



Newsletter February 2017

I write to you at the end of a busy and eventful term. Year 11 students have been working extremely hard over the past few weeks completing their mock GCSE examinations. As many of you are aware GCSE are changing, and this year marks the start of a new GCSE examination style and grading system. The girls tackled the new style exams with lots of determination, and tried their very best, and the staff at school would like to say a massive well done to all of Year 11.

This week we had a lovely surprise when a gold medal winning Paralympian popped in to say hello and spend some time with 8S. Colin Harrison is an Australian Paralympian sailor, and he brought in his gold medal from the Rio 2016 Paralympics to show the girls, who enjoyed wearing it! Colin explained to the girls the different sailing events that made up the Paralympics, and talked about the exciting time that he had in Brazil. It was truly a once in a lifetime experience!

The past few weeks have been very busy. FOGS very generously bought tickets for students to enjoy the annual pantomime at the Barn theatre in Oxted, and a fantastic time was had by all who attended. I would like to say an enormous thank you to FOGS for this opportunity, and for their continued and unwavering support of the school. Year 10 students took part in the Surrey Badminton day in Guildford, which they thoroughly enjoyed. Girls from Year 10 were interviewed by BBC Radio 5 Live, and Channel 4 news also came in to film a short report about the school and our extraordinary students, to be aired soon. Three students, Kesia Symcox, Nina Barret and Lauren Mittelmeier spoke at an international conference in London about autism and how it impacts on and enriches their lives, to great acclaim. The girls spoke eloquently and with great insight, and their presentation greatly affected many delegates who were in attendance.

I would like to thank all of the parents who completed the parent surveys recently. I have just received the first report of anonymised findings and will be studying your feedback over half term, with a view to forming a plan of action to address any issues you have raised. I really do appreciate your comments and views, and hope that we can continue to work together to make a difference to the girls.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a peaceful half term break. Monday 20th February is an INSET day, and we look forward to welcoming the girls back to school on Tuesday 21st February 2017.

With best wishes

Sarah Wild

Headteacher