



5 April 2019

To Parents, Guardians and Students of the Senior School and Sixth Form,

As we come together after another full and exciting term, there are so many moments to share linked to our vibrant school. Last term's *Little Shops of Horrors* was one of many true highlights and the momentum generated by this has been sustained this term with – amongst other events - the Eisteddfod, sporting successes, student participation at the *Out of this World Ball*, and the Spring Concert, all of which showcased our girls' talents to the wider community. These events were complemented by our involvement in International Women's Day, *#Building for Better*, Dr Marshall's address to Soroptimist International on teaching girls which took place last Friday, Duo Tech Partnership Challenges and Harry Potter Science events, the Youth Sports Trust *Get Exam Fit* programme, (which is being very well received by students in Upper Four), the House Gym and Dance competition, *Strictly Come College Dancing*, the ski visit to Italy, the Geography visit to Iceland and recent Duke of Edinburgh's Award expeditions. I also want to mention the inaugural House pancake race too, which was a great success, even though the weather was not kind to us that day. Please visit our website and Facebook pages for other information and highlights.

None of these events and experiences can happen without our dedicated and caring team of adults at College, who really do go above and beyond. The girls, too, are incredible and as I have written final reports for Upper Five and Upper Sixth this week, I know that they work hard and have a growth mindset, to ensure they achieve their best and do not perceive any glass ceilings to break through here. These year groups have also had mock examinations this term and are starting their final preparations for their A-levels and GCSEs, knowing that balancing work and play is fundamental to being prepared both academically and emotionally. I extend my thanks to them and to all our students for finding the energy, enthusiasm and the commitment to make the most of the opportunity available to them here and, as our College motto says in translation from the Norman French, to "Do what is right, come what may."

Staffing update

Congratulations to the following in their new roles for September 2019

- Ms Beatrice Bathany will be Head of Modern Foreign Languages, succeeding Mr Paul Naylor.
- Ms Aletia Hagedorn will succeed Dr Mitchell as Head of Psychology, (Mr Roughsedge and Dr Mitchell will continue to teach alongside Ms Hagedorn)
- Mrs Diane Thorogood will join us as Head of Preparatory Department at Melrose from September 2019, following the retirement of Mrs Christine Cave.

- Miss Jane Kinley has been appointed English Subject Leader at Melrose.

We also welcome our new Receptionist at Senior School, Mrs Chloe Moakes, who starts with us in the Trinity term, succeeding Mrs Diane Nelson, to whom we bade a fond farewell last Friday.

I also want to extend sincere thanks to Colleagues leaving us at Easter.

- Mr Julian James, teacher of Biology, has been key to ensuring we were able to provide specialist cover during Miss Ingrid Ellen's and then Mrs Ava Winter's leave. We are grateful to him for this and were pleased to welcome back Mrs Winter this week.
- Mrs Karen Best will also leave us at Easter and has been a very safe pair of hands to cover Miss Rialethe Pretorius' leave. We also welcomed back Miss Pretorius this week.
- We also have colleagues who will leave us soon, as part of their promotion or linked to decisions to retire. We are actively recruiting for these roles this week and will continue to recruit next term.
- Mr Markus West (Premises Team) will leave us in May, as will Mrs Melanie Douglas (Finance Bursar). Mrs Mary Perrio (Biology), Mrs Christine Cave (Melrose) and Miss Sarah Thackeray (Drama and PE) will retire at the end of next term. Mr José Martires (PE) and Mrs Samantha Holland (Music) will also leave us at the end of next term, having completed their maternity cover positions.

I reiterate my thanks to all the team for all that they do and extend my best wishes to those colleagues who will be leaving us this academic year. Thank you.

Which brings me on nicely to thank **Mrs Kate Richards** who steps down as Chair of Governors in May 2019, and who will be succeeded by Advocate Caroline Chan. I have been privileged to work with some exceptional Chairs of Governors and Kate is certainly one of these. Her involvement in College has spanned most of her lifetime; as a student, parent, Governor and Chair of Governors. She is a highly successful businesswoman in her own right and I wanted to take this opportunity to say thank you to her on behalf of the whole College, as well as personally. Kate has always found the right balance of support, encouragement, guidance and challenge to the work we do here and to me personally, for which I am incredibly grateful. I genuinely believe that if you put your heart and soul into something, you will always leave a part of you behind when you move on. And so it is that, whilst Kate's official responsibility for College will soon cease, I am confident she will stay in touch and remain part of our community. On behalf of us all I extend our gratitude to Kate and our very best wishes for the future.

Uniform

It has been good to receive some positive feedback about how smart the girls look in their uniform from people outside of College. We have reminded girls of the need to wear their uniform with pride. The most common conversations we have with the girls about incorrect uniform involve our clearly-stated expectations that skirts are worn at the correct length, hair is fully tied back and only one small pair of earrings is worn. These conversations can be easily avoided by simply meeting the requirements which we have reiterated to parents and students many times. We have explained to the girls that uniform applies to and from College, as well as within it. Whilst it is not anticipated to be the norm, if your daughter needs to change out of uniform after school, that can be agreed with their Tutor or Year Co-ordinator in advance.

In respect of uniform expectations for PE lessons, please also be aware that earrings should be removed for all forms of physical activity and if your daughter is unable to remove them, they must provide their own tape and ensure they are covered before the start of the activity.

Once again, thank you for your support in encouraging your daughter to meet expectations.

Reminder for students using inhalers and epipens

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

We have several students who use specific medication in College and our medicines policy is available on the website. If your daughter is one of the students who needs to have medication with them, such as epipens or inhalers, we request that she takes responsibility for remembering to take this with her when she goes off-site this for any reason, e.g. on trips, to Beau Sejour or to the astro for hockey.

Bring your own device (BYOD)

We intend to ask our new Remove students to bring a tablet device, as opposed to a phone, in September 2019 and will roll out this policy in due course to other year groups. Whilst we still have some final details to explore before this can be shared with you, I would ask that you do not spend money on a new tablet device for your daughter until we communicate further detail next term. I hope that this might make the transition to the new devices more manageable and ultimately more affordable.

Mobile phones

We have also had a few cases where a student has called their parent directly on their mobile to say that they are unwell. Could I respectfully ask you to remind your daughter to go to Reception if she is unwell and if she does call you to reiterate this and await a call from our Reception before coming to College to collect her. Our Reception colleagues are fully trained and have a good understanding of how to support the girls and assess what might be the best course of action. I can assure you that we will contact you if it is something which we feel should be shared immediately.

Group Call / Parent Hub

Please be aware that over the next few months the Group Call facility which we use to send communications home will be discontinued and replaced by a new communications tool called Parent Hub. You can find information on how to sign up to this app on the College webpage under "Information". We plan to trial with the weekly bulletin initially, which will be sent through using both systems. We will also run workshops next term if you would prefer direct help with this. From September 2019, the Group Call facility will cease to be used in Melrose, Senior School and the Sixth Form.

The Core lunch card

Could we request that you keep your daughter's Core lunch card in credit. If your daughter uses the card every day, please think about ensuring there is enough money on the card to see them through the term, to avoid them going into deficit.

Charity support

The students at College are every generous with their support of charities and we are privileged to have a very active Charities' Committee run by the students and supported by colleagues and parents. Over the past few months we have raised funds and held events for Schools4Freedom, the Tumaini Fund and Comic Relief. From the Ball in January 2019 we raised £4000 for the Schools4Freedom charity and presented a cheque to them recently at a special assembly. During the week of International Women's Day, we held another Tumaini Fund event in the Leaf Centre making hygiene packs for the girls in Kagera, Tanzania, and our recent Strictly Come College Dancing competition raised over £1000 for Comic Relief. Thank you to all of you who supported these events.

PTA

The Senior School PTA has a few special events planned in addition to their usual calendar of events. These can all be viewed via our College website. I wanted to make you aware of two special events in June and dates for your diaries.

- On Sunday 2 June 2019 there is a PTA / College "Beach Clean" at Chouet, which is a joint initiative with the Melrose PTA and open to the whole family.

- An “Evening at Nineteen” is planned on Friday 14 June 2019, as a social event for parents to enjoy at the end of a busy week. Tickets can be purchased for this fun evening on the driving range via this link www.trybooking.co.uk/JIM.

May I also thank our PTAs for all that they do to support the College. They provide events to enjoy, opportunities to meet others and financial support for key projects, such as the hall curtains and much appreciated refreshments at our parents’ evenings. Thank you.

Weekly Bulletin and online calendar

In addition to our weekly bulletin, we encourage you to visit: <http://www.ladiescollege.com/diary> for key dates, or access our calendar in full (from an iPad or iPhone) please see the below links:

How to (PDF):

<http://www.ladiescollege.com/media/91650/How-to-add-new-calendar-The-Ladies-College.pdf>

Direct link to view online:

<https://outlook.office365.com/owa/calendar/0a8cd829e7d1405291734842ae5ae648@ladiescollege.ac.gg/0addae2c087a489185523cf17790b26f6974755477370769068/calendar.html>

ICS file for devices:

<https://outlook.office365.com/owa/calendar/0a8cd829e7d1405291734842ae5ae648@ladiescollege.ac.gg/0addae2c087a489185523cf17790b26f6974755477370769068/calendar.ics>

The Giving Machine

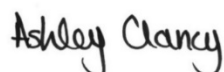
Just a reminder about our on-line fundraising partnership with The Giving Machine. When you install the free [Shop&Give](#) reminder on your desktop or laptop, you’ll see a purple heart icon next to search results to remind you that you can generate free donations as you shop online or book flights and holidays. This generates donations towards the developmental work linked to The Gift for Learning and thank you for supporting the College by doing this. You can access TheGivingMachine via this link:

<https://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk/causes/the-ladies-college-guernsey>

The Ladies’ College film

At the end of 2018 we had the opportunity to produce a four-minute promotional film about the College and this was showcased at the *Out of this World Ball* in January. It will be featured on the College website after the Easter break, so if you were not at the ball and would like to view it, or would like to watch again, please follow this link. <https://vimeo.com/315856368>

I am pleased to finish my letter by commending the film to you and I hope you will take time to watch it; it captures brilliantly the energy, enthusiasm, commitment and ethos of our school. I wish you a very happy Easter break.



Ashley Clancy
Principal