



5 June 2023

Dear Parents & Guardians of The Ladies' College

After a slightly rainy start, the summer term is in full bloom and I'm sure that your homes are full of that discombobulating mix of exam preparation and summer sunshine.

One thing I'm really enjoying this term is the delight of being an all-through College. For the coronation, we had generations of alumni, staff and students performing the awe-inspiring Zadok the Priest whilst Melrose and our Pre-School students marched past in full regal garb, to the resounding applause of our older students. It was a genuinely beautiful moment that captured what is so special about our community.

As we are now into the second half of the term, I wanted to take this opportunity to update you on staff who will sadly be moving on this term and to also make you aware of some new appointments and changes in responsibility.

Leavers from Melrose:

Jane Kinley, Teacher at Melrose, has decided to leave at the end of this year after more than 12 years of service. Jane's passion and curiosity has added colour and energy to the College, and we are grateful to all that she has done and for her leadership in English at Melrose.

Tika Kohlschein, Teacher at Melrose, will also be completing her time with us in Junior Remove this year. She has brought play, joy and warmth to all that she does, and we are extremely grateful for her jumping in and supporting Melrose.

New roles and staff in Melrose (from September):

We are looking forward to welcoming our new Head of Melrose, Mary Lawson, who is moving to Guernsey with her family over the Summer. Her two daughters will be joining Melrose and her husband, Sandy Lawson, will also join the Melrose team to further develop our PE offering.

Joanna Hann and Lucy Waldrom will join as Teachers of Junior Remove and Middle-Preparatory respectively.

Ali Le Conte will also be moving from her teaching responsibilities, but we are fortunate that she will still be very much in the classroom in her new role as Learning Support Assistant.

In the Senior School:

Karen Ashford, Teacher of Science, has decided to retire from teaching at the end of term. Karen is a highly experienced teacher, with a passion for Physics, and has lent her expertise to the department as well as actively contributing to CCF and our Duke of Edinburgh's Award throughout her time with us.

Anna Lisa Detassis, Teacher of German, will continue to help us with some exam classes next year but has decided to return more fully to leading her local language business. We are immensely grateful to her for stepping into the breach so wonderfully last year and for her continued commitment to supporting our students.

Tom Cheshire, Teacher of Drama, leaves us after 4 years working in our Drama Department. Tom has headed up some fantastic Melrose productions in recent years, most recently Shrek, as well as contributing to many fun performance opportunities throughout the whole College. We wish him well with his next challenge.

Bronwyn Henderson, Head of History, will return to New Zealand this Summer with her family. During her 18 years in College, Bronwyn has made an immense impact on the History Department and, most recently, as 150th Anniversary Co-ordinator, has dedicated herself to bringing our archives to life as part of our celebrations.

Diane Clark, Finance Officer, has also decided to move on to new adventures after 2 years of support in our Finance team. We send her our very best.

Scott Dorrity, Multi-Media Technician, leaves us to take up a new challenge at the Youth Commission. We are pleased that this will see him still in College from time to time linked to our Duke of Edinburgh's Award programme and we wish him well.

Janine Le Cras, IT Network Manager, has decided after 22 years of warm, caring and committed service, to retire at the end of the summer term. She has touched the hearts of many in the College, attended to many of our IT woes, and will be much missed by staff and students alike.

Anthea Roue, Director of Music, will be leaving at the end of term to take up a new role on-island. Anthea has headed up the department for 6 years, led many wonderful musical events and overseen the creation of our school song.

Finally, Vanessa Mitchell, Deputy Principal (Pastoral), leaves us to take up new adventures at a school in Dubai. During her 15 years in College, she has overseen huge development in the pastoral life of the College, introducing new initiatives, sharing best practice with other schools and being an unbelievably supportive professional for many students, parents and teachers.

New staff and responsibilities in the Senior School (from September):

James Henderson, Deputy Principal (Co-curricular & Enrichment), after many years as a fantastic and valued member of the Senior Leadership Team, has decided to step back from this role to take on a new challenge as Director of Creative and Performing Arts, which includes leading the Music Department following the departure of Anthea Roue.

Principal
Ms Daniele Harford-Fox, BA Oxon
Email: principal@ladiescollege.ac.gg

Registrar
Miss R McClean
Email: registrar@ladiescollege.ac.gg

Vice Principal, Bursar & Clerk to the Governors
Miss E Bridge MA Oxon, ACA
Email: bursar@ladiescollege.ac.gg

Rebecca Chamberlain will take on the new role of Timetable Co-ordinator, with Andy Hale stepping down from this at the end of this Trinity term. We thank both for their commitment to this important operational responsibility.

Helen Lakin will be joining us from Shrewsbury International School Bangkok as our new Head of Psychology. Helen is a highly experienced department head having worked both in the UK and at top schools internationally.

Caroline Montague has been appointed as our new Head of History and will bring her unique blend of playful delight and passion for the subject to the role.

In addition to the above, in the run up to the end of term:

Helen Le Maitre has taken on the new role of Co-curricular Co-ordinator across the College. As Director of Sport and a passionate advocate for the wider development of skills in the girls, we are sure she will do wonderful things in this new role.

Sam Ray will shortly be joining us as our new IT Manager. He joins us from a similar role locally at The Institute.

Sheri Smith has been appointed as Deputy Head of Sixth Form up to the end of the next academic year, during which time she will also take the lead as our Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) Co-ordinator.

Changes within our Pastoral Care team

With the departure of Vanessa Mitchell, we have also reviewed our pastoral structure. Firstly, Nicola Ingrouille, our wonderful Head of Learning Support, will be broadening her role from September as our new Pastoral Co-ordinator, continuing to lead in Learning Support but also working with our tutors and Year Coordinators to oversee the wider pastoral provision in Remove to Upper Five.

In addition, Rosie de la Fosse, who has been an extraordinary Acting Head Teacher of Melrose, will return to her role as Deputy Head, supporting Mary Lawson. Building on her experience in post, she will also be extending her Designated Senior Person (DSP) responsibilities to act as overall DSP for the whole College.

The last element of this is to announce the appointment of the new role of Deputy Principal (Innovation and Student Development) which will be taken up by Nick Dyson, currently a Senior Leader and Director of Creative Enterprise at Francis Holland (Sloane Square). The school was awarded Best Independent School of the Year Awards for both Innovation in 2020 and for Overall School this year and we look excitedly ahead to him taking up his post at the start of the Lent term. Nick will be tasked with ensuring that our students continue to develop the skills they need to navigate the Fourth Industrial Revolution, overseeing our parallel curriculum in areas such as Future Ready and the Sixth Form as well as having overall responsibility for our pastoral offering.

As a final aside I wanted to flag (further to the States' communication before the Bank Holiday weekend) a rising issue on the island. Recent data has shown that secondary school children in Guernsey are more than twice as likely to have tried vaping than their UK counterparts. Whilst the Young People's Survey 2022 results suggest our students are less likely to have vaped regularly, we still think this is an important point of focus.

Principal
Ms Daniele Harford-Fox, BA Oxon
Email: principal@ladiescollege.ac.gg

Registrar
Miss R McClean
Email: registrar@ladiescollege.ac.gg

Vice Principal, Bursar & Clerk to the Governors
Miss E Bridge MA Oxon, ACA
Email: bursar@ladiescollege.ac.gg

Within College we use preventative initiatives and programmes such as incorporating Action for Children into our PSHCE programme, delivering sessions on smoking and vaping, and our Wellbeing Hub, which offers advice for students and parental webinars and courses to help keep you informed. For those parents who are interested, we would recommend the Hub's module on 'risk taking behaviours'. If you need help logging in, please contact Dr Mitchell on vmitchell@ladiescollege.ac.gg. In addition here is a link to further information on vaping: <https://www.ladiescollege.com/media/127805/Information-for-schools-Vaping.pdf>

With best wishes,



Daniele Harford-Fox
Principal

Principal
Ms Daniele Harford-Fox, BA Oxon
Email: principal@ladiescollege.ac.gg

Registrar
Miss R McClean
Email: registrar@ladiescollege.ac.gg

Vice Principal, Bursar & Clerk to the Governors
Miss E Bridge MA Oxon, ACA
Email: bursar@ladiescollege.ac.gg