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9<sup>th</sup> June 2017

Dear Parents,

There has already been a great deal happening at Melrose since my last newsletter and a great deal more still to come. The versatility and commitment of the Melrose girls to all areas of school life is impressive and this newsletter highlights a little of what they have achieved.

## **News and Events**

### **Out and About**

#### **Middle Prep visit to Saumarez Park Walled Garden**



Middle Prep went to the Victorian Walled Kitchen Garden in Saumarez Park. It was pouring with rain so they started in the Greenhouse. Janine and Pierre helped them to plant two different types of beans. After that Pierre showed them the seeds of various plants, some, like lettuce seed, were very tiny. They saw the tomatoes growing and the grape vines and then has a tour of the garden where they smelt and tasted mint leaves. It had rained the whole time Middle Prep were there, but they were not put off, did not complain and had a fantastic time.

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### Form III Safety Calling



Form III had a great time at the Safety Calling Challenge at St Saviours Community Centre, learning not only how to stay safe but also having great fun. They experienced 7 different scenarios including water safety, fire safety, road safety, Internet safety, how to give CPR, cycle safety and kitchen safety

### Pre-Prep and Form II joint Beach Trip

Pre-Prep were joined by Form II on a fantastic beach trip. The girls were in mixed age groups and enjoyed rock-pooling, catching Cabous, shrimps, crabs and even a sand worm! They were then set a group challenge of creating some imaginative beach art.



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The girls, whatever their age really put their Melrose Mindsets to the test. **Collaborative** - At all times sharing buckets, nets, and designing amazing art! **Initiative** – Deciding where to find the live-stock and how to catch them as well as how everyone's abilities needed to be taken into account! **Curiosity** - There were many things found in the rock pools that some of the girls had never seen and they all learnt together about different aspects of beach life! **Risk Taking** - A lot of the girls over-came initial worries about flapping fish and pinchy crabs to have a go and catch them for themselves in the end! **Resilience** – The girls started the morning in the rain but no one complained and everyone pushed themselves in different aspects of the morning. They didn't give up when things went wrong, and continued to chase that fish and crab when it escaped!!! **Reflective** - There were a lot of discussions during the morning and the groups together worked out how they could approach which ever task from a different way! A super trip in which everyone learnt a great deal.



## Home Events

### Junior Sports Day



We were treated to a fantastic Junior Sports Day last week and the sun shone for us. The girls were a real credit to themselves and the Houses they were competing for. The standard of sport for girls of this age was remarkable but equally important was the spirit that the girls had during the afternoon. The resilience shown by many was admirable and the team spirit and support that the girls showed for each other was truly heart-warming. They should all be extremely proud of each other.



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## Summer Concert

The Melrose Summer Concert last week provided a relaxed and very enjoyable evening which showcased a range of music. The Senior school hall was filled to capacity with parent supporters. It was lovely this year to see Upper Prep joining the concert as part of their transition to the Junior Department. The concert highlighted that music is one of Melrose's strengths and the girls clearly enjoyed every moment of the performances.



## Sponsored Swim

Thank you to all of you who supported our charity Sponsored Swim by sponsoring your daughter or by coming to support the event. This was a new event on the Melrose calendar and it was given a positive start by some lovely weather and the appearance of Adrian Sarchet, a truly resilient swimmer, who started the event by swimming two lengths. The atmosphere was wonderful, very relaxed and full of fun and support for each other. This wasn't a time for competition but for working together for some very good causes. Thank you to Mrs Gittins and Mrs Lavin from the PTA for organising morning coffee and biscuits to keep the supporters going.



The Pre-Prep department carried the swim on this Monday in their swimming slot at Beau Sejour, swimming lengths of the small pool, non-stop for half an hour. Their enthusiasm was endless, swimming up and down with beaming smiles, sometimes aided by an inflatable crocodile or two!

We can announce today that we have raised £3,455 which will be split between The Cheshire Homes, GSPCA and our PTA towards a new Prep Climbing Frame.

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## Diary Dates and Information

### Staffing

We are pleased to announce that Miss Julia Martin will be joining us in September as class teacher for Lower Prep. Miss Martin is an experienced teacher, coming from Forest School and has recently completed an additional PGCE course in Innovation in Teaching and Learning. New Lower Prep parents will be able to meet Miss Martin at the 'Meet The Teacher Meetings' at the end of June.

Mrs Jane Pearson, Deputy Principal at The Ladies' College, will be retiring at Easter 2018. Mrs Pearson has been a key member of the College family, serving as Deputy Principal and Mathematics teacher for many years and we are grateful for her hard work and commitment.

### Sun Safety & Rainy Days

As mentioned in my last newsletter, sun protection is very important, even when the weather is cloudy. There are several 'all day' sun creams available on the market. The staff would be most grateful if you could ensure that you apply this to your daughter before she comes to school each day. Many of the girls spend a good deal of time outside and a **school sun hat** is also essential, particularly if we get any really hot weather. Some of the older girls are not bringing sun hats to school. If your daughter is particularly fair skinned and you feel that she may need to reapply sun cream during the day, for instance, following a swimming lesson, she may of course bring some sun cream to school. However, we would request that all bottles are clearly named and that they are given to the class teacher and not kept in school bags.



We should also be prepared for all weathers and whilst blazers will be worn to school on nicer days, girls should always have their blue coats, with the fleece removed, as a waterproof, in case of showers during the day.

### Break Time Snacks

Please may we ask you to try and send in healthy snacks for break times. These should ideally be fruit and may we remind you that chocolate bars and sweets are **not** allowed. The girls really enjoy the cakes that are brought in on individual's birthdays. Please can we ask though that you only send in cakes for birthdays, rather than sweets and that, if possible, when a birthday and cake sale occur on the same day you delay the birthday cake delivery to try and prevent a sugar overload!

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## Den Day

We look forward to another new event for Melrose on 23<sup>rd</sup> June – Den Day!  
Please see attached flyer and reply form.



Thank you for your support with the events at school so far this term and we look forward to seeing you at those that are forthcoming.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mrs E Ozanne".

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