



CHARTERS
ALUMNI



July 2024

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER



Welcome

Welcome to the July 2024 edition of our Alumni Newsletter.

As we approach the Summer break, we wanted to bring our past students and staff up to date with what has been happening at Charters School since Easter.

We've tried to share a range of articles and would love to feature more of our past students in future publications.

If you would like to reconnect with your classmates or colleagues, tell us about something that you've taken part in, or could help inspire a current student, please do get in touch as we'd love to hear from you.

Click on the icons below to choose how you would like to connect with us:

The Alumni Facebook



Email our Marketing Team



Hattie to represent GB at Paris Olympics

We are delighted to report that alumna Hattie Taylor has once again been selected to represent Great Britain as part of the rowing team at this summer's Olympic Games in Paris.

Hattie has switched from the Women's Four in Tokyo to the Women's Eight in Paris and will compete alongside Heidi Long, Rowan McKellar, Holly Dunford, Lauren Irwin, Eve Stewart, Annie Campbell-Orde and Emily Ford.

The British Olympic Association unveiled the 42 athletes who have been selected, across 10 boats, to represent Team GB at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games at Kew Gardens in South West London in June.



We are extremely proud of Hattie and wish her all the best for the forthcoming Games.

She has agreed to be our guest speaker at the Celebration of Achievement evening in September, and we are looking forward to hearing about her experience as an elite athlete.

Go team GB!

SIXTH FORM HIGHLIGHTS THIS TERM...

FRIENDSHIP

Celebrating the end of their Sixth Form journey, Year 13 students enjoyed a fantastic May Ball.



LEADERSHIP

Our Sixth Form Senior Students lead the Student Council. This is just one way they help ensure all students at Charters have a voice.



GOLD DUKE OF EDINBURGH

Students celebrate achieving their GOLD Duke of Edinburgh award at Buckingham Palace, embodying our school values of Unity Respect Excellence.



FUNDRAISING

As part of the Social Action group, students raise funds for charities throughout their time in Sixth Form & recently washed cars for cash!



EXTENDED LEARNING

Year 12 Biology students took part in an inspiring workshop on Bacterial Evolution at the Royal Institute of Science in London.





WIDER COMMUNITY

Students in Year 12 are working with the charity Chat Club to provide mentoring for young people living at the 'Children's Garden Home Orphanage' in Kenya.

ALUMNI ADVICE

Proud to be part of our Charters family, Alumni recently shared advice with current Sixth Form students about the routes they had taken after their A Levels.



WORKSHOP OPPORTUNITIES

Sixth Form students studying A Level PE and BTEC Sport attended a Sport and Exercise Science workshop at Portsmouth University & looked around the campus.



A LEVEL TRIPS

Year 12 Biology & Geography students had visits to Porthcawl, South Wales and Slapton Ley collecting data for their A-Level coursework.



SPORTS DAY

Students make wonderful memories each year at the Sixth Form Sports Day.



#ChooseCharters



CHARTERS
SIXTH FORM

#WriteYourOwnFuture

Three Peaks Challenge 28-29 June 2024



Following her participation in the Charters Three Peaks Challenge, Miss De'Ath writes...

I am going to start with a Thank you! When we first agreed to this challenge I thought £10,000 was a very ambitious target, but with the amazing community we have around us I am really pleased to say we have achieved it, and the total currently stands at £10,182.52!

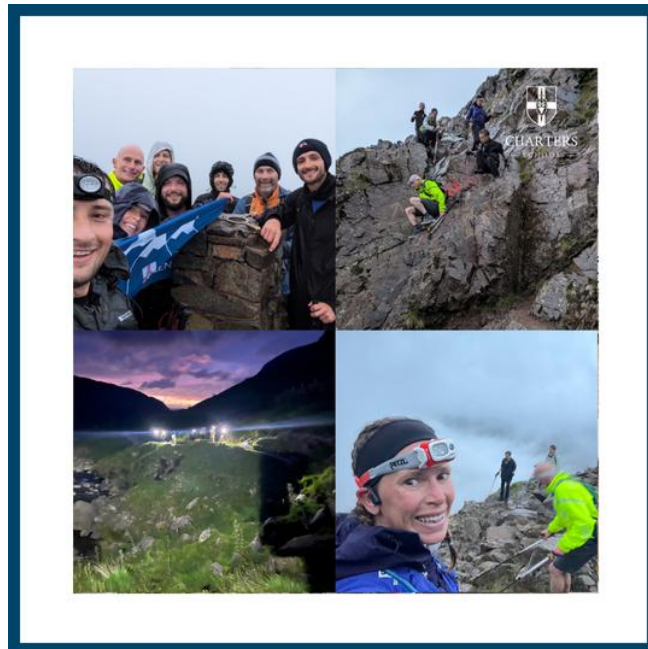
We set off from school on Thursday 27 July and arrived at Ben Nevis in good time on Friday. We were due to start at 16:00 but decided to bring this forward an hour due to the awful weather forecast. This would give us an extra hour of daylight if something was the go wrong! Thankfully we didn't need it - we made it to the top in 2hrs 10 minutes and were hit by 40mph winds, with no visibility. At the click of your fingers we went from being really quite warm from climbing, to freezing in the -8° windchill! Hats and gloves were hurriedly put on as we powered to the bottom and made it to the bus in 4hrs 5 minutes.



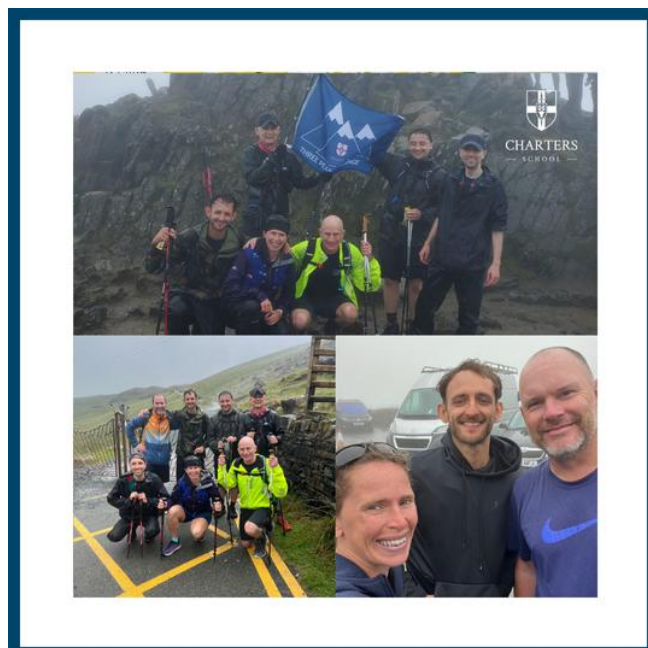
Brilliant! We were an hour ahead of our schedule, but we were soon to learn that this would very quickly disappear! There were roadworks 10 minutes away from Scafell Pike!!! This meant either a 100 mile diversion, or drive an hour and walk an extra 8km! We chose the latter! For me, Scafell was my low point. It went on and on with difficult navigation, and boulder fields on the top that just seemed like you were not making any progress! We made it back down by 07:30 and then had 7.5 hours to complete the challenge.

Three Peaks Challenge 28-29 June 2024

Everyone was excited as this was still really doable, even though it would take 4 hours to drive to Snowdon! We had breakfast on the go in the bus, praying we didn't get stuck in traffic, and those prayers were answered. We set off walking with 2hrs 55mins left on the clock and Mr Ruddle setting a great pace up the Pyg Track, climbing to the top in 1hour 30.



This was now a team on a mission! Descending, we bump into a familiar face... Mr Hancock!!! He had driven over to spur us on for the last leg and was just what we needed! The descent was busy, with lots of "excuse me please, team on a time mission". Thankfully the majority moved aside! At the bottom of the Miners Track it was 14:20, and time for a jog to the finish on very tired legs! The gate was in sight, the pace picked up and we finished at 14:50!



This was a fantastic endurance challenge and really does show if you dig deep everything is possible! Thank you **everyone** for your supportive messages, it really did help to push the team through!

Charters School would also like to thank all those who helped us reach our target of raising £10,000 for our Unity Fund.

Where are they now...

EVE HUMPHREY

ATTENDED CHARTERS 2012 - 2019

Eve Humphrey has always had the theatre in her blood! She threw herself into life at Charters and from the off, Drama featured heavily. She was involved with local youth theatre outside of school, and appeared in many productions in school - and it was her comedy that made her stand out and was really her thing!...



Eve did well in her exams, achieved the highest grade in Theatre Studies at A Level and had already decided to audition for Drama School as her next step. During this competitive process she attended Artemis College (South Hill Park) for the required post A Level 'performing arts' year and was then accepted onto the Guildford School of Acting 'Musical Theatre' Foundation course the following year. This led to her successfully joining the prestigious Mountview Drama School where she completed her degree in Musical Theatre.

This academic year, during the first of her final year shows, Eve was spotted by a casting agent and asked to join auditions for Starlight Express London: the high speed show about a child's train set that magically comes to life with engines racing to be the fastest in the world as they are inspired by the legend of the 'Starlight Express'.

After a number of different audition stages, Eve was offered the part of Dinah. For those of you unfamiliar with the show, the entire cast hurtle around the theatre at high speed...on wheels! So now all Eve had to do was learn to stake!



Skate School began in February with four months of intense training and rehearsals and the show opened on Saturday 8 June which was Eve's professional debut.

It is incredibly hard work with Eve performing in nine shows each week this summer, but she is having the time of her life! It is an amazing, high energy, entertaining show - a must-see experience... you won't be disappointed!

Some things never change!

How many of you remember Handling the News Day? The cutting below is from Ascot News and is dated 26th April 1991. It may come as a surprise, but students in Year 9 are still taking part in this event each year!

Charters pupils go to press

AT the end of last month Charters School in Sunningdale held a 'Handling the News' day involving all fourth year pupils.

The theme of the day was 'Europe-1992, links with our European partners' and in the morning everyone was given a final briefing about the day's events and were told who we would be working with and where we would be.

Different groups of pupils became different newspapers and each group received regular faxes and telexes which pupils re-wrote into stories.

Reporters from local and national papers were also invited and they were busy answering questions and giving advice.

Messages, which had been saved on computer discs the day before, started to come through the telexes every five minutes and three pupils were on hand to distribute them to different groups, such as The Daily Mirror, The Sun, The Star and The Daily Telegraph.

LESSONS were suspended for some Sunningdale pupils last month when they simulated life on a newspaper for a day. Fourth years Nikita Goodrum, Alex Newman, Darren Brannigan and Emma Tarvin explain what happened.

A press agency was organised by the school and faxes were sent via telexes from local companies.

The faxes, which contained information about the Commission of the European Communities and events happening around Europe, were sent every 10 minutes.

Local MPs and representatives of companies in the area came into the school to be interviewed about Europe.

Paul Jarvis, from computer firm Galileo in Swindon, thought the day had been a success, but suggested some improvements which could have been made.

He said: "It would have been better to have organised a timetable so people knew when they were going to be interviewed."

Some pupils were involved in television news and three mobile camera crews, equipped with camcorders, tripods, microphones and other equipment, interviewed pupils involved at work.

There was also a group called CHIME - Charters Image For Europe - which managing director, Julie Collett, told us was an upmarket design company that produced logos for European companies to promote Europe.

The different newspaper groups collected their stories from the telexes and wrote them up in their paper's style.

Busy

The story headlines and banner were designed and printed by pupils working in the computer centre, but they were so busy they could not take time out to speak to us.

All of the national papers were represented with pupils taking on the roles of editors and sub-editors. A teacher or a journalist worked with each group.

The groups decided which faxes they were going to follow up and wrote their stories on word processors. These were printed out and suitable pictures were found. The stories were then pasted together to make a front page.

Michelle King, aged 14, was working for the Daily Mail group. She said: "Everything has gone well, but it was a bit chaotic."

Steven Leek, aged 15, who was working for the Guardian group, said they had decided to change their name to The Protector because they wanted to run a paper of their own but with the same type of journalism as the Guardian.

There were also groups taking on the roles of local newspapers who, like us, were reporting on the day's events.

As the papers were being finished off and were taken to the printing room pupils, who had taken on the roles of advertisers, were trying to get their products advertised.

By the end of the day all the groups should have produced the front page of a newspaper and experienced a little of what life is like in a busy newsroom.

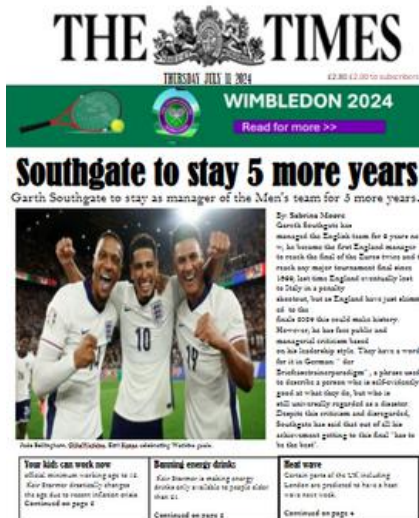
Most people we spoke to thought the day had been a success and felt they had learnt something about journalism.



News team: (left) Nikita Goodrum, Emma Tarvin, Alex Newman and Darren Brannigan.

It is now part of our Curriculum Enrichment Day which takes place annually during the Summer term and is developed and run by the English department.

Our Year 9 students become journalists, editors and art directors for the day as they create content for a range of different newspapers.

THE TIMES
THURSDAY JULY 10 2024 £2.80 £3.00 to subscribers

WIMBLEDON 2024
Read for more >>>

Southgate to stay 5 more years
Garth Southgate to stay as manager of the Men's team for 5 more years.

Your kids can work now
Official minimum working age is 16. Four former ministers' charges the age for to remain in force until 2024. Continued on page 2

Banning energy drinks
Four drinks are making energy drinks only available to people older than 16. Continued on page 2

Real wars
Certain parts of the UK including London are predicted to have a heat wave next week. Continued on page 2

News stories have to be carefully chosen to ensure they have the 'best fit' with their newspaper's demographic, and it soon becomes clear to the students that this varies depending on their paper's political view and if they work on a tabloid or a broadsheet.

The front page of each paper was judged this year by award-winning journalist & Charters Trustee, James Toney, so there was a lot to compete for!

Like we say... some things never change!

Maine Centre Garden

The Maine Centre garden is being transformed into an interactive learning space, and with the help of some Charters students and teacher Paul Watts, the area is really taking shape. We were incredibly fortunate to receive a donation of flowers and herbs from local business Little Muddy Boots. The array of plants were part of their Children's Garden exhibit at Royal Windsor Flower Show, and the company's founder not only gifted them to the school but also took time out of her busy schedule to deliver a workshop to the students.



Hannah explained how to prepare the soil, plan a planting scheme and look after the plants which included herbs such as fennel, sage and rosemary and colourful plants such as white astilbe, purple salvia and lilac campanula.

The planting scheme is a curated palette of pastel shades which not only look attractive, but will encourage biodiversity in the plot; attracting bees, butterflies and other pollinators.

When asked what motivated her to donate the show garden to Charters, Hannah said, "Our core mission at Little Muddy Boots is to get more children - of any age - outside in nature regularly and for them to reap the positive mental wellbeing that comes from gardening. When we were asked to create the Children's Garden at The Royal Windsor Flower Show, it seemed a great opportunity to collate plants that boost local biodiversity and that could be gifted to a fantastic local school like Charters to be enjoyed long after the show."



Mr Watts works regularly with groups of students in this evolving garden. Redeveloping the Maine Centre garden into a multi-purpose interactive learning space is giving our young people a sense of community and pride not possible in traditional classroom settings, and we have recently been fortunate to receive a grant from the Ascot Round Table for £15,000 to help develop the initiative.



