care about others in the wider community. Annika K, supported by Georgia H and others keen to do their bit, has worked with Mrs Holden to lead the Eco Committee in its quest to make the School that little bit greener and decrease our carbon footprint. Sustainability Week was full of events for students to take part in, and culminated with the Sustainable Sounds concert last Friday. Well done Annika (and team): your energy and determination is just what the world needs.

More low key, perhaps, but just as important, students can choose to visit residential homes as part of their Bromsgrove Service commitments. They have undertaken the 'Dementia Friend' training, and although chatting to and playing games with dementia sufferers is not necessarily an easy way to spend a Thursday afternoon, Evie J has loved every minute of it.



Otilie Hild is now on Instagram – follow us @BromsOtilie