



7 July 2023

Dear parents and guardians of The Ladies' College

It is the end of my first complete year and my heart is full.

What a wonderful way to end our 150th year, with the final weeks packed with powerful and wonderful moments. Events that have stood out in just the last few days are:

- **Speech Day** with our guest speaker, Eve Jardine-Young, Principal of Cheltenham Ladies' College who spoke about our shared history. This year has relaunched the close relationship between our two colleges, with shared assemblies, a debate, a student leadership meeting and the organisation of a sports tour next May. In addition, our staff are working together on AI initiatives and we are looking at shared events for our alumni in London next year.
- Our **end of year celebrations in Melrose**, both with the Junior celebrations full of singing dance and prizes and our Preps where each girl was able to share her thoughts and begin to make their mark in our community.
- Our **Archive Evening**, which was a celebration of not only the life and work of one of our alumni, the first female doctor in Guernsey, but also of Mrs Henderson being recognised by the National Archives for her work on bringing our history to life.
- Our **Intel workshops on AI** with interactive sessions in machine learning, natural language processing and deep learning.
- Our **Midsummer Night event**, where I heard some of the best pieces of short writing by students I've heard in a long time.
- Our **latest [podcast](#)** on how to create a culture of compassion in politics.
- Our **Melrose Talent Show** where a kaleidoscope of skills and abilities were on show and the support from the audience made the room brim with energy and joy.
- Our **workshops, partnered with PWC**, where top UK trainers worked with the LV on using improv to start to build flexibility, creativity and the willingness to jump into the unknown.
- **Celebrating with our Form III pupils** as they look ahead to continue their journey through to Senior School, whilst marking the end of their time in the Junior School with the students, parents and staff dancing to 'We are Family'!
- **Our myriad of sports** from Melrose winning the island wide Athletics competition, to the staff winning the staff/student rounders competition (with some impressive catches by all accounts!)

And that's before we get to the trips to the UK, Herm, France and Germany, our Duke of Edinburgh expeditions, the inter-house swimming and fun days, a clean sweep at the Design an Ad competition and the many many more achievements of our wonderful community.

Having had the chaotic joy of Senior School alternative curriculum week this term after Speech Day, we have decided to try keeping this pattern next year to not only end on a week packed with fun, but also to allow for trips at the end of the school year. So please note for your diary that Senior School Speech Day in 2024 will be on Friday, 28 June 2024

In closing, I would like to express huge thanks to the staff who are so passionate about the girls, throw themselves into so many areas of school life and whose skill and commitment are the beating heart of the school. And I would also like to thank you, the parents, who have been so supportive of your daughters and the community this year. If you have a moment please do take a few minutes to fill in our [Senior Survey](#) or [Melrose Survey](#) so that we can keep abreast of your experiences and ensure that we are both celebrating our areas of strength but also always learning and developing.

Have a wonderful summer and I look forward to seeing you either at the results days in August or the start of the next academic year.

With best wishes



Daniele Harford-Fox
Principal