

School Noticeboard

St Mary's welcomes new headmistress

The Board of Governors at St Mary's Shaftesbury has appointed Mrs Maria Young as headmistress from September, 2018.

A graduate of the Universities of Durham and Cambridge, and current Deputy Head Pastoral and Head of Boarding at Worth School, Mrs Young has a distinguished career as a teacher of music at a variety of schools, including Bryanston and Simon Langton School in Kent.

At Worth, Mrs Young has contributed to the strong Catholic ethos of the school as a lay chaplain, while also leading an outstanding programme of music performance. She is a proponent

of embedding creativity across the school curriculum while raising standards in all subjects through cross-curricular co-operation.

Miss Victoria Younghusband, Chair of Governors at St Mary's, said: "Maria was the outstanding candidate in a strong field of excellent applicants. We are very excited about Mrs Young's appointment, and she will be working in close partnership with our acting headmistress Sarah Matthews between now and September."

Mrs Young will be present at the forthcoming Open Mornings on March 9 and May 4, all are welcome.



Articulate Ellie talks art

Clayesmore Lower Sixth-Former Ellie C participated in the ARTiculation Prize pre-heat recently at St Swithun's School, Winchester.

This was the first time a Clayesmore pupil has taken part in this prestigious national competition around public speaking and art critique, and the school was delighted that Ellie was selected to move forward to the regional heat at Roche Court in March.

Clayesmore's Head of Art, Kirsty Mareau-Jones, said: "Ellie was well prepared and presented her talk with sensitivity and confidence under pressure. Her subject matter was the photograph 'Afghan Girl' by Steve McCurry, which she analysed and compared to Renaissance paintings, while investigating the historical importance of it, and how it has become an iconic image of the Afghan war."

About the event in general, she said: "We enjoyed the evening tremendously. There were some very insightful presentations, and I think it is an excellent event for our students and Clayesmore to be a part of. My thanks go to Ruth Readman for developing this as a new initiative in the Sixth Form."

Referring to her public speaking experience, Ellie said: "I'd never done anything like that before, but I loved it."

The ARTiculation Prize is the Roche Court Educational Trust's national public speaking initiative, which advocates the appreciation and discussion of art and provides young people with a forum in which they can express their ideas on art.

Bright lights at Canford

Canford School's Layard Theatre was transformed into 1930s Germany for a whole school musical performance of 'Cabaret'.

One hundred pupils from Shells to Upper Sixth took part either on or off stage performing over four nights in December.

Playing to a sell-out audience of parents, pupils and friends, 'Cabaret' explored the dark world of the rise of Nazi Germany.

With choreography by Claire Camble Hutchins and directed by Laura Blake, the set design and lighting by Kevin Wilkins and his team transformed the stage from simple apartment to the bright lights of the Kit Kat Club as the scenes played out.

Musical accompaniment directed by Christopher Sparkhall involved more than 20 Canford musicians from the year groups.

Director Laura Blake said: "The joy of this musical is that the intellectual political and philosophical core is contained within an effervescent, humorous and endearing exterior - much like our band of cast, crew and musicians."

They have worked together to create an occurrence greater than the individuals involved could have produced alone. They have chosen ensemble and action, and performed it with commitment and compassion. As always, it has been a privilege to work with these talented young people and all the potential they possess."

Clayesmore runners through to the nationals

Based on their stellar performance at the Dorset County Clubs Championships in December, Cross Country runners, Ed (Y13), Amy (Y11) and Josh (Y9) have qualified for the National Inter County Championships in March.

In the December race, Josh had won the Dorset County Champion title for the U15 boys, Amy came 4th in the women's U17 age group, and the cross country team captain Ed was placed 3rd in the U20 men's category.

Clayesmore's Sporting Events Manager, Chris Humpage, said: "Three of our Clayesmore Cross Country runners have been selected to represent Dorset at the National Inter County Championships at Prestwold Hall, Loughborough, on March 10:

Josh S: U15 Boys
Amy M: U17 Girls
Ed D: U20 Men

"The Inter Counties is the national final for club runners from all over the country. Josh, Amy and Ed have been selected for their performances at the Dorset County Club and Southern Counties Regional Championships. The Inter



Counties is the second major event of the season, with the English Schools Championships later in March, and Josh, Amy and Ed, with another 20 Clayesmore runners, compete in the first stage of the selection process at the Dorset Schools Championships at Kings Park, Bournemouth on January 18.

Knighton House School Day cuts its day fees

The new headmaster at Knighton House School, Blandford, has announced a re-basing of day fees to 2010 levels.

Robin Gainher recently spoke at a school Alumni gathering – a meeting of former pupils now pursuing careers in medicine, the law, technology, architecture, theatre production, and many other roles.

Mr Gainher said: "As a father of three girls, my household has always been about – to coin a phrase – girl power; no stereotyping and no gender pocket-money pay gaps (BBC take note). By girl power, I mean giving girls the confidence to take on the challenges life will throw at them."

"This vision — creating deep-seated and lasting confidence in girls and young women — has powered Knighton House School for the past 68 years, providing a 'home away from home' where girls can flourish in an atmosphere of security, encouragement, space and freedom."

He added: "The Knighton House School experience is a superb start to any girl's education. But, as a father of three, I am also aware of the sacrifices parents make to give their children the best possible start. Over the past six years, in independent schools, the average annual fee has increased by 21%, while wage inflation has increased by just 6%."

"So, today, I am pleased to announce, with the full support of our forward-thinking Governing body, a re-basing of the Knighton House day fees, by approximately 20%, to 2010 levels."

"Importantly, these new lower fees are fixed for two years — allowing parents to plan ahead. The aim of the fee review is to ensure the very best experience for Knighton House pupils while improving accessibility of a Knighton House education, especially to local children."

Knighton House School, near Blandford, Dorset, is a prep school for girls aged 7-13 and a pre-prep for boys and girls aged 3-7. Working Open Mornings on Wednesday, January 31, and Wednesday, March 7, are a chance to see the school at work. Contact enquiries@knightonhouse.co.uk

Re-development at Godolphin

After a major development in the Summer, 2017, Godolphin School in Salisbury has a new state-of-the-art study centre providing sixth formers with places for independent and focused academic work.

David Hallen, Head of Sixth Form, said: "The achievements of our previous Sixth Form students have been remarkable and we wanted to provide the next generation of learners with the technology, environment and expertise that would allow them to aim even higher."

The newly developed Jerred Study Centre provides a new seminar room, conference room and common room, each equipped with the latest technology, in an environment that encourages students to fully engage with their studies outside of the classroom and mirrors the university experience.

David Hallen said: "Our integrated Sixth Form Centre provides all the support necessary for students to achieve their ambitions, from Oxbridge entry to the world of work and apprenticeships."

The redevelopment will help ensure continued excellent academic results and provide a supportive foundation for success in the modern world.

