

MILL HILL SCHOOL MAGAZINE: AUTUMN 2017

Mill Hill Magazine





Frances King
Head, Mill Hill School
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Welcome to the Mill Hill Magazine

I am delighted to welcome you to Mill Hill School’s new style of magazine. It is a hard act to follow the previous format so ably edited by Sarah Ward so we have decided to adopt a quite different style and content. Recognizing the ability to present so much information digitally these days we have made the bold decision to record much of our annual school records previously found in the magazine on our new website.

Within this magazine and those that follow we aim to provide you with a sample of school activities together with opinion pieces on topical issues. And who better to offer a thought provoking article in this first edition than Sir Anthony Seldon, political historian and commentator on British political leadership as well as on education and contemporary Britain, and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Buckingham? We are delighted that Sir Anthony agreed to be our Guest Speaker at the School’s Foundation Day this September.

Sir Anthony challenges schools on their ability to prepare young people for the world that lies ahead. This is a theme that we at Mill Hill are keen to engage with: our interest in developing design and enterprise, the launch of our Innovation Hub in 2018, and our concern to develop appropriate personal and interpersonal skills to cope with life in the future demonstrate our understanding that the nature of schooling must change.

Constant within the educational world remains the need to develop a love for learning, to try out sporting and artistic skills, to engage with the wider community, whether in London or across the world, and to provide excellent facilities in which to study. We have here articles which outline developments within these areas whilst also demonstrating, through our piece on the UK election outcome, that Mill Hill students have a voice of their own.

Enjoy the magazine!

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Edited by
Mr Tony Binns



“We need schools increasingly to be offering young people far greater opportunities to develop their entrepreneurial skills...”

Sir Anthony Seldon
Vice Chancellor of The University
of Buckingham and formerly
Master of Wellington College

Past, present and future

Britain has one of the best education systems in the world, rarely finer than in the independent sector. But we must also acknowledge that the entire school system in Britain is widely out of date. It is based on a 19th century factory model of education preparing young people for a twentieth century world that is fast disappearing.

Let us take preparation for jobs, which is one of the primary aims of schools and indeed of universities. Schools grind on year after year focussing intently on exam preparation to maximise performance in the summer exams. But the traditional academic curriculum, while necessary in many ways, is no longer sufficient for the needs of the 21st century. Algorithms are increasingly replacing the linear processing skills required by a whole host of white collar professions – Medicine, the Law, Accounting and Business. Computers do not become tired, they do not make mistakes and they do not suffer from emotional biases.

Exams prepare young people for precisely the skills at which computers excel. The skills that we need in the 21st century are

the human ones which barely get a look in during the school day in far too many schools, fixated as they are on exams and tests. We need schools increasingly to be offering young people far greater opportunities to develop their entrepreneurial skills, problem solving, presentation, leadership, group working, emotional intelligence and creativity.

Ironically, independent schools were founded upon the principles of teaching good character, much of which was put across to the young in the form of religious instruction, but in recent years, the softer skills have been sneered at by governments of left and right. They are hard to measure, evaluate and contrast. But that does not mean they are not important.

Education has never been more exciting. Artificial intelligence, digitalisation and virtual reality offer breath taking exciting opportunities for us all. We need to take the best of the 19th and 20th century and set them in the mould of the 21st century opportunities and technology. We have waited too long and time is no longer on our side.

Global perspectives

THE WEIZMANN SUMMER SCHOOL, 2017

For those who aspire to learning more about science from world renowned experts, or meeting 80 crazy, and friendly, people from 13 countries around the world, or to visiting the most famous sites in Israel, I would highly recommend the International Summer Science Institute (ISSI) programme. The programme comprises a good mix of academic, social and historical activities, leaving some free time for exploring Tel-Aviv with new-found friends.

I was involved in a project about modelling cell behaviour with mathematical models and Game Theory topics; if that sounds like a handful after completing your A Levels believe me it was actually a pleasure. However, the most fascinating aspect was definitely the people I got to know at the

We aim to equip pupils with the tools and habits of mind that enable them to navigate the global environment.

summer school. I am not sure if it was defending ourselves against the desert foxes while sleeping in the desert, or the fact that we all had a lot in common, but many great friendships and memories were made.

I got to participate in the programme after a selection process where I first submitted my predicted grades and a few essays and then attended a friendly interview with some UCL professors. The Physics Department in Mill Hill School, along with the school's advice on higher education, has been very helpful in providing me with all kind of guidance with many projects and applications I've submitted throughout my Mill Hill career and I will be forever grateful for that.

Sultan Kenjeyev (OM)



ZAMBIA



Our annual Zambia partnership trip with the Tag Rugby Trust got underway on the 23rd June with 37 pupils and 5 members of staff. The group was split into two, enabling us to work in both Ndola and Kitwe, both of which are towns in the Copperbelt region of Zambia. With four days of coaching, working with over 1000 children, the Mill Hill pupils had to put their training into action. Their aim was to develop the children's skill and knowledge of the game and finally select just 10 for a team. Tournament day followed on the fifth day, with the highs and lows of a thrilling competition.



The second week followed in similar pattern, but included the opportunity for pupils to embark on community projects in the local schools of Livingstone in Zambia and Victoria Falls in Zimbabwe. Work included gardening, painting and building for projects that have been started to support the schools and local communities.

We were also lucky enough to travel to Botswana for a two-day safari, completing the trip with a visit to the awe inspiring Victoria Falls. Our pupils came back with fantastic memories which I am sure they will treasure for a lifetime.

Ms Rachel Jakeman (Trip Leader)

TAMIL NADU



"What could possibly go wrong?" We had Mrs Sanchez, risk assessment guru leading us on the annual Partnership trip to Tamil Nadu, where we were to spend 17 days delivering English conversation lessons to the pupils at Sri Jayendra Golden Jubilee School and sightseeing in India's beautiful South. We visited a variety of waterfalls and dams, were besieged by monkeys in the national park, savoured the buzz of the local town and were amazed by the five storey high cart and 100,000 strong crowd at the annual Cart Festival.

We bought our saris, dressed up for the School's prize day and even sang 'Don't Look Back in Anger' and the Tamil song 'Ya Ya Mayaya' to an audience of 1500. However, it is also the little things that didn't always go according to plan that helped make this such an amazing and unforgettable trip: the fuchsia T-shirts, designed to help us stand out in a crowd, had '2016' on the back rather than '2017'. As we left Tamil Nadu and had to say goodbye to our children some of us cried but held onto the hope that we may one day be able to return.

Joshua Dennis (U6)



A week is a long time in politics: two months an eternity.

by
Reuben Brown
U6

At a first glance not much has changed since Theresa May's awkward election humiliation on the 8th June. May is still at the wheel of the Conservative party and the country with the usual suspects still backseat driving.

With a rally like appearance at Glastonbury it also seems as though Corbyn hasn't found his way off the campaign trail. In respect to Brexit, negotiations have begun and our national position of imposition has weathered the election storm unchanged.

Yet, although the characters on the Westminster stage may be the same, the roles which they are playing could not be more different. Corbyn is no longer the pitiful 68-year-old cowering in the corner. It is the Prime Minister who we now feel sorry for every time a repeat is shown of her saying 'strong and stable leadership in the national interest'. And May's Brexit has ceased to be the bear which cannot be poked.

When May came to power she served as a compromise within the Conservative party between the 'brexiteers' and 'remainers'. One of the main incentives of calling the election was that if a majority was won then May would be freed from the shackles of this compromise and be able to pay little heed to both factions. She didn't, and now she risks being held to ransom by either if her political manoeuvrings are not astute.

The biggest problem for May's Brexit vision is that she has to accomplish it through the Commons and the Lords. A leaked document seen by The Times has outlined that seven key Brexit bills will need to be voted on by MPs and Peers. Each one presents an opportunity for rebellion which would disrupt May's plan. Furthermore, one of the only real places where the Tories had success was in Scotland which returned an

unprecedented 12 new blue MPs. Given that the vast majority of Scotland voted remain, these new MPs who rescued the Conservatives from further embarrassment will not be pushing for a hard Brexit.

The backseat drivers in Cabinet will also be pushing their own agendas. If Boris, who is favourite to be the next PM, gets his way then a softer Brexit will be out the window, but if the Chancellor, Phillip Hammond, can gather enough support then compromises such as membership of the customs union and even single market are not to be thought impossible.

However, although pro-EU MPs may be willing to start poking the Brexit bear, they aren't yet willing to start a fight, as few broke party lines over the Article 50 bill. In order for a Brexit envisaged by 'remainers' MPs would need completely to go back on May's Brexit principles of ending free movement, financial contributions, the ability to negotiate our own trade deals and ECJ jurisdiction.

To read the election result as another referendum on Brexit would also be ill advised, considering that 90% of voters chose a pro-Brexit party. For many, Brexit is a question which has been decided; they cast their ballots instead against austerity and the political establishment.

The election of 2017 certainly has shaken things up. Its outcome may have given certain characters a new stage presence, whilst others may begin to slink away backstage. For the meantime, at least, things carry on as usual.

25% of our leavers went on to universities ranked in the top 50 in the world according to the QS ratings.

Results and Enrichment

by
Mr Alex Frazer
Deputy Head (Academic)

RESULTS

The Summer term 2017 had been a long time coming: the finish line of a marathon course which started in 2013 with government announcements about a phased return to tough two-year linear A-levels and major reform of the GCSE system, also to increase rigour. 16 year-olds nationwide have now taken new GCSEs in English Language, English Literature and Maths, while Upper Sixth Formers took new A-levels in around half the subjects on offer. The remaining subjects will complete the reform process at GCSE and A-level over the next two years.

We were delighted that the Mill Hill 'Class of 2017' leavers held their own in a turbulent year. They achieved 43% of all A-level results at grades A* and A. This was an increase on the School's top-line pass-rate for 2016, with improved underlying value added for the second year running. Our first A-level Computer Science cohort completed their exams, with pleasing results.

National GCSE pass-rates dipped slightly, but the Mill Hill Fifth Form set a School

record, with 63% A*/A (including numerical grade equivalents for English and Maths) and 85% A*-B, which followed three years of increase to our underlying value added. 24 students achieved straight A*/A grades and 77 achieved at least six. 18 of our top mathematicians completed a tough IGCSE in Further Pure Maths for the first time at Mill Hill.

ENRICHMENT

Their GCSEs done, these students now proceed into the Lower Sixth Form, to experience the exciting pre-university ambiance of our brand-new Sixth Form Centre and to engage in their choice of 25 different A-level courses plus a wide range of options in our inspiring Enrichment programme.

Away from the taught curriculum, a large number of Millhillians of different ages have taken part over the year in external academic competitions of various sorts: from Schools' General Knowledge, French

Debating and Spanish Drama to Olympiads in Maths and the Sciences. A particular highlight this year has been the excellence shown by students in the Design Technology Department, where three current Sixth Formers hold Arkwright Engineering Scholarships, three Fourth Formers and a Sixth Former won categories and three others were runners-up in the Teen Tech Awards, and four Remove pupils were runners-up in the Design Museum Ventura Award.

Millhillians' learning at School was again enhanced by a wide variety of educational visits. Many went out on a one-day basis in London and elsewhere in the UK, such as a range of lecture days or a trip to the Jaguar Land Rover factory in the West Midlands. Others have gone further afield, for example to practise their Modern Languages skills in France and Spain, to study the geography and geology of Iceland first-hand or to descend into the bowels of the Large Hadron Collider at CERN on the Franco-Swiss border (they did come back).

Spanish Theatre competition



ACADEMIC ETHOS

The coming decades will be shaped in unknown ways by the forces of science, technology, globalisation and geopolitics. It is essential to provide young people with the technological confidence, critical faculty, social skills and open outlook to navigate a successful path by harnessing ideas and developments, by working with and relating to other people in a global arena. By developing such attributes, we aim to prepare our pupils as best we can for further study, work and the world of the future.

In practical terms, we offer a forward looking curriculum which establishes strengths in the core subjects but is also broad and flexible enough to adapt to the demands of the 21st century. We are as focused on emerging, innovative and creative subjects as we are on classic academic disciplines. Our students find fulfilment and success in a broad range of learning pathways: we are equally proud of those who leave us to study Art, Design or Programming and of those who enter centuries-old universities to read History or Natural Sciences.

Our expectations of our students are simple: engage pro-actively with your learning at School and at home; don't be afraid to take a risk or learn from a mistake; be proud of your efforts and remember that education is a long, exciting journey with challenges and rewards all along the way.

Nottingham Exeter Bath UCL Cambridge
King's College London Oxford Manchester
Bristol York Loughborough Imperial Sussex
New York University Hong Kong The Hague

UNIVERSITY DESTINATIONS 2017

The university and higher education destinations are excellent, with the range of courses and institutions reflecting the individuality, passion and diversity of interests that are nurtured at Mill Hill.

Courses include Maths, Economics, Natural Sciences, English, Modern Languages, History, Politics & International Relations, Medicine, Engineering in various specialisms, Business, Design, Visual Arts, Music and Fashion Management.

The majority of leavers will be studying in the UK but four are heading for the United States and one to the Netherlands. Five will

be starting at Oxford or Cambridge, respectively reading English, History, French & Linguistics, Spanish & Arabic and Classics.

Other destinations include Brighton, Cardiff, Chester, City London, Courtauld Institute, Coventry, Derby, Durham, Goldsmiths, Greenwich, Huddersfield, Leeds, Liverpool, London South Bank, Northumbria, Nottingham Trent, Oxford Brookes, QMU, Reading, Royal Holloway, Salford, Sheffield, Southampton, St. George's, Surrey, Swansea, UAL.

The Centre provides an attractive space for pupils to study and relax in.

It is an exciting time to be a part of the Mill Hill Sixth Form as the new Sixth Form Centre is unveiled and opens its doors this September. The Centre provides an attractive space for pupils to study and relax in, whilst offering an important sense of transition between school and university. The seminar rooms provide pupils with working spaces that encourage collaborative thinking and presentation skills can be honed by using one of the three exposition areas. The two computer suites provide the pupils with appealing study areas that are bathed in natural light and offer a stimulating and creative workspace.

During recreational breaks the Centre can be transformed into a social hub and the pupils have access to refreshments upstairs in Café 6, accessible through the newly constructed external staircase. There are also newly installed coffee machines that dispense freshly ground coffee, and pupils can relax in the lounge area whilst catching up with the latest news, sport, music or movies.

There is also a dedicated team that closely monitors performance and well-being, to assist the pupils in fulfilling their academic aspirations whilst taking full advantage of the wider enrichment opportunities available. Mr Barron takes on the role of Assistant Head (Sixth Form) and Miss Sharples continues to provide an invaluable service of advice and support that guides the pupils through the university application process, offering wider post school guidance when required. Through Mrs Fenwick, pupils have access to careers advice and work experience opportunities and Miss Miller joins the team in her new role as Sixth Form Coordinator. The Sixth form team works closely with the Tutor, Housemaster/ Housemistress and parents to ensure a comprehensive package of pastoral and academic support.

by
Mr John Barron
Assistant Head (Sixth Form)

New Sixth Form Centre

We have launched the new online facility called SOC's Sport, which provides parents, pupils and staff with a wealth of information about sports fixtures and logistics.

Sporting Success

by

Mr Tom Vercoe
Assistant Head
(Co-curricular
and Sports)

Over the past 12 months our pupils, parents and staff have worked together to achieve a memorable year of sporting excellence and high rates of participation. Arguably, our most pleasing performances were delivered by the 1st XI Cricket team who 'played 13, won 11', which included an impressive victory over the MCC (for the first time in 17 years).

Netball goes from strength to strength, with the U16 A team winning all but one of their 10 games. The U15A Rugby team also deserve a mention as they enjoyed an outstanding season, reaching the National quarter-finals in the NatWest Vase, along with impressive victories over Merchant Taylors', UCS and Sevenoaks.

The Senior Hockey and Rugby tour to Japan in 2019 has been confirmed, and we have launched the new online facility called SOC's Sport, which provides parents, pupils and staff with a wealth of information about sports fixtures and logistics. We have also completed the consultation process regarding the place of Football in our Foundation Schools, concluding that it will become a major sport at the School in the Spring Term of 2018.

Mill Hill continues to enhance and develop its sports department with three new Heads of major sports appointed this year. These include Aaron Liffchak, ex Saracens and England Counties professional rugby player. Aaron has been appointed as Assistant Director of Sport and Director of Rugby. Sanjay Patel, has become our new Head of Cricket. Sanjay is currently Head Coach of the Middlesex Ladies CCC and will play an instrumental part in the Foundation's focus for Girls' Cricket. Finally, James Bedford who is arriving in September will be leading our growing Football department. These staff will be supported by the recently appointed Graduate Assistants, many of whom are experienced and qualified strength and conditioning coaches who will be focusing on developing our burgeoning S&C programme and helping our students take their sport to the next level.

Our Sports Scholarship Programme continues to provide an excellent level of support for Mill Hill's elite athletes, who are given individual mentoring, group seminars and strength and conditioning support throughout the year. We are delighted to have more athletes involved in the programme than ever before.



Interview with Nancy Zamit (OM)

Nancy plays Tinkerbell in *Peter Pan Goes Wrong*.



NANCY ZAMIT

What made you want to become an actress?

I started off dancing when I was younger and then I did loads of school plays at Mill Hill and I did plays at Belmont and National Youth Theatre along with summer schools. Doing GCSE Drama made me want to stay and the facilities at Mill Hill made me want to do A Level, but if I hadn't gone to Mill Hill I would have been a dancer. I was in the same year as Harry Melling, of Harry Potter fame, and both of us wanted to be actors in our later lives. I've never wanted to do anything else – my mum is a sculptor and my dad is a musician so it was never really a question. I've never really thought about it.

Who was your role model growing up?

The people that do come to mind are people like Julie Walters and Victoria Wood; all the women from *Smack the Pony*; the cast of *Green Wing*; all of the cast of *Fawlty Towers*; a lot of comedy actresses, but in particular Julie Walters. I also watched French and Saunders when I was young so it was never really a question, being a woman in comedy.

What has been the highlight of your career so far?

Winning an Olivier award for *The Play that Goes Wrong* – a play that we started in a pub! A group of us all from Lamda have gone on to win an Olivier award. And now I'm moving to New York to do that same play on Broadway. It's crazy.

What was your time at Mill Hill like?

Full of art. I did Art Music and Drama for GCSE. A Level; English Lit, Art, Drama and Politics. I always had the opportunity to explore everything going on like all the plays and House Drama. I was in Harry Melling's House and we won everything. I learnt so much at Mill Hill.

How did drama at MHS help you realise you want to become an actress?

It was Mr Proudlock. He made the department something you wanted to be a part of and not a chore to be there.

What was your first play, at school and in the West End?

At Mill Hill, I was in *Cabaret* but I was in Fourth Form so it wasn't a big part – just one of the dancing girls, even though I

wanted to be the main role! And in the West End it was *The Play That Goes Wrong*.

How did you feel on your first night in the West End?

Definitely really nervous but weird because we'd done the show for seven months and we knew it back to front but the pressure was still on. It was nerve wracking because you don't want to let anyone down. The nerves don't change, they really don't. The nerves I had before a play at school are the same before you step out in the West End.

What's your favourite play, to read and/or to act in?

I don't know. My favourite play to act in are these plays I'm doing right now because I get to be in them alongside my friends. I have so much creative input. I can just come up with a line and put it in the show – if it works it stays, if it doesn't it goes. I love that.

What was that first audition like?

I did loads of auditions when I was 14. I was the main part in a Disney channel show called *Bus Life*. I was the first English actress in a Disney show. That audition was scary, turning up to a big Disney studio and being told where to go and when. My auditions for drama school were horrible, really horrible. I had to do two monologues, modern and Shakespearean. I worked so hard and got nowhere. At that time they just weren't taking girls. I tried four years in a row at loads of different schools, and never got in anywhere. I was about to quit, I had no confidence in myself. Then I was given the script to *The Play That Goes Wrong* and said yeah okay this will be my last play. And then it won an Olivier. That really taught me a lesson not to give up.

Do you have any tips for any aspiring Millhillian actors/actresses?

There isn't a set path. It's not like any other career. You can just walk into a bar and someone will give you a part. You've got to be tough enough and keep going even if nothing happens for years. If you know you want to do it then just keep trying. If it's something you're inspired by then just do it. What other job is like this? It might take you 30 years but there's nothing like this job. You've gotta go for it. Don't be a bystander; be confident in your own ability.



From left Izzy Ward (U6), Nancy Zamit (OM), Will Toeman (U6) backstage.

Nancy was at Belmont from 1999 to 2002 and at Mill Hill School in McClure from 2002 to 2007.

by

Will Toeman
(U6)



HOUSE MUSIC COMPETITION

The biennial House Music Competition involved each house presenting a 20 minute programme featuring a soloist, a small musical ensemble piece, a school hymn and a massed item. Each House worked extremely hard, under the direction of the pupil Music Directors, and for over a month, before school, during break and at lunchtime, music rehearsals of all types could be heard in every school corridor. We were thrilled that James Davey, the choral conductor, producer and vocal animateur, was able to come and adjudicate the final and, though it was a very difficult choice, he awarded the overall House Music 2016 prize to Weymouth House.



Music

TOUR TO BARCELONA

At the start of the Easter holiday, the Music School took over 50 pupils on a concert tour of Barcelona. Members of the Jazz Band, Wind Band and Orchestra all took part, with every pupil joining together to sing with the choir. The Music School performed concerts in Agora International School (which has a specialist Music programme), The Church of St Josep, Sant

Gaietà Church, Barcelona Cathedral and many pupils described the highlight of the concerts as one that we gave in Montserrat Monastery, where we performed to an audience of over 1000 people. In addition to the busy schedule, we still managed to fit in numerous cultural visits which made a lasting impression.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC COMPETITION

Now in its third year, the Instrumental Music Competition has become a highlight of the Music School calendar. Over 150 pupils, from complete beginners to post Grade 8 level, entered this year's competition, working hard throughout the Autumn and Spring Terms to perfect their pieces. We were delighted to welcome a number of adjudicators to judge the many heats with Chi-chi Nwanoku OBE FRAM FTLC agreeing to cover the post Grade 8 heat. Ms Nwanoku spoke particularly highly about our musicians and gave some exceptional advice to our pupils in preparation for the final. We were then honoured to welcome the celebrated international pianist, adjudicator and teacher, Christine Croshaw, to adjudicate the final in The Large at the end of March. Christine was extremely complimentary about our young musicians and awarded cellist, Ellen Baumring-Gledhill, the Mill Hill School Instrumental Music Prize for 2017.

FARROW SINGING COMPETITION

The Farrow Singing Competition celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2017. With nearly 200 entries the standard of the competition was, as always, extremely high. The heats, contested over two nights, showcased considerable hard work, talent, and preparation, with approximately 30 pupils making it to the final of the competition held in The Large. In preparation for the final, pupils had the opportunity to work with international singer/actor Vincent Gray, focusing on dramatic communication and performance technique. The final was adjudicated by operatic tenor Robin Bailey who set the stage perfectly with his impressive knowledge of all vocal genres.



Reaching out

“Mill Hill has given me an environment where achievement and success, no matter how great or small, is celebrated.”

SPRINGBOARD

Nhi Hai Hoang is a Springboard bursary recipient who joined Mill Hill in September 2016. After a difficult start in life, Nhi entered foster care when she was five years old. She lives with her foster family who have fully supported her decision to accept the Springboard Bursary, and to be funded by Mill Hill School's A Better Chance bursary scheme, joining us in the Sixth Form as a boarder, studying for her A Levels. In May 2017 she was invited to speak about her experiences at a conference at which Her Royal Highness Princess Anne was present and this article touches on the key points she made in her speech. She writes...

“Mill Hill has given me an environment where achievement and success, no matter how great or small, is celebrated. My first term wasn't easy, however; I was homesick, there were new routines to settle into and, to top it all off, I was living in a boarding house of strangers! But 12 months on, these strangers have now become what I call my international siblings! The attention and encouragement I have received from my teachers has also allowed me to develop self-confidence and ambition. There is a genuine partnership between teachers and pupils which helps us to learn. The opportunity to be involved in co-curricular activities is endless. I volunteer with the Barnet 'Make a Lunch' scheme, which ensures pupils who receive free school meals do not go hungry in the holidays. I also play

sport with autistic children at Saracens Rugby Club and have even taught the elderly how to use a laptop! I have helped to organise concerts and am involved in several School Councils, where I feel I am being listened to. As for the future, I am still unsure. But Mill Hill has opened my eyes and shown me that I can achieve great goals. The School has provided me with a new community, another home and a sense of belonging. Mill Hill has included me in something special but none of this would have happened without the sponsorship of the Springboard Bursary.”

Mrs Jane Sanchez
Principal Deputy Head

Nhi Hai Hoang
(U6)

COMBINED CADET FORCE

Mill Hill School Combined Cadet Force is proud to have had a partnership with Mill Hill County High School for over eight years. This has proved to be extremely successful, supported keenly by both schools and thoroughly enjoyed by the cadets who take part. In addition to weekly training, this year MHCHS have taken part in four camps including two field training exercises and a summer camp to Barry Buddon in Scotland. A small number of MHCHS cadets are also members of the Corps of Drums and have played for several public events this year including the Barnet Remembrance Day Parade and St George's Day Parade. The highlight of the year was the Annual General Inspection. MHCHS cadets have been without doubt an enormous asset to the contingent and MHS has been pleased to provide access to the cadet movement which has been so well received.

Major Anthony Norrington



LONDON ACADEMY OF EXCELLENCE

Mill Hill School Foundation is delighted to be a partner with London Academy of Excellence Tottenham (LAE Tottenham) which opened this September with 125 pupils. The LAE is a state-funded Sixth Form, welcoming A level students from Tottenham and Haringey into Year 12. There are various features, however, that make this Sixth Form different:

- > Eight independent schools are partnering with Highgate School and Tottenham Hotspurs Football Club (THFC) to support the Academy
- > It is located within Tottenham Hotspur's new stadium development
- > The Academy is set to follow on from the success of the first LAE in Stratford – labelled the 'Eton of the East End'.

With the LAE (Stratford) achieving impressive A level success and prestigious university placements for its students, the new school in Tottenham will aim to follow this example. The Academy has focused on attracting local students most likely to benefit from an academically-rigorous curriculum, and those from disadvantaged socio-economic backgrounds. By teaming with high achieving independent schools, the Academy hopes to create greater opportunity and social mobility in this part of the capital.

Whist Highgate School will act as principal education sponsor of LAE Tottenham, the following schools in addition to Mill Hill have come on board as partners to offer expertise and first class teaching: Alleyn's, Chigwell, Harrow, North London Collegiate, St Dunstan's, St Albans and Haberdashers' Aske's Boys'. We look forward to sharing in the development of this exciting educational initiative in North West London. To find out more, visit laetottenham.org.uk

Mrs Frances King
Head, Mill Hill School



This has been an outstanding year for the Design Technology Department with a record number of pupils taking the subject to A level and significant successes in three external competitions.

Designs on the future



by

Ms Berinda Banks
Head of Design
Technology

At the start of the year Remove pupils were challenged by the Design Museum to create a product responding to the theme 'Move' and suitable for sale in the museum shop. A team of four deserving competitors was identified and an innovative concept developed. The pupil team completed a series of complex design challenges and submitted an entry which was awarded the Runner-up Prize, a significant achievement in only our second year of entry.

Following this early success we were delighted to have the engineering talents of Henry Sanford and Jay Popat recognised: each was awarded a full Arkwright Scholarship.

To complete the hat trick both our youngest and oldest pupils were encouraged to make an entry to the Teen Tech Awards, a programme which encourages students to use their knowledge of science, technology, engineering and maths to produce practical solutions to real life problems.

Once again the results were outstanding, with our success acknowledged in the national press; all teams entered had reached the final of this prestigious international competition. During the last week of the summer term the excited finalists, Micah Lazarus (U6), Andreas Neophytou (U6), Pav Petra and Sam Lupson (4th form) and Cameron Fox, Rhys Connor and Oliver Clement (4th form), worked hard to perfect pitches to be made to judges at the Royal Society in The Mall. After a gruelling day of presentations we were delighted to achieve two category winners with Micah's 'Handicutter', a device to help those affected by muscle weakness to complete basic household tasks, and Cameron, Rhys and Oliver's idea for a product to harness the energy generated by a manual wheelchair to help with charging small electrical devices. Both teams will attend a ceremony at Buckingham Palace to receive their prize from Prince Andrew, including an award of £1000 to each group which will be used to fund new technology equipment for the Department.

INNOVATION AND ENTERPRISE

This year we have launched a cross Foundation project in which we are seeking to explore the ideas of innovation and enterprise throughout our four schools. During the year we will audit the many activities that are already taking place and will then draw together an integrated plan of how to take these forward and, indeed, add to these in the coming year.

Why? The Foundation vision statement outlines our commitment to "equipping pupils for life now and in the future". We believe that the skills required for the future include those central to innovation: creativity, curiosity and problem solving. The entrepreneurial world expects a readiness to take risks, an awareness of the wider world and a sense of how to adapt what you have to offer with what is needed.

Our pupils in MHS demonstrate many of these skills already both inside and outside the classroom. From the Enterprise Group in the Fourth Form, to the award winners in

the DT department, opportunities for design, innovation and problem solving already exist. Amongst our school leavers 25% of our pupils took up courses this year at university to study business or management, 20% are following design based courses including architecture and engineering, and a few decided to go straight into business.

For 2018 we plan to set up both a space, in the shape of the Innovation Hub, and an appropriate programme of activities which will harness and direct the existing appetite and involvement in these areas.

We hope that our project will engage pupils from 3 years old through to our Sixth Formers working together to explore these key concepts and assist us as a Foundation to prepare them for the future.

Mrs Frances King
Head, Mill Hill School





Developments

An update on activities from the Development Team, which supports bursaries and building projects across our four Schools.

UNFOLDING SPACES

The six month initiative launched in April highlighted the three new facilities opening in September 2017: The Roger Chapman Building at Belmont, the girls' boarding house and Sixth Form Centre at Mill Hill School. All three were completed on time and are in full use. The short, sharp campaign has received donations totalling almost £100,000 thanks to the generosity of parents and alumni. At Belmont, pupils will not only develop the basic skills which are now part of everyday life, but also seek to build their knowledge and understanding of Digital Literacy, Computer Science, Information Technology and Design & Technology in the wider context. For Sixth Formers at Mill Hill the stunning new facility will provide the chance to bridge the gap between GCSE and university level study, whilst 'New House' has recreated a girls' boarding house in the heart of the campus.

A BETTER CHANCE

ABC – it's as easy as 1-2-3! More than £250,000 a year is raised to fund A Better Chance bursary awards at Mill Hill School and Belmont. Through this funding the 16 pupils currently in our Schools receive the opportunity for a Mill Hill education which they could not possibly have had otherwise. For bursary beneficiaries in the past this opportunity has been life-changing, and for our Schools these talented young people make great contributions in numerous aspects of school life, thereby enriching our community. Eleven of the current beneficiaries are directly supported by individual Old Millhillians or parents or by groups of Old Millhillians; the others are supported by regular giving by alumni and parents and by the money raised at the 2016 ABC Ball. This spectacular event at the RAF Museum in Hendon was brilliantly organised by a group of parents from across the Foundation Schools; the proceeds fund another ABC Bursary award this year.

The 2017 ABC Ball takes place on Saturday 14 October and promises to be another fantastic evening in support of the A Better Chance bursary scheme. Tickets are on sale now.

Mr Nick Priestnall
Director of Development



DATE| 14th October 2017 VENUE| Radisson Blu Portman

TIME| 7:30pm – 1:00am TICKETS| £125.00 per person

FOOD & DRINK, LIVE ENTERTAINMENT, DANCING, GAMES, AUCTION, PRIZES and FUN!!!

TICKET SALES DEADLINE: Friday 29TH SEPTEMBER 2017

Buy tickets at: www.supportmillhill.org.uk / 020 8906 7692

ALUMNI RELATIONS

There are more than 10,000 alumni on our records – Old Millhillians, Old Belmontians and Old Grimsdellians. Through the Development Office database contact is maintained regularly. The Schools are always delighted to hear news of alumni of all generations, whether it is the 90th birthday of an OM who was at St Bees when the School was evacuated to Cumbria during the War, the marriage of two Old Millhillians, the sporting success of an Old Belmontian and Old Millhillian or the political success of an Old Millhillian MP. The Schools are also delighted to welcome alumni to year group and other reunions. Alumni provide an invaluable resource for careers to recent School leavers and indeed to current pupils. Numerous professional and other networking opportunities, as well as a range of established and successful sporting clubs are provided by the Old Millhillians' Club (which now incorporates the Old Belmontians' Association). The central database is crucial to the Foundation's development activities and to all aspects of alumni relations and to the work of the Old Millhillians' Club, which will be featured in a future Magazine.

This year we were delighted to welcome to our '60 Years on' reunion 70 Old Millhillians who were at the School at the time of Her Majesty The Queen's visit in 1957. We also held buzzing '40 Years On' and '50 Years On' reunions for the 1977 and 1967 leavers respectively. Everybody enjoyed meeting up with old friends, sharing memories and seeing how the School has changed since their time.

PARAS SHAH 1987 – 2016

(Collinson House 2005 to 2010 – A tribute by Mr Peter Lawson)

Following Paras's tragic death last year, a cricket match was played by his friends and teachers on June 24 on Park. The esteem in which he was held by everyone who knew him was demonstrated by the huge turn-out. Spectators and players repaired to Collinson House afterwards for a barbecue. Although the occasion was so full of poignancy and sorrow, the joy displayed in his memory was a wonderful thing for us all to behold. Paras, we will never forget you.

Valete

We bid farewell to the following colleagues, whose valued contribution to the life of the School is recognised here.

LINDSEY FARRANT

Of all those I worked with at Mill Hill, few were as dedicated, supportive and loyal to the School as Lindsey. Before starting as Headmaster, I lost count of the number of parents who told me that Lindsey was a gem. They were, of course, correct. Under her careful stewardship, the atmosphere in Ridgeway was warm and vibrant and she ensured that all her boarders felt safe, comfortable and valued as individuals. She did not lack steel and was quick to deal with any who failed to live up to her high expectations. But she was also fundamentally kind and caring, not just to her boarders but to the many parents who at times of anxiety, trouble or uncertainty would beat a path to her door. It was perhaps for this reason that Ridgeway was always the most popular of Mill Hill's Houses and the easiest to fill.

Lindsey's prodigious work ethic helped make her not only an outstanding Housemistress but also a superb Director of Boarding, something reflected in the consistently excellent outcomes of successive ISI boarding inspections, including in 2015 when the feedback meeting was dominated by the lead inspector singing Lindsey's praises. Lindsey also proved to be an invaluable member of the SMT, helping shape policy not just on matters relating to Mill Hill but also broader Foundation issues such as the establishment of MMHI.

It was a great privilege to work alongside Lindsey and we all owe her a great debt for everything that she has done for Mill Hill.

Dr Dominic Luckett (Headmaster, 2007-15)

TONY SLADE

It was 34 years ago that Tony went for an interview at a leading boys' school. If he'd got that job he would have become my form tutor and probably would have been my favourite teacher, as the successful candidate did become. Instead, my school's loss was Mill Hill's gain: his next interview was here and this is where he remained until retiring in the summer.

I feel privileged to have worked with him for 12 years. For me he was an excellent maths teacher, and I was really glad he finally graduated to A Level teaching in his last few years. He was a superb Housemaster of Murray and provided great support to the Rugby coaching at various levels in the Autumn Term, as well as Multi-Sports in the Spring and Summer terms.

He was also Head of PE, led the Navy section of the CCF, was a resident tutor in Winterstoke House, led Rugby teams, went on various tours, residential trips and CCF camps and is admired by many former and current pupils and teachers. Mill Hill will not be the same without him.

Mr Karl Bulman

JEFFREY WATSON

Jeffrey joined Mill Hill in September 1990 from Oman. He immediately shone as a dedicated and highly organised teacher with a first-class knowledge of chemistry. In 1992 Jeffrey was appointed Head of Department, a position which he held for 15 years.

He was meticulous in his approach to teaching, an early adopter of ICT in the classroom and a keen advocate of independent learning. The Chemistry Department was extremely lucky to have him as a Head of Department and teacher over so many years. He understood the curriculum inside out and produced some phenomenal departmental results over the years, having taught over 2000 pupils himself. As Head of Chemistry, Jeffrey oversaw many changes in the department: curricula, laboratory refurbishments and staff changes. He showed the greatest respect and consideration with his departmental colleagues, sending welcome cards to new staff and always remembering birthdays and arranging memorable departmental outings.

Jeffrey created a sense of family and maintained a forward-looking approach: this continues in the department and is testament

to his many years of dedication. We wish him good health and happiness in his retirement.

Mr Gavin Saint

DAVID WOODROW

David committed his whole professional life to Mill Hill School and will be remembered by all associated with Mill Hill between 1980 and 2017 as: Housemaster of St Bees and School House; Director of Sport and Activities; rugby coach and geography teacher. These were his headline roles but, through his wide involvement in the broader life of the school, he will be remembered for so much more: hockey; frisbee; cricket; sports and social club; community service; rugby tours; Chairman of Common Room; numerous committees and focus groups and a stint as interim Head of Geography all come to mind.

As a teacher of geography, David developed his didactic skills through listening, asking, adopting and adapting the changing ideas that have permeated the School, most especially in the last two decades. This, allied to his exceptional subject knowledge, meant his lessons were warmly appreciated. He was the person you wanted to have on any trip: commanding respect, getting involved and with the concerns of others paramount. He has been round the world with rugby but it is in Walton on the Naze and, nurtured through the incomparable experiences of Dent, the Yorkshire Dales that his memory will live longest.

His care for and interest in the pupils was evident and he had the deserved respect of tutees. With the support of his family, Annette, Pippa and Katie, he created a community at the heart of the School that harks back to a golden age and which will long be remembered. His daughters and his nieces, Sarah and Sophie, are a testament to his values and we wish David, Annette and his family all the very best for the futures.

Mr Nick Hodgson

ROGER AXWORTHY

Dr Roger Axworthy leaves Mill Hill School Foundation after 33 years working here. During his career at Mill Hill School Foundation he took on many roles, including History teacher, Boarding Housemaster, Head of Department, Registrar and Company Secretary of Mill Hill School Enterprises.

Most recently he worked as Deputy Bursar and Clerk to the Governors, a role which he fulfilled with great dedication. He brought his wealth of knowledge and experience with legal matters and compliance to each meeting and provided both Governors and

Executive Heads with wise advice on a range of issues.

Roger combined his role at Mill Hill with his work as a Local Councillor for Barnet, for the City and District of St Albans, and as a JP, roles which ensured he kept up to date with local politics and legal compliance. Roger leaves Mill Hill School Foundation to take up the role of Executive Officer and Company Secretary at King's Ely School, Cambridgeshire.

Mrs Frances King

PENNY HILL

Penny joined the Foundation in 1988 as a senior member of the team and moved up to become the current Finance Bursar.

In her time at the Foundation she has supported the implementation of several new finance systems and was instrumental in the successful merger of The Mount, Mill Hill International. She has a dry and 'wicked' sense of humour and is an excellent listener. Her ability to read situations is always measured and her advice welcomed.

She enjoys travelling and has covered most of the world; she is intending to fill the gaps once she leaves. We hope that Penny's new adventures will be filled with excitement, intrigue and warm weather.

Penny will be sorely missed by all her colleagues, many of whom have become close friends over the years.

Mrs Susy Patel

SUE GINTER

We have said goodbye to Sue Ginter after 18 years as the Head's PA and, for much of that time, Office Manager too. Sue has ably supported three Heads - Mr Winfield, Dr Luckett and Mrs King - and led the School Office team with kindness and clarity of purpose. The Head's PA is a lynchpin role in any school, and Sue exercised her responsibilities with the greatest of discretion and consideration, while working tirelessly to keep the 'machine' running smoothly. As well as supporting the Head, she gave wise and unsung assistance to other members of the School's senior staff. Sue will also be remembered by the many teachers for whom she was the first point of contact with Mill Hill, making a friendly phone call or sending an email bearing an exciting invitation to interview. Sue has decided to enjoy a brief career break with her husband, children and grandchildren; we wish her every happiness for the future.

Mr Alex Frazer

SARAH-JANE KONN

Sarah-Jane began as a Reprographics Assistant in 1996, moving a year later to become Assistant School Secretary. Her subsequent work supporting the academic direction of Mill Hill as secretary to successive Academic Deputies, and her role as Examinations Assistant, were characterised by dedication, attention to detail and the tireless support of her colleagues. Often the first to arrive at school, she could be relied on for a firm and clear sense of priorities: her vast knowledge of Mill Hill, and ability to respond and adapt, cutting to the heart of any matter, were second to none. Above all her humour, her approachability, and her emotional intelligence were characteristics which endeared her to the Common Room who knew how much she cared about them and the School. Having shared an office with her over the years, and relied on her professional and personal support, I will miss her judicious counsel and caring friendship. We wish her well in her retirement, which will allow her to spend time with her family (all three sons are OMs), to focus on herself, and on her well-being.

Mr Jason Lewis

KAREN WILLETTS

Karen joined the Foundation as part of the Friends of Mill Hill School Foundation with responsibility for events and communications which are her forte and passion. Karen created the corporate identity for the nascent organisation and helped build the website. Throughout her time in the Development Office, and subsequently in the Marketing Department, she always wanted events to go as well as possible and to ensure everyone knew about them. Karen has continued to be the lead on many aspects of communications, producing everything from The Shout to Snow Day messages and news items on the screens around school. In recent years Karen also managed the Foundation's bus services, ensuring hundreds of pupils got to and from school safely every day. Karen's effervescent personality and warm smile will be missed. We are grateful for her diverse contributions and wish her well at the Berkhamsted Schools Group.

Mr Nick Priestnall

MELVYN BARDOU

With Melvyn Bardou's departure after seven years as Head of Modern Languages, we say goodbye to a true European: son of an English mother and French father; bilingual in both those languages but also a first-rate

Hispanist, having learned Spanish the hard way; a traveller and a connoisseur of good literature, theatre and visual arts.

Modern Languages departments are complicated, and Melvyn has led ours with sound judgement and a significant investment of time and effort in the life around the subjects. Under Melvyn, the department enhanced its offer of trips and exchanges (at a time when such programmes are under threat nationally) and involved an increasing number of pupils in French and Spanish debating and theatre competitions, indeed putting Mill Hill on the modern languages map of London by hosting a healthy number of such events. Melvyn will also be missed as a rugby and cricket coach, not to mention as a highly skilled tutor in Atkinson.

Mr Alex Frazer

CHRISTELLE BOUILLÉ

When I first met Christelle, she was impeccably turned out, incredibly well spoken and very professional. Christelle applied these attributes to her work at Mill Hill and she was able to motivate and inspire her pupils, not only in their oral work, but also by expanding their knowledge of French culture. Christelle successfully prepared pupils for the inter-school French debating competition, and she directed the Upper Sixth in a hugely entertaining scene from the hilarious comedy 'Le Père Noël est une Ordure' for the French Drama Festival. We wish Christelle and her family all the best as they return to Angers.

Mr Melvyn Bardou

HARVEY BRINK

We were very sad to see Harvey Brink depart in December 2016, after five years at Mill Hill. Harvey joined us as a part-time teacher, and was instantly a hit. He initially impressed with his exceptional academic knowledge, ability at the keyboard, and aptitude for playing multiple instruments. He then went on to wow us by adding his accomplished skills as a magician into his everyday teaching! In 2014, Harvey took on the role of Director of Academic Music. One of his first tasks was to create a new Fourth Form curriculum and, as a result, there has been an impressive uptake in GCSE Music. Although Harvey left Mill Hill for The Haberdashers' Aske's Boys' School, he is now joining Wells Cathedral School as the Head of Academic Music. We wish Harvey and his family all the very best for the future.

Mr Kevin Kyle

KARL BULMAN

Karl Bulman joined Mill Hill in 2005 as Head of Maths. During his time at the school he has taken on other positions of responsibility. It is the diversity of these positions that demonstrates what a talented and dedicated individual Karl is.

As Head of Maths he has truly been an inspirational character. By fully embracing key principles of Growth Mindset, he has completely transformed the way the Maths Department operates. He has never been afraid of trying new things and any potential lack of success would have become an opportunity to learn from a mistake. In his roles of a Tutor and Senior Tutor in Cedars House he always demanded high standards and mutual respect from his tutees. In return, pupils knew they were in safe and caring hands.

When he joined Mill Hill, Karl discovered a passion for running. Soon he became Master in charge of Cross Country and, wanting to share his enthusiasm for the sport, organised annual school cross country competitions and ran a variety of very popular running activities. The list would not be complete without mentioning his involvement in the CCF. There is a vast number of pupils who will fondly remember their time in the Navy section under Karl's leadership.

Karl has had a long and successful career at Mill Hill. I have enjoyed working closely with him and I have appreciated the advice that he has offered me. I will always remember Karl as an immensely hard working and generous colleague. We will miss Karl as he moves on to be Director of Studies at St Helen's School in Northwood and I am sure he will prove to be a valuable and versatile asset at his new school.

Mr Tomas Trhlik

NICK CHEESEMAN

Nick combines excellent, highly professional teaching with his own work as an artist. He loves process and materials and since completing his MA at Chelsea School of Art much of his own work has explored the use of clay, wood and thread. He frequently shows his work: this June he was exhibiting in three galleries in Bath and London. Elements of his own practice have become part of his teaching and it has been pleasing over the years to see how much ambitious sculpture has been produced by his pupils. The secret of Nick's success is his planning and preparation; his lessons have been so superb that even the most

recalcitrant of pupils have become fascinated by what art can mean for them as individuals. Nick will also be fondly remembered by both staff and pupils alike for his regular presence on ski trips.

He leaves us to work in a college that is much closer to both his home and his studio. We wish him the best of luck in the new job whilst we wait for invitations to exhibitions of his new work next year.

Mr Andrew Ross

VICTORIA DEMPSTER

A committed art teacher, filmmaker and photographer - Victoria is all of that and more. She inspired twenty years of pupils to achieve at the highest levels, many leaving Mill Hill to take visual studies at art school and university. A secret of her success was her commitment to staying in touch with so much constantly evolving visual culture. She shared this enthusiasm by organising the annual L6 trip to New York's museums and galleries and most importantly by overseeing our partnership in Tamil Nadu, teaching drawing, painting and film-making at the Sri Jayendra School in Tirunelveli.

All art teachers want to be artists and Victoria has successfully exhibited her photographs and drawings over the years. Leaving Mill Hill for the USA is certainly the result of her marriage to Mike Smith who lives in Moab, Utah but it is also fed by her desire to make art. She is touring the Mid West of America taking photographs of Rodeo cowboys with a view to exhibiting a collection. We all look forward to viewing the results of this adventurous project.

Mr Andrew Ross

AMY ELLERINGTON

Amy arrived as a proper dual linguist (French and Italian) in 2009 as some big shoes belonging to Paulo Duran and Tony Armstrong left the department building. Despite this and a horrid leg injury at the start of her tenure, she was never fazed, authority and stamina characterising her at every turn. She was a wonderfully supportive colleague without whose prepared resources I would have had much extra work. My daughter was taught by her and the reports at our table spoke invariably of Amy's superb energy and expertise. She tutored in McClure and latterly was Priestley's Senior Tutor. In addition, she was a marvellous visiting tutor for five years in Collinson. Her games coaching skills were noteworthy. Indeed, her rounders team's statistics for one season remain unrivalled. Amy begins as Head of Languages at

Pangbourne College in September. She carries our thanks for so much given.

Arrivederci, signorina!

Mr Peter Lawson

ANDREW GRANATH

Just when Andrew thought it was safe to retire after 29 years as Head of History and Politics at Latymer, Mill Hill came calling, and were grateful to secure his services. Andrew combines tremendous erudition and experience with an eclectic range of interests from motorcycling to the 'Noble Art' and this makes him absolutely fascinating company. Classes enjoyed weekly 'what's in the bag?' sessions from his personal artefact collection comprising all kinds of objects from slave shackles to ancient Greek sling missiles and Sixth Formers benefitted from his vast knowledge and ability to extemporise on practically any topic. I particularly valued Andrew's friendship, commitment to the department and the care he displayed towards his pupils. He is now allowed to retire!

Mr Mark Dickinson

JOAN HERBERT

Joan worked at MHS for seven years as a Learning Support teacher to pupils throughout the School. She ran individual and small group classes for pupils on the Learning Support Register. She was always extremely careful in preparing her lessons to ensure they matched the individual needs of her pupils. She cared very much for her pupils and genuinely wanted them to do well. Joan was a strong member of the Learning Support Department and was always happy to help other members of the team and offer advice on pupils when needed. Joan was fantastic at ensuring the department was well resourced, and kept us all up to speed with necessary and relevant resources. We miss Joan and wish her well in her retirement.

Miss Lisa Silverman

SUSANNAH HOPE

Susannah joined Mill Hill at short notice in 2016 to provide teaching cover for a colleague who was on maternity leave. She had to pick up several sets at both GCSE and A Levels and prepare a number of texts in short order so that she could teach the groups effectively. That she did this so quickly and well shows how lucky we were to find someone of such talent and adaptability. Susannah ended up staying on for almost a year, and perhaps might have

done so for longer had it not been that she was expecting a second daughter to be born in the spring of 2017. Susannah and her family have now moved to rural Hampshire where we wish them every happiness for the future and, to Susannah, our most grateful thanks.

Mr Richard Searby

SARA MARTINEZ

Sara joined Mill Hill in 2013 and provided four very full years of service. Although she came to us with relatively little teaching experience she quickly adapted to the demands of working in a busy department in a large independent school. Her pupils quickly came to respect Sara's calm, measured approach, not to mention her clear subject knowledge, compassion and warmth. Sara's colleagues also greatly valued her professionalism, gentle humour and generous spirit.

Outside of the classroom Sara gave equally generously of her time, helping to establish the English Society Friday lunchtime meetings. She also helped lead a debating club, which had some success in wider school competitions, and contributed to the Fourth Form girls' games programme. She was also a popular tutor in McClure for most of her time at the school. We wish Sara and her family every happiness as they return 'Down Under' to Australia.

Mr Richard Searby

JOHN MURPHY

John joined Mill Hill School in September 2010. He proved himself an able and well-qualified physicist with evident enthusiasm for his subject. His departmental colleagues and pupils appreciated his subject knowledge and his curriculum development projects.

He combined his teaching with responsibility for the enrichment programme for younger Gifted & Talented pupils. In addition to his regular duties in School, John ran a number of successful educational visits in the UK and overseas. He plans now to focus on his family and to pursue a range of professional opportunities outside teaching.

Mrs Frances King

TRICIA NEWSOME

Tricia Newsome arrived at Mill Hill in 2002 bringing with her a wealth of experience and a love for educating children. As a teacher of ICT, she has been able to impart extensive knowledge and a passion for

learning and self-reflection. Inspiring her pupils to challenge and further themselves by exploring their own skills, whilst progressing through their course at the same time are no mean feat!

Whilst engaging in the classroom Tricia became passionate about the school's partnership trip to Sri Jayendra School in Tamil Nadu, progressing from participating in it to leading the trip; India now feels like a second home to her. Tricia has also been a champion of the girls at Mill Hill, providing them with many opportunities to have a voice within the school.

Tricia is moving on from Mill Hill but not leaving the Foundation, as she is moving to Belmont to head up the ICT Department. We wish her well and look forward to seeing her in and around the campus.

Ms Alison Bignell

KINGSLEY PEARSON

Kingsley joined Mill Hill in September 2015 and quickly established himself as a key member of the team. He developed close relationships with the pupils in his teaching sets and became a valued member of the Atkinson tutor team. Kingsley worked incredibly hard to help his pupils to attain excellent exam results at both A Level Politics and GCSE History and his sets were sorry to hear that he was returning to Nower Hill. Outside of the classroom Kingsley coached Cricket with much enthusiasm and spent his Friday afternoons helping out with the CCF. He will be greatly missed by teachers and pupils alike and we wish him and his young family all the very best for the future.

Mr Duncan Hine

GARETH ROBERTS

Gareth joined us in February 2016 in a temporary position and quickly became a vital member of the department, sharing responsibilities and proving dedicated and reliable. All this, even though he has a young family at home and had a very long journey to make each day. We wish him all the best for the future and thank him for his contribution to the department.

Mr Karl Bulman

KURT SEECHARAN

Kurt held the role of Assistant Head Pastoral from 2015-2017, combining this with the role of an A level Politics teacher. In his pastoral role Kurt was responsible for the effective management of pupils' behaviour and well being, with special responsibility for the day

pupils. He worked closely with pupils, parents, tutors and Housemasters and Mistresses to promote the positive caring culture of the School. As a classroom teacher he was engaging in his lessons; as a keen sportsman, he fully supported the games programmes within the School. He was a well-liked and respected member of the Common Room. We wish him, his wife Katie, and their two children all the best in their new life at Trent College, Nottingham where Kurt takes up the role of Housemaster.

Mrs Frances King

GORDON STEAD

Gordon Stead joined the Mill Hill Physics Department from Haberdashers' Aske's Boys' School five years ago and in his time he has been an outstanding teacher whom both pupils and colleagues have relied upon and enjoyed working with. As well as his lessons, in which he instils a real academic rigour into his pupils, he has contributed to the whole Science Department by setting the framework for us all to adapt to the practical requirements of the new Science A Levels.

Outside the department Gordon has been a fantastic contributor to the School. He led the CCF Army section and pupils and staff always enjoyed his company on their camping expeditions. On the sporting field he has coached many a rugby team and the whole school has benefitted from the Chapel services that he has led. I particularly enjoyed hearing about his hero Captain Noel Chavasse. Gordon will be missed by all at Mill Hill and we wish him well in his new role as Head of Physics at Bradfield College.

Mr Luke Stubbles

DR SHU-WEI TSENG

Dr Shu-Wei Tseng joined us in the Music Department from January 2017 for six months as a full time member of staff. Her training at Wells Cathedral School, the Royal Academy of Music, London and Colorado University, USA distinguished her not only as a pianist, cellist and instrumental coach of the highest order but she also commanded much respect in her A Level teaching. Her inspiration will be missed as she moves on to the prestigious Menuhin School in Surrey.

Mr Arijit Chakravarty

GRADUATE ASSISTANTS

We thank the following for their contribution:

Noemi Babos, Olivia Bernstone, Baden Kerr, Gabriella Kleimberg, Ellen McDougall, Verity Jackson, Ellie Cooper and Laura Thompson-Wright.

Instilling values, inspiring minds
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