

Principal
Mrs A Clancy BA (Combined Hons)

Head Teacher
Mrs E Ozanne B.Ed (Hons)



The
Ladies' College,
Melrose
Guernsey

Email: melrose@ladiescollege.ac.gg

10th February 2017

Dear Parents,

As we approach half term, it is hard to believe the enormous amount of experiences the girls have had since my last newsletter so firstly a brief recap to bring you up to date with some of the events, followed by some important information.

Events

Middle Prep visit to Candie Museum

As part of their History topic Middle Prep went to Candie Museum to look at the old toys. Miffy showed them several Victorian toys including a Cobo Alice, a penny wooden and a clockwork dog. One of their favourites was Archie, the acrobat. They were also able to play with some old toys in the discovery room.



Forms II & III Football Tournament

Eleven girls from Forms II & III took part in a 5-a-side Football Tournament at Beau Sejour. The girls performed brilliantly against some tough opposition with a number never having played competitive football before. There was a real team spirit on show and the girls should be proud of their performance.



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JR and Form I House Games

Junior Remove and Form I all worked really hard in the first House event of 2017. They showed some good skills from bouncing a basketball to shooting a netball to skipping. There was a super supportive atmosphere in the gym and the results were nail bitingly close with one point separating first and second place. Well done to all the girls! The final results were: 1st Brock, Joint 2nd - Durand & De Sausmarez, 4th Carey.



Red Cross Activity Day

Form III participated in a Young Leaders Course run by the Red Cross. Linda Norman, from the organisation spent the day challenging the girls to solve problems and work in teams in a flood disaster scenario. Challenges included selecting 6 items to take to the flood scene, building shelters, making games to amuse refugee children, helping blind people across rivers and setting up a new pipeline to carry clean water to the victims of the flood. Then refugees had to be helped to identify missing family members and media reports had to be completed.



Everyone had a go at being team leader and teams were awarded points for each section of the day. The purple team, Olivia Usher, Anna Wessels, Mimi Bracegirdle and Megan O'Hanlon ended as winners and summed the day up beautifully when they said that the day had been challenging, tiring, thought provoking and very exciting.



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Visiting Authors

The girls have really benefitted from visits by two authors this week. Kristina Stephenson spoke to The Prep Department girls and Caroline Lawrence to the Junior girls. The girls were really inspired by both authors. Eva Whitman was curious and wanted to do some research on Caroline and, as she is known for her historical non-fiction books, she presented it on an old scroll which Caroline liked to much that she took it home with her!



Cross Country

All the Juniors took part in this year's House Cross Country at Cambridge Park. Cross Country is not everyone's favourite sport but this year the girls really showed resilience and perseverance, doing the best for their House. There was a really supportive atmosphere and every girl who took part should be extremely proud of themselves.



Tillie Hilgeland Wilkins won the Lower Junior Trophy and Isabelle Lowe the Upper Junior Trophy. The main aim of the event though was to work collaboratively to gain points for your House and the results were as follows: 1st Brock, 2nd De Sausmarez, 3rd Carey, 4th Durand.

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Alderney Bayeux Tapestry Visit

Last year marked the 950th anniversary of The Battle of Hastings. Alderney's Bayeux Tapestry Finale depicts the final part of the Norman Conquest and Forms II and III were very lucky to be able to see this tapestry at Melrose as part of an educational roadshow. The girls in Form II look at the Bayeux Tapestry as a lead in to their Tudor topic and all found it very interesting. It was also lovely that the visiting speakers commented on how engaged and well-mannered the girls were, well done girls!



News and Information

Mid-Year Reports

The Mid-Year reports will be shared with you at the Parent Meetings next week. They now have a slightly different format in order to give clarity of information. They include grades for effort and attainment. The attainment grades are there to provide you with information. Whilst it is important to recognise achievement, we ask you to focus with your daughter on the effort grades to support our Growth Mindset approach and to praise her for this rather than the end product. This focus will encourage her to continue to try hard and this will, in turn, support and increase her progress.

Staff News

We are very pleased to announce that Mrs Zola Saunders will be joining the Pre-Preparatory Department after half term. We are sure that she will be an active and enthusiastic addition to the team.

We will also be sadly saying goodbye to Mrs Michelle Roussel, one of our lunch time supervisors. Michelle has been working at Melrose for many years. We thank her for her hard work during that time and wish her all the very best for the future. Mrs Margaret Brookes will replace her in this lunch time role.

Lost Property!

Missing uniform is a frustration for many parents and we are putting extra systems into place to support the girls with their organisation and encourage them to take responsibility when putting their uniform away. However, it is incredibly annoying to find many items of un-named kit. Please can we ask again that all items, including shoes are named, in whichever way you can! We will be having weekly kit

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checks with the Lower Juniors before their kit comes home at the weekend but please can you check each weekend that you do have your daughter's kit and return anyone else's to school as soon as possible. We need to work collaboratively on this!

Looking forward to



Challenge Day

We will be ending this half of term with a fantastic opportunity for all the girls from the Beans in Pre-Prep up to Form III. We are holding a Challenge Day run by the Happy Puzzle Company.

The aim of the workshops is to develop thinking skills and teamwork in a fun way. Through the day the girls should raise their own expectations of what they can achieve. By solving problems and conquering challenges which initially seem too difficult, the aim is that they will start to see that they can achieve goals which previously may have seemed too difficult. Every puzzle is age and ability appropriate. Girls will be genuinely challenged, but they will discover that every puzzle can be solved by using the right strategies and effective teamwork. We will let you know how they get on!

World Book Day

This is on Thursday 2nd March and the whole school will be heading to 'Wonderland' on that day. We have decided on the theme of Alice in Wonderland in order to link the day with our Junior production later this term. There will be a range of creative activities across the school linked to this fantastic story. **We ask that the girls come to school dressed as a character from Alice in Wonderland on that day, giving you notice now to keep ahead of the game!** The Pre-Prep girls will come to school in pyjamas as if for a bed time story.



Finally, may I take this opportunity to wish you a happy half term. The girls have had a very busy start to 2017 and so I do recommend that they, and you, take this chance to rest a little so we all have the energy to enjoy everything the second half of term has to offer.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs E Ozanne
Head Teacher