



15 December 2021

Dear parents, guardians, and students,

I hope this letter finds you well and looking forward to Christmas and the New Year. The Michaelmas term is always busy; students settle into a new school year and work hard, both in and out of the classroom. Those who joined us this term have made successful transitions, showing resilience, flexibility, and enthusiasm, as they have adapted to new ways of learning in the ever-changing world of Covid. Our teachers have gone above and beyond in seeking to support absent students and all our young people have also risen to the challenges of learning with the prospect of unexpected interruptions. Those of us who have not yet had to isolate consider ourselves lucky!

It has been a term like no other and although 2022 will undoubtedly bring fresh challenges, by maintaining teamwork and communication, with kindness at the core, we will continue to be the best we can be, and live our motto: *Fais ce que dois, advienne que pourra* - do what is right, come what may.

Staffing update

Farewells

We bid a fond farewell to Miss Bea Bathany, Head of Modern Foreign Languages, who is leaving us and the island for a new life in Australia. Miss Bathany has been an enthusiastic member of our teaching team since September 2012 and was the brainchild behind our celebration of student work under the banner of 'Ladies Love Languages'. This was initially introduced as a one-off event but its success, the engagement and enthusiasm of our students and the feedback from attending parents and guests means that this now forms part of the College's annual programme of events and is a fitting legacy to Miss Bathany.

We also say goodbye, but we are delighted to say not completely farewell, to Miss Fiona Le Tissier who has been Acting Director of Music for the period of Mrs Roue's maternity leave, with Mrs Roue being welcomed back to College at the start of the Lent term. We are fortunate that we will continue to benefit from Miss Le Tissier's musical direction, with her support of our production of FAME continuing to the end of this production.

Mrs Sue Walkington, Learning Support Assistant at Melrose, retires at the end of the term, having been in role at Melrose since 2013. She is looking forward to travelling and enjoying time in France, and we wish her our very best for plans which many of us will be very envious of in these uncertain times.

We also send our best wishes to Ms Rachel O'Neill, Lunchtime Assistant and Cleaner, who also leaves at the end of this month. Ms O'Neill has worked for the College since 2007 and key responsibilities

supporting our Premises and Refectory teams means she is a familiar face who will be missed in both Melrose and Senior School.

Appointments

In January, we welcome Mr Gulihem Chêne as our new Head of Modern Foreign Languages. Mr Chene has taught previously at the Grammar School and more recently has been working within Education Services.

We also welcome Mrs Lindsey Davies to the role of Learning Support Assistant at Melrose. Mrs Davies joins us from an LSA role at La Mare de Carteret Primary School but, as a College parent, will also be familiar to many at Melrose for her enthusiastic support of our recent Junior Productions.

New arrival

We congratulate Miss Moon who welcomed baby Theodore in November.

Covid

You may be aware of the media release from the Committee *for* Education, Sport & Culture, explaining that state primary and secondary schools will break up at the end of the school day on Friday 17th December. Our term dates already sit within this timeframe and although we have considered alternative plans, we feel we are following both the spirit and the letter of the latest CCA advice by continuing with our planned activities but adapting them to reflect current guidance. I hope you will agree this is a sensible approach, but anyone who feels anxious is welcome to contact us to discuss.

Arrangements for returning to educational settings after Christmas have been considered by Public Health and they request that **all pupils from Reception to students in our Sixth Form undertake a lateral flow test on the first three days back in school after the holiday (6, 7 and 10 January 2022)**. We ask that your child/children complete the tests with appropriate supervision if required. Thank you to pupils and students who have been doing this throughout the current term, linked to Track and Trace.

Your understanding in supporting the measures we have taken – and continue to take - linked to Covid are greatly appreciated We know that managing all this generates many emails. Your prompt responses are invaluable in helping us to provide core work for absent students. There is, of course, no expectation that work will be completed if pupils or students are unwell, yet equally we know there is a balance to be struck between activity and inactivity for many students who find themselves isolating for ten days.

Value-added data for GCSE and A-level students

When I write about our students' A-level and GCSE results, I do so with great pride, and they should take pride in their achievements too, regardless of how their results were awarded (CAGs 2020, TAGs 2021). Value-added data is so much more meaningful than percentages when reviewing a school's results as it translates into individual results for each student in each subject. We have analysed the value-added data for this year and are proud to tell you that each of our students, for each GCSE that they took, achieved between half a grade and full grade higher than they might have achieved at other similar schools. This reflects our students' attitude to all they do, but also the support they receive from their teachers, both academically and pastorally, plus the terrific support you give them at home.

Relationship and Sex Education Information

Please see the attached letters. Nationally, this part of our curriculum has had to be rewritten and I am grateful to Miss Johnson and Mrs Donnelly, in the Senior School and Melrose, who have reviewed our

provision and who maintain oversight of this important area of teaching, learning, and support for our young people.

Environmental Charter

Our Environmental Action Team in the Senior School and Sixth Form, complemented by our Environmental Tree Research Group are galvanised by the environmental challenges the world is facing. During Cop26 our students voiced their concerns and began to describe the changes and actions they would like to see in College.

The Ladies' College Environmental Charter will be launched in January and each half term there will be at least one focus to help us consider the impact we have and change or amend some of our behaviours. Older pupils at Melrose and students in the Senior school will be invited to sign-up to the charter in the New Year, with the first aim being the removal of single-use plastic bottles from College by February half-term (something that has already happened in Melrose).

The Core

We will be increasing prices in The Core for the Senior School with effect from 6 January 2022 due to rising food and supply costs. Revised prices can be found on the website together with the Lent term menus (<https://www.ladiescollege.com/information/the-core-menu>). Students who have a daily spend limit applied to their account, will see this increased from £7.50 to £7.70. Some students still have overdrawn balances on their Core accounts, and we request that sufficient funds are transferred to clear these before the beginning of term.

Snow

We have reviewed our snow plans and (with somewhat ironic thanks to Covid) we can now provide remote learning with relative ease. Should it be difficult for pupils, students and/or colleagues to access our site, we will revert to remote learning (as we did in lockdown), with the teacher present at the start and/or end of the lesson, and available throughout to help with core work. We will also plan to have adults in College to supervise pupils or students for whom it is easier or more appropriate to attend in person.

We hope this provision creates the best outcome for everyone, and my hope is that there will be no snow!

Fame

Students and colleagues in the Senior School have been rehearsing *Fame* since the end of the last academic year and our new Remove (Year 7) students were able to join the cast in September. Tickets are now on sale and can be bought from www.guernseytickets.gg. We hope that you will be able to join us and as tickets sell quickly, would encourage you to purchase these at your earliest convenience.

Inspection

Melrose last had the Independent Schools' Inspectorate (ISI) visit in October 2013 and the Senior School and Sixth Form in October 2016. In the intervening period, we have continued to develop our curriculum, our practices, and our care for the young people who come through the College's doors. Just before Covid, we had a date in mind for a whole-college inspection, but this could not be progressed. As we returned from the second lockdown, we explored dates and decided on the earliest possible, which is March 2022. I will write with further details in the New Year.

The Pre-Prep Nativity, Melrose, Senior School and Sixth Form Carol Services have or will take place this week. They have been or will be recorded and will be shared where possible and within GDPR requirements. The Senior School and Sixth Form will finish on Friday with Mark Reading and then House

Principal
Mrs A Clancy BA (Combined Hons)
Email: principal@ladiescollege.ac.gg

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

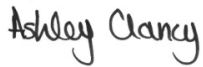
Vice Principal, Bursar & Clerk to the Governors
Miss E Bridge MA Oxon, ACA
Email: bursar@ladiescollege.ac.gg

Drama, which has been filmed for the first year and will be watched in classrooms. It has been fun to see some of the scenes being developed at lunchtimes and I am really looking forward to seeing the final cut.

This letter is being sent a little earlier than usual, as I wanted to share the Covid detail with you expediently. Should I be required to share further Covid related information with you, I will write again either before the end of the term, or during the Christmas break.

May I close by wishing you and your family a Happy Christmas and I send you my very best wishes for 2022. Thank you for your continued support: it is much appreciated.

Yours sincerely



Ashley Clancy
Principal



Dear Parents and Guardians

Relationship and Sex Education Information

As part of our Personal, Social, Health, Citizenship and Economic Education curriculum (PSCHE), we deliver a comprehensive programme of Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) which has been updated to reflect new UK statutory RSE guidance. The following topics are covered within the senior school:

- Families
- Respectful relationships including friendships
- Online and Media
- Being Safe
- Intimate and sexual relationships, including sexual health

We will begin teaching RSE in the Lent Term and wanted to share further details of the programme with you. Lessons will be taught by SHARE (Sexual Health and Relationships Educators), The Youth Commission, as well as by the PSHCE department using resources that have been quality assured by The PSHE Association.

We would like to draw your attention to our new RSE policy, which can be accessed on the College Website. The policy outlines our approach to RSE at The Ladies' College and explains your right to withdraw your child from Sex Education lessons. You will also find an outline of our PSHCE curriculum from Remove to Upper Five as well as further details of Statutory RSE content and agency lesson details.

Relationships and Sex Education for Sixth Form students is delivered through tutor time, assemblies, and enrichment sessions.

We see our role in delivering RSE as a partnership with you as parents and welcome feedback that can help us to continue to provide the best provision for our students.

Yours sincerely,

Miss E Johnson
Head of PSHCE



Dear Parents and Guardians

Relationship and Sex Education Information

As part of our Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education curriculum (PSHE), we deliver a comprehensive programme of Relationships Education (RE) which has been updated to reflect new UK statutory RSE (Relationships and Sex Education) guidance. The following topics are covered within Melrose:

- Families and people who care for me
- Caring friendships
- Respectful relationships
- Online relationships
- Being safe
- Changing adolescent body (Form II and Form III only)

We will begin teaching RSE in the Lent Term and wanted to share further details of the programme with you. Lessons will be taught by class teachers with some topics covered through assemblies by Mrs Ozanne, Mrs Donnelly, or specialist visitors. SHARE (Sexual Health and Relationships Educators) will deliver discrete lessons in Form II and Form III. Animal and plant reproduction is covered in the science curriculum. Resources that have been quality assured by The PSHE Association will be used to support curriculum topics.

We would like to draw your attention to our new RSE policy, which can be accessed on the College website. The policy outlines our approach to RSE at The Ladies' College and explains your right to withdraw your child from Sex Education lessons. You will also find an outline of our PSHE curriculum from Middle Preparatory to Form III as well as further details of Statutory RSE content and agency lesson details.

We see our role in delivering RSE as a partnership with you as parents and welcome feedback that can help us to continue to provide the best provision for our students.

Yours sincerely

Lian Donnelly
PSHE and Well-being Coordinator