



SOUNDWAVE

Securing the future of deaf children & young people



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Acknowledgements

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Sign up to Hare Mail, our monthly newsletter - www.maryhare.org.uk/hare-mail

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Proud to be a part of such a wonderful and diverse community.

Welcome to this year's Soundwave magazine. Once again, I am extremely proud of the diversity of opportunity and experience you will find in these pages and, perhaps most importantly, the sheer amount of fun!

Despite your experience and that of your children, it remains very difficult to get across to people the need for a school like ours and the need for many deaf children to have peers just like them. I do hope that you sometimes get the opportunity to share information about Mary Hare with other families with deaf children.

There have been many highlights this year, but perhaps the greatest has been the significant progress in our fundraising appeal for the new primary school. I am absolutely delighted that we have reached the £2 million milestone. However, we need to get to £3 million and, as ever, I would be extremely grateful to you if you felt able to support this appeal in any way. We can always help out with promotional materials if you want to do something in your workplace or individually. I am more convinced than ever that a new primary school on the Snelsmore campus is the right priority for Mary Hare School.

Leading Mary Hare is a privilege and there is something to celebrate and be proud of every day. Many of those things are to be found in the pages of this edition of Soundwave. We do hope you enjoy it.

Peter Gale

Peter Gale
Principal and CEO

A whirlwind year, full of action in Mary Hare Secondary

We have had another really busy year with trips, competitions, our annual Speech Day and many challenges.

We started the year with our Junior Speech Day and our Year 9 activities trip. These were then followed by our Speech Day where we welcomed Oliver Pritchard as our Guest Speaker. Oliver, who left Mary Hare in 2015, shared his experiences including his gap year to South Africa and then Australia, before studying at the Royal Agricultural University in Cirencester.

Our pupils continued to showcase their talents and confidence in a number of ways throughout the year including 'Howard's Got Talent'. The highlight of this competition this year was when Peter Walker played a trick on Mr Gale as part of his act, involving a bottle of water - certainly a trick Mr Gale will not forget, particularly as Peter asked him, after the event, 'does this mean I am expelled now?'

Our 'Youth Speaks' competition in November fielded teams in both the Intermediate and Senior categories.

Our trips have taken our pupils to Marwell Zoo, Roche Court Sculpture Park, a Particle Physics Masterclass at Rutherford Appleton Laboratories, the UK Beauty Show and The Globe Theatre.

We have had our hustings for the positions of Head Boy and Head Girl as well as the Prefect team. We have seen another successful Prom night and held our annual Oscars. There has been no end to the talent and enthusiasm shown by our pupils and staff.

We hope you enjoy the images of the academic year 2018-2019 in the next few pages.



Putting their heads together on the Rutherford Laboratory trip



Baywatch gang in training



CHRISTMAS



Holly in disguise



The entertainment team at the Christmas Party for the Elderly



Santa's little helpers



Manor care staff team in festive spirit

THE OSCARS



Let's get this party started

CROSS COUNTRY



The glamorous captains!



Hollywood at its best



Emily, Roxy, Julia & Chayanne



Olive supporting Cross Country



Looking very dapper for Cross Country



Tilly, Morgan & Oliver

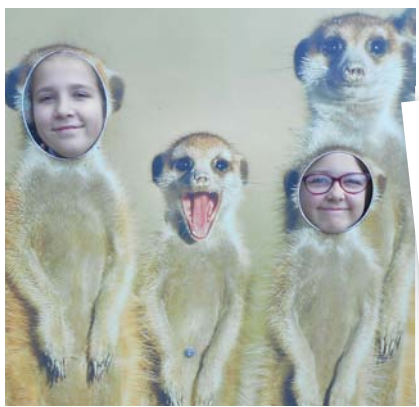


Chloe looking sophisticated

JUNIOR SPEECH DAY



YEAR 7 MARWELL ZOO TRIP



Always alert



We love to spread our wings at Mary Hare!



Some of our Speech Day prize winners

IN THE VOCATIONAL DEPARTMENT



Tom learning lambing skills



A new arrival



Meeting the Mounted Police



Dog walking club on Thursday lunchtime



Look what we hatched in the Animal Care department



Amy making bread rolls during her work experience placement

HOWARD'S GOT TALENT



Is it the X Factor panel?



Year 7 dance competitors



Mr Gale gets a slight soaking

YEAR 7 ROCKET CAR CHALLENGE



Oliver & his wingmen

YEAR 9 ACTIVITIES WEEK



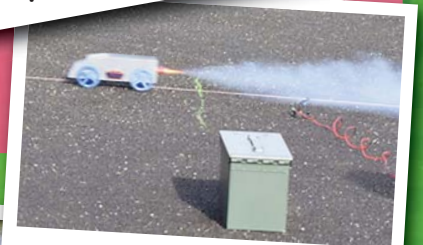
Lock down!



At the National Finals



We love DT lessons!



Gathering speed...



What a squeeze!



We made it!

ALL IN A GOOD CAUSE



Comic Relief Challenge - Mr Hogan looking calm



Comic Relief Challenge - Mrs Howe is taken by surprise!!



Frank ready for 'Wear it Loud' in Deaf Awareness Week



Comic Relief - Science department as 'historical figures'. Can you guess who they are?

A TASTE FOR LEARNING



Testing the French food we made!

LILLY-MAY SNAPS TOP PHOTOGRAPHY PRIZE

The RIBI Young Photographer competition was launched this term by the Rotary Club. Entries were invited from pupils all over the UK and this year's theme was 'Beauty of Nature.' Entrants were invited to submit three photographs in colour or black and white. We were very proud that five Mary Hare pupils entered this year. These were Mariah Grech, Lilly-May Garrard, Emily Sharpley, Isabella Giddins and Julia Wejnar.

Judges from the Rotary Club selected their favourite entries from the local area with the winning ones being put forward for the regional and national competitions. The entries were on display in Newbury Museum for two weeks in March.

We are delighted that Lilly-May won the public vote for her photo of donkeys. She was presented with her award by the Rotary Club and the Newbury Weekly News in the end of term assembly.



Lilly-May receiving her award



The winning entry



Year 9 RS - learning about food from other cultures



Callan with his castle cake after Year 7 learnt about Mott and Bailey castles

SOME OF OUR OTHER TRIPS...

SMALLPIECE TRUST GIRLS IN ENGINEERING COURSE



An engineering masterpiece



Designing & building a robot



Katie Dening & Scarlett Batterton completing their challenge



Katie & Scarlett arrive at Warwick University

YEAR 8 GEOGRAPHY FIELD TRIP



What a viewpoint



Time for a walk on the beach



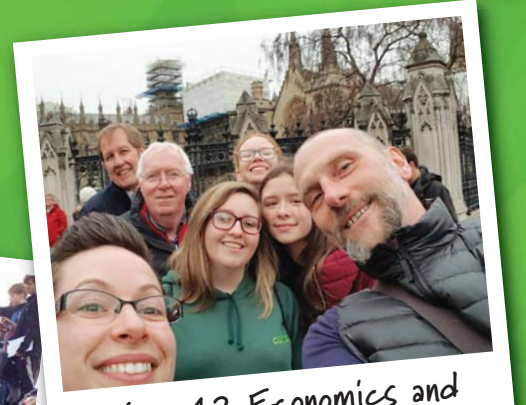
Naomi deep in concentration



A well earned break



Collecting data for their 'Coasts' project



Year 12 Economics and BTEC Business Studies trip



Getting ready for the Lord Mayor's Parade

ROCHE COURT SCULPTURE PARK



A sculpture at Roche Court



Alina with her artwork



In the stocks on the Berkshire Museum visit



A busy, exciting and fun year for all of us in Mary Hare Primary

This has been a successful and busy first year as Head Teacher at Mary Hare Primary School. I feel privileged to be in a position of leading a school that is truly inclusive of young deaf children. I have seen many superb examples of children becoming truly independent learners and for many, it is the first time they have a peer group of friends that they feel fully part of.

We are delighted to have started a new class of Year 2/3 children this year and the children within this class have fitted in really well with their older peers in school.



Inquisitive minds



Encouraging a love of learning

In the last Soundwave magazine, we spoke about the launch of our Mary Hare Primary School Appeal. I am pleased to say that this is going really well, and many people have got involved to donate and raise money. We were especially pleased to have Pippa Middleton and Sophie Ryder come and visit our school. Pippa Middleton announced that she was teaming up with internationally acclaimed sculptor Sophie Ryder, to support the Mary Hare Primary School Appeal by selling 50 limited-edition bronze hare sculptures with 100% of the profits going directly to the Primary School Appeal.

SPORTING SUPERSTARS!

Throughout this academic year we have had several sporting events take place: Alternative Olympics at Theale Green, football matches against mainstream schools, tag rugby matches, a girls' football tournament at Park House and the Berkshire School Games at Bisham Abbey.

Following this, we had the Cross Country championships at Newbury showground, an orienteering competition and a whole school trip to the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park in London for the Southern England Deaf Boccia Championships - and we won! We have even introduced yoga to the curriculum and enjoy undertaking our regular 'Daily Mile'!

Swimming, golf, basketball, badminton, orienteering, gymnastics and striking games still feature in our PE curriculum. It is so great to see all of the children being part of a team, engaging and continuing to boost their sporting confidence in individual ways.

Well Done.

Rob Rattray

CHRISTMAS AT MARY HARE PRIMARY



Are these the Wise Men?



A star performance at the Nativity Play



Our VIP guest

RUSHALL FARM TRIP



Ready for the off

ALL IN A GOOD CAUSE



Making cakes for a good cause



A gentle paddle down stream



Children in Need 2018



Wear it Loud 2019



Look what we caught

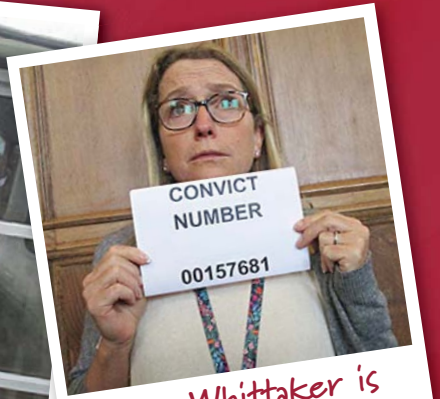
CRIME SCENE DAY



Nothing gets past us!



Get me out of here!



Mrs Whittaker is 'nabbed'

LADY TAVERNERS' CHRISTMAS PARTY



Excited to be performing



Performing with confidence

IN THE SCHOOL DAY



Speech therapy can be fun



We encourage a love of books

AFTER SCHOOL FUN



Look what we have made



Boarding is just one big sleepover with your friends



A birthday outing for Ava

COMPETING CONFIDENTLY



Pancake race



Encouraging the competitive spirit!



Top goalie



Our team at the Cross Country Championships



The winning team against Arlington Labs



Running our Daily Mile. Come on Mrs Tanner, keep up!



Our Primary girls' football team



The orienteering team ready to compete



At the Southern England Deaf Boccia championships



We did it! The winning team

BERKSHIRE AGRICULTURAL CHALLENGE



Our team and their scarecrow



What a fine looking fellow



Our display



Our homemade cakes

JASMINE WINS THE NATIONAL VOICE BOX COMPETITION

Congratulations to Jasmine who won the National Voice Box Competition run by the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists.

Over 5000 primary school age pupils took part and just 20 were selected to take part in the final. The final took place at Portcullis House, Westminster where Richard Benyon, MP and Trustee of the Mary Hare Foundation, lent his support.

Jasmine's award winning joke was...

'If I had six apples in my left hand and seven apples in my right hand, what would I have?

Big hands!'



Jasmine with her award



Jasmine and Richard Benyon MP



SOME OF OUR OTHER TRIPS



A trip to Arlington Arts

BISHAM ABBEY



Pedal Power



Taiko Drumming



Max enjoys 'Mathilda and the Orange Balloon'

UFTON COURT



Excellent ball skills

OXFORD CASTLE



Hey down there



What a line up!



Work this out...



Set goals, achieve them, take yourself out of your comfort zone...

Our annual Speech Day took place on 30th November. Our guest speaker this year was Oliver Pritchard. Oliver left Mary Hare in 2015 and has been very busy since then! Oliver shared his experiences with the audience including his gap year in South Africa and then Australia, before studying at the Royal Agriculture University in Cirencester.

Oliver has featured in our Alumni 'Set your Sights High' campaign and was certainly an inspiration to our pupils. After a really absorbing speech about setting yourself goals and working hard to achieve them and taking yourself out of your comfort zone, Oliver gave out the Speech Day prizes and congratulated all on their successes.

LIST OF AWARDS:

Claudia Davies

Dickson Memorial Prize (Head Girl)
Phyllis M Buckell Prize for Integration
Anne Mazey Prize for English (Advanced)
Subject Prizes for Geography and History

George Dowsett

Eicholz Memorial Prize (Head Boy)
Chairman's Prize for Academic Achievement at Advanced Level
Subject Prizes for Mathematics and Chemistry

Madeleine Hawes

Chairman's Prize for Academic Achievement at Advanced Level
Elizabeth Dyson Prize for Progress and Achievement
McLellan Prize for Art

Tobias Hester

Principal's Prize for Academic Achievement at GCSE
Jack Askew Prize for Science
Subject Prize for Biology

Lily Marden

Principal's Prize for Academic Achievement at GCSE
Annie Fogden Prize for GCSE English
Whitton Religious Studies Prize
Subject Prize for Biology

Sophie Cuerden

Duffell Prize for Effort and Progress (Advanced Level)
Subject Prizes for Animal Care and Childcare

Emma Jackson

Duffell Prize for Effort and Progress (Advanced Level)
Subject Prize for Art & Design: Photography

Freddie Barrett

Duffell Prize for Effort and Progress (Advanced Level)

Thomas Green

SK Anderson Prize for Effort and Progress (GCSE)



Mr Gale with
Oliver Pritchard



George Dowsett

Elle Johnstone

SK Anderson Prize for Effort and Progress (GCSE)
Subject Prize for Applied Science

Georgie Paul

Rose Fenney Prize

Vidhu Patel

Margaret Caws Prize for Art

Alex Kearney

Thomas Award
Subject Prize for Art & Design: Textile Design

Rosie Pound Clark

Amy Sale Memorial Prize for Drama

Madeleine Molloy

Anne Mazey Prize for English (Advanced)
Subject Prize for Business Studies

Cameron Levy Pollock

Peter K Hanton Memorial Prize for Technology

Oliver Janes

Dr Mike Milne Cup for Achievement in Information Technology
Lightmongers' Science Innovation Prize

April Platt

Jim Wright Prize for Academic Achievement in L2 BTEC Sport

Kyle Henry

Trevor Brooking Cup for Sport

Oliver Pritchard

John Rowsell Sports' Endeavour Prize

Imogen Gibbons

Laurentia Tan Award

Elanya Marsh

Donnington Lodge Speech Endeavour Prize
Work Placement Prize

Taaseen Choudhury

Donnington Lodge Speech Endeavour Prize

Mungo Aitken

Hugh Ogus Award

Francis Allen

Jasbir Kaur Johal Prize
Subject Prizes for Chemistry and Physics

Isabella Stone

Lesley White Challenge Cup

Ffion Griffiths

Tony Shaw Vocational Award
Subject Prize for Psychology

Emily Sharpley

Subject Prize for Art & Design: Fine Art

Savannah Day

Subject Prize for Art & Design: Textile Design

Luke Champney

Subject Prize for Art & Design: Graphic Communications

Dillon Parmar

Subject Prize for Computing

Ollie Rowley

Subject Prize for Design Technology (Resistant Materials)

Rej Muharemi

Subject Prizes for Drama and Plumbing

Sophie Jade Woods

Subject Prize for French

Jodie Ryan

Subject Prize for Home Economics: Child Development

Constanza Crovetto

Subject Prize for Home Economics: Child Development

Grace Nash

Subject Prize for Media Studies

Bethany Hudson

Subject Prize for Religious Studies

Fayed Ahmed

Subject Prize for Sports Studies

Sam Dunstan

Subject Prize for Catering/Food

Luna Bayad

Subject Prize for Land Based Studies

Alliyah Evans

Subject Prize for Food Technology

Tony Trigwell Jones

PTA Prize

Year 14 Certificates

Khadeeja Ali
Thomas Denyer
Kyra Evans
Oliver Goodman
Callum McGowan
Rahul Pankhania
Kassie Pound-Clarke
Ianjaye Robinson
Billie Tompkins
Chloe Turrell

Year 12/13 Certificates

Victor Angafaa
Lewis Hunt
Ethan Mount-Jones
Sam Russell





A bit of friendly encouragement

Talent, perseverance and competitive spirit

SWIMMING GALA

Our annual swimming gala took place on 12th February. There were some amazing races reflecting the amount of effort the pupils put in this year. The Mary Hare team broke the old school record of 1.16.25 in the mixed medley relay!

MIXED MEDLEY RELAY

Juniors - Mary Hare
Seniors - Mary Hare
Certificates went to Mayoa, Robyn, Roman and Vernon.

BACKSTROKE

Junior girls	Robyn
Junior boys	Seb N
Senior girls	Jess C
Senior boys	Charlie H

INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY

Junior girls	Naomi P
Junior boys	Roman
Senior girls	Martha
Senior boys	William

BREASTSTROKE

Junior girls	Julia
Junior boys	Duncan McG
Senior girls	Ivanka
Senior boys	Amaan

FREESTYLE RELAY

Juniors	Beverley
Seniors	Mary Hare

BUTTERFLY

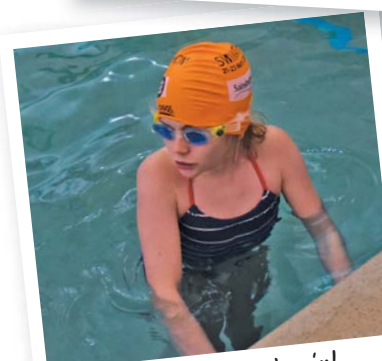
Junior girls	Scarlett
Junior boys	Callum
Senior girls	Martha
Senior boys	Max

FREESTYLE

Junior girls	Emily B
Junior boys	Vernon
Senior girls	Grace
Senior boys	Tom G

OVERALL GALA RESULTS

Joint 1st	Braidwood and Mary Hare
3rd	Beverley
4th	Arnold



Let the race begin!



On the bench

Well done to Ivanka who has won the one length breaststroke in every year she has been at Mary Hare, following in her sister's footsteps.

Ivanka's win completes the Pritchard total domination of this event!

CROSS COUNTRY

The Cross Country took place on the 3rd April. Well done to everyone who took part.

Cross Country is an important event in our sports' calendar and a great way of keeping fit.

JUNIOR GIRLS

- 1st Naomi Postawa
- 2nd Alisha Bolson
- 3rd Jachima Akosa

JUNIOR BOYS

- 1st Cameron Smith
- 2nd Roman Eminowicz
- 3rd Vernon Eminowicz

SENIOR GIRLS

- 1st Lili Monediere-Carter
- 2nd Charlotte Tuck
- 3rd Mae Keenan

SENIOR BOYS

- 1st William Ryan
- 2nd Ellis McLean
- 3rd Lucas Boulet-Mpome

OVERALL RESULTS:

- 1st Beverley
- 2nd Mary Hare and Arnold
- 4th Braidwood



William takes 1st place in the Senior Boys



Cameron takes 1st place in the Junior Boys



Naomi takes 1st place in the Junior Girls



Lili takes 1st place in the Senior Girls

SPORTS DAY 2019

This year's sports day was our best yet with the field events and the athletic events very fun to watch. Mary Hare events are all about spirit, supporting each other and, of course, Setting Your Sights High!

Miles Priestman was an amazing commentator and Miss Ogg was the guest of honour this year to present the prizes.

RESULTS:

Everyone who took part in sports day gave it their all and all participants should be proud of their achievements.

Top Junior Girl and Boy

Cameron Smith and Naomi Postawa

Top Senior Girl and Boy

Jayden Reid and Jessica Hungbeme

Winners of sports day 2019 for two years in a row was Arnold but the overall house championship winner was Beverley.



Line up by your house



Arnold House receiving the Silver trophy



Girl power



Junior Boys giving it their all

Art & Design

We have had a busy year in the Art & Design department this year. In March a large group of Year 10 artists studying Graphic Design, Fine Art, Photography and Textile Design went to visit Roche Court Sculpture Park.

Roche Court Sculpture Park is situated near Salisbury. It is a fantastic place and has one of the largest collections of modern and contemporary sculpture in its beautiful grounds. It also has several small gallery spaces and a workshop, all of which we were able to visit.

On our arrival the educational officers Julieann and Emma greeted us and we went in to the education studio, where Julieann explained what we would be doing for the day and gave us a brief history of the sculpture park.

We then all had a go at drawing an 'exquisite corpse', where one person drew a head of an animal and then we passed the papers on to the next to do the body and so on. This was in preparation for the small-scale fantastic beasts that we modelled using wire, foam and insulation tape. These studies took inspiration from some of the work in the sculpture park.

We looked at work by Barry Flanagan, David Nash, Peter Randall Page and many more. One of our favourites was called Black and Blue: The Invisible Man and the Mask of Darkness and was created by Zak Ove. This piece shows a group of sculptures all lined up like soldiers, however it explores identity, race and discrimination.

As we walked around the grounds of the park, we drew and took photographs of the exhibits.

DEVELOPING POTTERY SKILLS ON THE WHEEL

We were also lucky enough to run a pottery workshop for our art students. Andrew Hazelden, a professional potter who used to work at the famous Aldermaston Potteries, came to share his skills on the pottery wheel.

GCSE AND A LEVEL FINE ART

The Year 11, 12 & 13 students have been working hard on their GCSE, AS & A Level work.

LIFE DRAWING

Year 13 Fine Art students attended a series of evening Life Drawing classes at ACE space in Newbury.

HANNAH'S SCULPTURE AT OPEN STUDIOS

Hannah Allen's sculpture Figures in Conversation - was selected to represent Mary Hare School in the Open Studio's flagship exhibition Insight. Her work went on exhibition alongside the work of professional artists at The Base, a new arts centre at New Greenham Park, Newbury. Hannah was lucky enough to attend the Private View where she met the guest speaker Richard Benyon MP. Each year Arlington Arts hosts an exhibition as part of the Open Studios scheme and the Art & Design studios are open to visitors.

VISIT TO THE ASHMOLEAN MUSEUM, OXFORD

A group of Year 12 students from Fine Art, Performing Arts and Psychology visited the exhibition Spellbound at the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford. After visiting this unusual and fascinating exhibition we had a look around the permanent collection of art and artefacts in the museum. It has been a great source of information for all the participating students and used to develop coursework ideas for all subject areas.



A sculpture at Roche Court



Katherine getting creative



6th Form visit to the Ashmolean Museum



Rebecca H
GCSE Fine Art



Hannah A AS Fine Art



Pollyanna B
A Level Fine Art



Andrew Hazelden working in his studio



Deep in thought



Jayden Keeping the beat



On the keyboard



Learning the notes



Reaching the high notes



Learning the Ugandan Embaire

Music

Music at Mary Hare lays a strong emphasis on practical music making. This is based on the belief that being hearing impaired does not exclude young people from participating in music and deriving benefit from it. Over 40 pupils take private lessons at the school in instruments including piano, singing, strings, woodwind and brass, with drums and guitar being the most popular.

Early in the academic year we were visited by a group of professional percussionists, performers and instrument makers who gave us an Embaire. This giant pentatonic instrument is an example of the largest percussion instrument in the world (though ours is not the biggest). The Embaire is a community instrument, played in large

teams, using complex inter-locking rhythms. The project, organised by Oxford Contemporary Music and Max Reinhardt (Oily Cart, BBC R3) delivered workshops to students across the curriculum, some of whom took part in an assembly at the end of the week.

There are currently discussions for some Year 12s to join the professional company later this year or early 2020 for public performances.

There is a singing group which meets weekly and which performed at the Carol Service and the Christmas show, "The Greatest Snowman". There is also a school band, which plays music in a variety of popular styles and which rehearses after school on

Mondays. All musicians are welcome in both the singing group and the band.

This year the Year 12 and 13 BTEC Music Technology group planned, created and marketed their own CD, each candidate taking charge of one song. The CDs were sold out within a very short time.

In class, Key Stage 3 students have been engaging in practical projects such as Samba, Rock 'n' Roll, Hip-hop, guitar and keyboard. Many pupils enjoy singing, particularly when they are provided with a microphone.

All in all, learning-by-doing and giving opportunities to everyone are very much the goals of the Music Department at Mary Hare.



Josh in character



Expressive performances by Charlotte and Omar



Jessica in a Site Specific Performance



The Tempest

Drama

Last academic year ended with a spectacular performance of Grimm Tales, featuring original songs by one of our long-standing peripatetic teachers, Nasser Bouzida. These songs were performed by students, while others took part in dance and theatrical moments, to tell some of the Grimm Brothers' iconic stories.

In November, students from Years 8, 9 and 10 took part in the Shakespeare Schools Festival, performing *The Tempest* to a capacity audience at Newbury's Corn Exchange. Their version was highly praised for its comic turns from Omar Sammour and Peter Walker as Trinculo and Stephano and Sophie Hennessey and Charlotte Tuck's hilarious rivalry as they fought over James Keer's bemused Ferdinand. While Miles Priestman's commanding Prospero was the talk of the evening.

Onto Christmas and we were delighted to present a Mary Hare original show: *The Greatest Snowman*, which featured songs from the *Showman* film and beyond, original choreography from the dance department and a quest for Drizzle Normal (Chloe Burton) to find herself.

She was helped along the way by her friend Mist (Georgie Ellis) to find a magical snowman and stop the Normal Family (Joseph Demian, Bethany Hudson and Hope Lambert) being flooded.

Georgie Ellis also took part in a charity carol concert, in aid of the Primary School Appeal, in December, wowing attendees with her rendition of *The Tailor of Gloucester*.

Exam students have been working hard on short performances and extracts: Year 10 students (Mariah Grech,

Sophie Hennessey, Danny Murphy and Charlotte Tuck) presented devised performances inspired by promises, aging, ritual and clowning.

Year 11 (Joshua Buxton, Benedict Morgan and Aidan O'Gorman) performed an accomplished, edited version of John Godber's *Teachers*.

Sixth Formers Razzaq Ahmed, Jessica Clark, Bethany Hudson, Morgan Keane, Rebecca McAllister and Jayden Reid have explored site specific work, with a devised performance in the Manor Cellar and an abridged version of Dennis Kelly's *DNA* in the Sixth Form courtyard.

Ciaran O'Brien successfully completed the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts (LAMDA) Acting Awards, achieving a Distinction at Grade 8, which is the equivalent to an A grade at GCE AS Level.

We enjoyed presenting a series of absurd duologues by Ken Campbell (and some by Tony Trigwell-Jones) at the summer production 2019.



In rehearsal



With James Cousins (centre) before the performance



Our dream team for Spring Equinox



Boys dance company working with the dancer from Man Made

Dance

The year started off with professional choreographer, Zoe Logic sending her dancers to work with our Boys Dance Company and create a piece for her show, Man Made. Boys from Year 8 to Year 12, Samuel Bradley, Roman Eminowicz, Cameron Smith, Reese Dowdican, Alex Bouton, Daniel Bradley, Aidan O’Gorman, Lucas Boulet-Mpome, Jayden Reid and Razaq Ahmed, came together and collaborated to create this gorgeous piece that was performed in a showcase with boys from other schools from the local area at Arlington Arts in November.

In December, the boys and girls dance companies performed alongside groups from the upper school in the Christmas production and the house dance competition saw more dancers taking part than ever before!

In February, the Year 11 GCSE dancers, Aidan, Norika, Lucas and Daniel performed their choreographies in a showcase with the dancers from Trinity School and Performing Arts College. This was a wonderful opportunity for them to see other pupils’ work and boost their confidence performing with their peers.

Year 10 and 11 GCSE dancers and Year 12 Performing Arts went to watch James Cousins Dance company including the performance of ‘Within Her Eyes’, one of the GCSE dance set works, at the Corn Exchange in Newbury. Mrs Barker was especially proud because she taught James GCSE dance when he was a student in Newbury.

Every year, we have the opportunity to perform in Spring Equinox, at the Corn Exchange in Newbury, in which many local schools participate. This year, Mary Hare performed two dances. One large group number with the boys and girls dance company and another, student devised quartet, with Lili, Charlotte, Jayden and Lucas. There were a lot of ‘wows’ both for the girls’ amazing technical skills, barrel rolls, high kicks and gymnastic capabilities and the boys, showcasing their freestyle locking, popping and waving moves. For me, this was Mary Hare at its best, allowing the pupils to express their creativity through dance.

Huge congratulations to Norika Dambrauskaite, Jayden Reid, Razaq Ahmed, Rebecca Reinholdt, Lili Monediere Carter and Charlotte Tuck for auditioning and getting into ACE dance company this year. ACE takes place at Park House School with a weekly company class, they perform several times throughout the year and work with professional choreographers as well as their own teachers. This is an amazing opportunity for Mary Hare students to share their passion and enjoyment of dance with their hearing peers.

As we closed the year, moving into exam season, the Year 11 worked hard revising and Year 10 prepared themselves for their mock. Year 7 and 8 are working on their own performances for the end of the summer term. What I particularly like about this year is how much more engaged and creative the pupils have been in developing their own ideas and choreography.

Well done to everyone!



Jayden

Pupil Spotlight: Jayden Reid

I love dance because it is a way of expressing myself, I do it when I’m happy and I do it when I’m sad. It brings together friends and family and improves my skills in other sports like stamina.

Being able to dance is a privilege and I’m lucky to have started at a young age and I’m very lucky that we have Mrs Barker to introduce me to a new style of

dance which is contemporary. I started with street and by the time I got to early Year 8 stage, I was starting to give up dance but when I got to Year 9 I was introduced to contemporary and now it seems I’m a really good contemporary dancer with different styles and I have huge potential.

I really enjoy the fact that I can be able to make a dance with the skills Mrs Barker taught me and being able to encourage younger deaf students to dance.

I enjoy performing on stage with Mary Hare Dance Company as well as the ACE Dance Company. My favourite dance event was the House dance because each of the houses competed for the first spot and it was great to see a huge amount of students dancing.

Jayden Reid, Year 12 Performing Arts student.



Pictured above (left to right): Tobias Hester, Jayden Reid, Hannah Allen and Ellie Eagles.

Meet our new Prefect Team

Each year we hold our hustings for Head Boy and Head Girl. These positions are popular and hotly contested. The 6th Formers who put themselves forward put a lot of effort into the presentations which are watched by staff and other 6th Formers.

We are delighted to announce that our new Prefect Team is:

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| Hannah Allen | Head Girl |
| Jayden Reid | Head Boy |
| Ellie Eagles | Deputy Head Girl |
| Tobias Hester | Deputy Head Boy |
| Isabella Giddins | Charity Prefect |
| Bethany Hudson | Charity Prefect |
| Luke Champney | Year 7 Integration Prefect |
| Alliyah Evans | Year 7 Integration Prefect |
| Sophie-Jade Woods | Years 8-13 Integration Prefect |
| Alex Prizeman | Lower School Prefect |
| Jessica Clark | Lower School Prefect |



Isabella Giddins



Bethany Hudson



Luke Champney



Alliyah Evans



Sophie-Jade Woods



Alex Prizeman



Jessica Clark



The Greatest Showman



Monopoly Challenge



Oakerwood Pod Challenge

An exhausting yet exhilarating year..!

Coles Diner has been busy with events, birthday parties, interviews and new staff and the team is now made up of 40! As always, we have been busy with fundraising for a wellbeing trail to include a number of newly planted trees and for the Youth Club.

This year has been full of events from fayres, discos, a market, weekends away and movies. Coles Diner has a yearly appeal where we try to raise money for a chosen project. This year it is for the Africa Trail. A group of staff and pupils will visit the school in October and will meet the two children and one teacher that Coles Diner has sponsored.

Coles Diner held its second 5km run and it was lovely to see parents, pupils and staff take part. We had over 50 runners.

I also thought it would be a good idea to cycle, run, row and walk the 4725 miles to Africa (digitally speaking). Staff and pupils have been spending time in the gym trying to complete the challenge. Stuart, a member of care staff, did the Reading Half Marathon and the full London Marathon to add in the miles. We have another 2000 miles to go!

Coles had bingo and quiz evenings with parents raising over £200 towards the Youth Club; we hosted a quiz and curry evening and raised £300. The Coles Diner team put on the first interactive movie, The Greatest Showman in Arlington Arts followed by cocoa and Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, raising money for the appeal. We held a Christmas market on 11th November which included a raffle and which raised £400.

In March a group of staff and pupils completed a monopoly challenge and raised £1000 and in May a group of 35 went to Herefordshire for a camping pod weekend, completing 22 out of 24 challenges raising just over £400.

We continue to run our life skills group and 50 young people have now completed their leadership qualification. They raised £100 towards three nominated charities by holding a spring disco.



Training in the gym for the Africa Trail Appeal



The new uniform in Coles Diner



Tilly and her parents after the 5km run

Kirilynn Gardner



Taking our fundraising efforts to new heights...

2018 has been a fantastic year for our fundraising efforts and our Primary Appeal is well underway. We would like to thank all those who have supported us to this point.

MARYHARE BRONZE

In September 2018 Pippa Middleton, our Ambassador and internationally renowned sculptor, Sophie Ryder launched Maryhare, a limited-edition bronze created by the artist, at the inspiration of Ms Middleton. Sales of the bronze will raise money to build new primary facilities. The launch event was held at the RSA in London with a privately invited guest list.

When Pippa Middleton first approached Sophie Ryder earlier in 2018 she was unaware that Sophie had worked with pupils at Mary Hare in 2003 when she was resident at the school for a week of workshops. Ms Ryder agreed to become involved with the project and to create an exclusive piece of sculpture to raise funds for the school.

Sophie Ryder's Maryhare is being produced in an edition of 50 priced at £6,000 + VAT. Each numbered bronze is supplied with a certificate of authenticity signed by the artist and Pippa Middleton. Pippa Middleton said, 'Mary Hare School is a wonderful place and I am constantly inspired by its staff and especially its children. I am proud and honoured to be its Ambassador and I am delighted to be launching this initiative to raise crucial funds for its new primary school.'

To date, eight bronzes have been sold and it is hoped that many more will be sold at an art auction on September 2nd, hosted by Dreweatts who have nominated Mary Hare School as their charity of the year.



Enthusiastic questions



Maryhare



Pippa and Sophie Ryder



The local choir



Englefield Church

CANDLELIT CAROL CONCERT

On 6th December 2018 a candlelit carol concert was held at St Mark's Church, Englefield, home to Richard Benyon MP. 180 guests attended, enjoying mince pies and prosecco after the event. £8,000 was raised from the event towards the Primary Appeal.

Richard Benyon MP, who is also a Trustee of the Mary Hare Foundation, read a John Betjeman Christmas poem and Jules de Jongh, voice actress and BBC Radio Berkshire Presenter read a Henry Wadsworth Longfellow 1863 poem written during the American Civil War.

The Head Girl at Mary Hare Primary School read an excerpt from Dr Seuss's 'How the Grinch stole Christmas', and a Year 9 pupil read part of 'The Tailor of Gloucester' by Beatrix Potter. The Primary School choir sang two songs, along with solos from pupils at the Secondary School. One Year 12 pupil played a vibraphone arrangement of 'Walking in the Air'.

Guests agreed it was a wonderful atmosphere, with 150 candles lighting the lovely church. The event was supported by Coffin Mew and other local companies.



The finished room

MAKEOVER MAGIC

After a huge fundraising effort by Newbury based Ben Heath Interiors totalling almost £5,500 we were lucky enough to have the company give the boys' common room in Mansell House a makeover. With new flooring, decor and furniture,

the well thought out space appealed to the boys' taste incorporating a colour scheme of muted greys and reds. The boys enjoyed having an input into the design in the early stages and were delighted with the end result.

The collaborative approach between Ben Heath and Mary Hare staff and pupils resulted in a DIY success. A huge thank you to all those involved.



The grand opening and a room full of happy boys!

PRIMARY APPEAL UPDATE

It has been a busy year raising funds towards the £3m which we have committed to raise for the Primary Appeal. At the time of writing, the Mary Hare Foundation has raised £1,964,000, so we are very close to being two-thirds of the way there. These funds have come in via a number of channels including events, legacies, individual donations and funds from Trusts. Significant progress came through several 'cornerstone' pledges totalling £1.1 million from the BAND Trust, the Garfield Weston Foundation, the Greenham Trust and the Clothworkers' Foundation.

We are extremely grateful to them and indeed, all our supporters, knowing that it is thanks to their generosity that we are making such fantastic progress.

In terms of other fundraising activities, we hosted a quiz night in London on 2nd May for 120 guests.

This event raised £4,565. Peter Gale was the Quiz Master and everyone had a great time.

Mary Hare is one of the 88 local good causes and charities raising funds through the West Berkshire Lottery - you could sign up and support Mary Hare. We receive 50% of the ticket sales and you stand the chance of winning up to £25,000!

www.westberkshirelottery.co.uk/support/mary-hare-school-for-deaf-children

To date we have raised £213.00 from ticket sales. 53 tickets sold with the potential to raise £1,378 a year.



Our Quiz Master



A full house

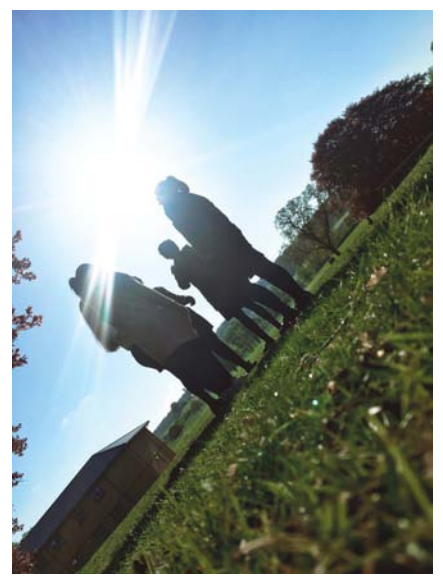


A pleased participant





From a treasure hunt to yoga, cleaning wellies to decorating, there has been no end to our talents...



Hope's winning photo

We had a great start to the year in the Wellbeing department by getting a makeover! Kirilynn and the Life Skills group decided to decorate the Quiet Room as part of their Social Action Project. They fundraised, went shopping and decorated the space with fantastic results. As an outcome of this, the group were nominated and won the West Berkshire Youth Social Action Project of the Year and Kirilynn was rewarded Inspirational Club Leader of the Year.

Continuing on the winning streak we entered a national competition to promote the Five Ways to Wellbeing, organised by the Charlie Waller Memorial Trust. We had a wellbeing week with lots of different activities linked to the five ways: Take Notice, Keep Learning, Active, Connect and Give. This included a mini sports day, a notice treasure hunt and yoga. One rolling form saw the whole school doing activities on the field that made us all feel good. We were one of the ten winning schools and received books for the Wellbeing Library.

This year we had a photography competition for 'Notice' with the theme 'Mary Hare'. We had some amazing entries with the three winners from each age category being Year 7-9 category, Chloe Burton (Year 9), Year 10 & 11 category, Charlotte Tuck (Year 10) and Year 12 & 13 category, Christian Clark (Year 13). The overall prize went to Hope Lambert (Year 9).

The Do Good, Feel Good club have done some excellent work throughout the year supporting the school and wider community. It is a lunchtime club that does good deeds that help others, which, in turn, make us feel good too. We have written letters to children with life-limiting illness, collected towels for the Dog's Trust and cleaned wellies for the Geography department!



Anti-bullying Ambassador training



The new Quiet Room

We have recently started an Anti-Bullying initiative as a result of an assembly done by 6th Former Isabella Giddins about bullying. She was inspiring to both staff and students. Volunteers have been trained up as Anti-Bullying Ambassadors and the next step is for them to organise events and assemblies to promote the STOP bullying message.

Charlie Hadley

THE PRINCIPAL'S

Set your Sights High Award

2018-2019



Georgie Ellis



Julia Wejnar



Thomas Weeks

The 'Set Your Sights High' award is as popular as ever with staff and pupils. It continues to inspire our pupils and is enthusiastically backed by teaching staff. Our end of week assemblies often feature pupils who have excelled academically, socially and in many other ways. The posters continue to inspire our current and prospective pupils and are often a talking point on tours with new and interested families.

Well done to all those who have received an award this year:

THOMAS WEEKS

For being an excellent advocate and role model for the visiting Year 6s' and for Mary Hare - September 2018

SCARLETT BATTERTON

For participating in the Girls into Engineering course at the Smallpiece Trust during the summer holidays and for being highly motivated and hard working - September 2018

KATIE DENING

For participating in the Girls into Engineering course at the Smallpiece Trust during the summer holidays and for her enthusiasm and team working skills - September 2018

JULIA WEJNAR

For her determination to fight for her rights to get the education she wants, preparing a logical case as to why Mary Hare was better than her local college and for presenting this at Tribunal - October 2018

GEORGIE ELLIS

For her sheer determination and perseverance which enabled her to move to Set 1. She demonstrated self-belief and the ability to work independently - November 2018

CHLOE MARTIN

For conquering her fear and staying away from home for the week and participating in activities - December 2018

MUHAMMED AHMED

Having been moved to a new English set, Mohammed worked hard, improved his writing and comes up with some wonderful ideas - January 2019

ELLIE EAGLES

For showing great commitment to extra-curricular activities. Ellie has helped with the Duke of Edinburgh Award, attends meetings and training and has been nominated as the Duke of Edinburgh Ambassador for the South East region - February 2019

KATHERINE FOWLER

For being an amazing friend to Lily Smith and for being kind, polite and helpful. Lily also said that Katherine makes her smile and laugh - April 2019

ALEX MOORHEAD

For showing a mature and committed approach to his work. Alex has been completing his work to a high standard and is continually improving.



Ellie Eagles



Muhammed Ahmed



Chloe Martin



Scarlett Batterton and Katie Denning



Katherine Fowler



Alex Moorhead



A good way to cool down!



Even family of staff help out



Laura is brave... and wet!



A budding musician



There has to be an easier way to get in there!



Get me out of here!

Summer Extravaganza and Fayre

On Sunday 2nd July we opened our grounds for the second Summer Extravaganza, incorporating the Summer Fayre, Art and Design Exhibition and performances from the Dance, Music and Drama departments.

On exhibition for the Big Top Extravaganza were a selection of visual arts from students studying the subjects at GCSE and A Level. The exhibition showcased the students' work as a professional art exhibition would. There were examples of ceramics, casted glass, furniture, woven plastics, printed and painted textiles, digital photography, sculpture and much more. The exhibition featured work from the following students: Khadeeja Ali, Paige Barnes, Pollyanna Begbie, Jack Brockhurst, Kyra Evans, Samuel Georges, Jessica Hungbeme, Lewis Hunt, Maddie Hawes, Emma Jackson, Thomas Keer, Ivanka Pritchard, Ianjaye Robinson, Martha Ryan and Bella Stone. All pupils worked very hard to create these pieces and were very proud to have them exhibited in such a professional setting.

The majority of students took part, either performing or helping on stalls alongside staff, providing an opportunity to bring together the whole school community to celebrate the hard work and creativity of our young people. There were over 40 stalls which were really busy and raised funds for Coles Diner and Happy Days. The inflatables and our own youth club provided much loved entertainment.

There was also a shoot off between Ollie and Mathew to win the basketball hoop!

The raffle was very successful with Shante's mum winning 1st prize and Mae's mum scooping 2nd and 3rd prizes!

The BBQ was popular as were the ice creams, helped by the wonderful British weather which gave us sunshine all afternoon. The highlight of the day was Furry Foot the Clown who had an amazing array of circus skills equipment, perfectly in keeping with the Big Top! Performances from the Dance, Music and Drama departments were wonderful including solos by many students.

The day raised over £3000 which will help towards the outside fitness area that is planned. Thank you to Kirilynn and other staff for all the hard work and organisation to make the day such a success.



Will it be bullseye?

By Tony Trigwell-Jones



Vic Rocca

VIC ROCCA

Vic Rocca retires this summer after a long and distinguished career at Mary Hare, joining the Biology department in 1987.

Vic has a particular interest in the wider education of our young people and has used that interest to great effect, accompanying trips and activities, being a Head of Year and taking responsibility for the school's PSHEE curriculum. Vic introduced both the Psychology A Level and the Health and Social Care BTEC to our curriculum.

He has always been an enthusiastic contributor to school bands and choirs and is a much loved colleague. It has been great to see the affection felt for Vic by former pupils, a few of whom are now Mary Hare parents! We are extremely lucky to have had his service for over thirty years and wish him every success and happiness in what comes next.



Antonia McAlpine

ANTONIA McALPINE

Antonia joined Mary Hare in 2010. Always great with young people, Antonia moved to the vocational department in 2016 to set up and deliver the Animal Care course.

She was adored by the students she taught and opened up opportunities for new and exciting experiences such as lambing, pig farming and landscaping work.



Jody Lewington-Long

JODY LEWINGTON-LONG

Jody started at Mary Hare Primary School in September 2016 and has loved working with all of the children at different points throughout her time.

She says she thanks Mary Hare for some wonderful memories and wishes the school the best of luck in its move to the new site.



Viv Ogg

VIV OGG

Viv Ogg retires this summer after 33 years with Mary Hare. Viv joined in 1986 after completing her BA in Audiology and Deaf Education at Manchester University, where she was taught by Ivan Tucker. Viv has had a long, varied and distinguished career, more than we have room to describe here.

Whilst at Mary Hare Viv has been involved with a number of partnerships with international schools for the deaf including Tanzania and Myanmar.

She will be remembered as a geography teacher and most importantly as Head of Audiology. Viv has been a dedicated, patient and committed Audiologist, determined to ensure that all pupils gained as much access to sound as the technology allowed.



Amy Smith

AMY SMITH

The Speech and Language Therapy team were very sad to say goodbye to Amy Smith in May 2019. Amy worked at Mary Hare for five years and was an integral part of the team. After qualifying as a Speech and Language Therapist, Amy originally joined Mary Hare School as a Teaching Assistant. The following year she joined the Speech Therapy department as a therapist. Amy is leaving to take on a new challenge working in a specialist speech and language therapy service for adults with learning disabilities and autism in a college in Swindon.

We wish her all the very best for the future and are very grateful to her for all her hard work and dedication. She will be greatly missed.



Alan Rutterford

ALAN RUTTERFORD

Alan left Mary Hare after 29 years of service in the catering department. Alan had worked tirelessly and with dedication.

He was given a lovely send off in Blount Hall and made a small speech thanking everyone for their thoughts and messages.



GOODBYE TO SOME OF OUR TAs

We say a fond farewell to a number of Teaching Assistants this year:

Rhiannon Pugsley joined us in 2014 and worked as a 1:1 and group TA. Always calm and caring, she moves on to a new career as a Gardener.

Alex Simmons, an ex pupil who just could not keep away worked with us as a TA and Physical Needs Coordinator for four years and is taking a short career break.

Holly Collier joined Mary Hare as work experience then took up a post as a TA four years ago. We wish her well in her new career as a Paramedic.

Sarah Laing leaves us to take up a post as a TA in another school.

Sri Lanka

In July 2018 a group of 19 students and six staff went on an unforgettable trip to Sri Lanka. The two week trip was full of experiences, learning curves and memories. The group worked in a deaf school in Colombo and helped paint a mural in their bakery which is also used to make and sell goods for the public, raising much needed funds for the school. The work included preparing the walls, coming up with some designs and presenting them to the Principal and then painting the mural. The team did an excellent job and were rewarded at the end of a busy day relaxing on the beach.

During the trip the group did a bit of sightseeing. They visited a local park where people were selling their art. They also visited a tea factory and a local fish market where the fishermen were drying their catch. They toured some Hindu temples in Colombo and a Buddhist temple recounting the story of Buddha. For many however, the highlight was a trip to a turtle sanctuary for a weekend where they learnt about the threat to turtles from poachers and the conservation work that was

being undertaken. The students helped clean the turtle tanks and even the turtles! The afternoon was spent combing the beach for plastic rubbish after which they released around 150 baby turtles into the ocean, doing their own little bit for the environment.

Last but not least, the group visited an elephant orphanage, a nursery and captive breeding ground for wild Asian elephants. They were able to watch the elephants going to the river to bath and play.

Everyone had an amazing time and came back with many memories, new found food likes and dislikes and a thirst for more travel.



At the tea factory



What a team



Doing their bit for the environment





The Lesley White Learning Support Centre

The Lesley White Learning Support Centre is at the very hub of the school. It was renamed in July 2018 in memory of Lesley White who had worked at Mary Hare for many years.

The Centre is now run by Sam Symes and Tracy Whiting. Both are qualified to Level 7 in Teaching and Assessing Learners with Specific Learning Difficulties and hold additional qualifications to support the teaching of students with hearing impairments. Having the experience and qualifications to assess students for specific learning difficulties combined with a hearing impairment, is particularly specialist and enables the school to provide essential services on site, resulting in reduced disruption to the pupil's day to day learning and access to the National Curriculum.

Students have access to specialist teaching both individually and within small groups. This can include highly specialist interventions designed for students with a diagnosed specific learning difficulty, or targeted interventions to bridge gaps and enhance prior learning. Sam and Tracy work closely with the SENCO, Speech and Language Department and teachers, to provide a fully holistic teaching package for each student.

Some students will arrive with a diagnosis of a specific learning difficulty or have historically been observed as having tendencies that need specialist input. Alternatively, others may be identified after their arrival often identified by the subject teacher and then referred to the SENCO.

If required, a full diagnostic assessment for specific learning difficulties can be undertaken. Sam and Tracy's experience and knowledge are

crucial in an informed diagnosis because diagnostic assessments can only be performed by teachers that are qualified to their level. In the instances where a diagnosis cannot be made, recommendations can be made to other professionals. A diagnosis and the subsequent support that it then put in place is essential to help the student reach potential.

Exam time can be a stressful time for students. Sam and Tracy are also able to assess students for Access Arrangements, ensuring every student has equal access to exams. Students may receive additional help such as having a 'reader' or having access to additional technology.

Finally, visiting assessment pupils will undertake their written assessments in the Learning Support Centre in collaboration with the Speech and Language Therapists, the Heads of Year and the SENCO. This gives the most current information on the ability of the student, which is crucial in placing them within the correct groups should they require a place at Mary Hare.



Sam and Tracy with Lesley's sister and niece



Cutting the ribbon

Lego Therapy: Building language and communication skills

Lego Therapy has been quite the 'buzz word' in social communication over the last few years, with many Speech and Language Therapists and teachers creating Lego Clubs in their settings. Daniel LeGoff and his colleagues created the programme in order to provide effective social skills therapy for children with autism and other related conditions.

The basic idea of the approach is that young people work in pairs or threes to build Lego sets, with social communication skills being facilitated and scaffolded by an adult at first, with the young people then developing greater independence in their ability to use social communication skills/strategies and solve problems between themselves.

In 2016 Lego Therapy was launched in both the primary and secondary schools. A Lego Therapy programme was created, which was designed to run in English lessons over a 6-week term. At Mary Hare our pupils who have additional language needs over and above their deafness receive Speech and Language Therapist support in English lessons each week - these lessons are jointly taught by the Speech Therapist and Teacher of the Deaf, and are designed to develop many areas of speech, language and communication.

The main skills focused on are:

1. Listening/speech-reading
2. Understanding and responding to verbal instructions
3. Giving verbal instructions
4. Understanding and using prepositions and descriptive language
5. Following visual instructions
6. Turn-taking/cooperation/collaboration
7. Eye contact
8. Managing communication breakdown
9. Managing frustration - how to stay calm if something goes wrong
10. Problem solving

The team have found that overall their pupils have really enjoyed the Mary Hare Lego Therapy programme, and it has worked well in



Following instructions well

developing many areas of speech, language and communication which were identified as areas of need for these pupils. The pupils have also learnt strategies they can generalise to other areas of school life, for example clarification techniques when they haven't understood someone or been understood, and techniques to calm themselves down if they feel frustrated in class.

A weekly Lego Club has also been introduced at the school, which runs over a lunchtime and can be accessed by any pupil in the school. The pupils work on Lego sets in pairs or small groups and are supervised/supported by a Speech Therapist and two Teaching Assistants, but there is less structure and organisation than in the English lessons discussed above. Lego Club is more of a relaxed affair - a time to unwind and chat with friends whilst also still developing language and social communication skills!

In conclusion, Mary Hare has found that adapting Lego Therapy for use with deaf students has worked really well. It takes some work to begin with, to prepare all of the resources and activities needed for teaching the language and strategies required for pupils to effectively access Lego Therapy, but the rewards and benefits are well worth the preparation. The enjoyment and improvement of the pupils taking part is great to observe, and progress is easily evidenced through pre and post-tests, checklists, observations and videos.

Amy Smith, Speech and Language Therapist



GCSE outcomes for pupils at Mary Hare

When we look at the GCSE results, we can see the tremendous progress they have made in the vast majority of their subjects. However, changes to the exam system, and the school league tables make it difficult to see how well they have done overall.

Over the past few years, there have been many changes to the way the government measures academic performance. These present a big challenge to Mary Hare, so I'm going to explain what the new figures mean, and what they say about how well our students do.

Previously, the league tables reported on the percentage of students who attained 5 or more A* to C grades including English and Maths. There was also a Value-Added measure that compared results for each student with everyone else in the country who got similar Key Stage 2 SAT results. In this system, Mary Hare always did really well. Typically, our students joined the secondary school with lower than average Key Stage 2 results. They then went on to make excellent progress and got very high value-added scores. There were also those who entered the school with high SATs scores, who similarly went on to make tremendous progress and gain high GCSE grades.

Since those times, thanks to the dedication of our highly trained staff, small classes, excellent acoustics, a supportive peer group, and the hard work of the young people supported by their families, our students

continue to make excellent progress. Unfortunately, the changes to the measures don't show this progress.

The new measure is called Progress 8. It really only matters for the school as a whole, rather than for individual students, but it's how others judge the progress young people make in a school. It looks at the results in eight subjects, but has complicated rules as to how the calculation is done. It is designed to encourage students to do English Literature as well as English Language, to study a foreign language, and a humanities subject (History or Geography). It also penalises schools that allow students to take combinations such as Art and Photography or Textiles, or Graphics. Some of our students don't do English Literature (because their priority is to work towards functional English rather than learning to analyse medieval poetry for example), some don't do eight subjects that are allowed in the measure, and some do e.g. Art and Photography. In each case, this is because the young person, their family and teachers have agreed that this is the right thing to meet the student's needs as well as match their talents, rather than give the school a good Progress 8 score. So, if a student doesn't do English Lit, and maybe does Art and Graphics, they will only have six out of eight results that count. The other two slots are given a score of 0.

The Mary Hare Progress 8 score for the last three years (since the measure started) has been around zero. In other words, on average, our students make expected

progress between Y7 and Y11. But this is despite the problems described above. When we look at progress in individual subject areas, we find it is excellent. It's just when the results are combined in this particular way that the problem occurs. So, in Maths, in French, in Science, in almost every subject, students make better than expected progress. The government report gives the following value added for the subject elements of the Progress 8 figure:

Subject	Value Added
English	-0.9
Maths	0.2
Science	0.4
Languages	1.1
Humanities	0.8

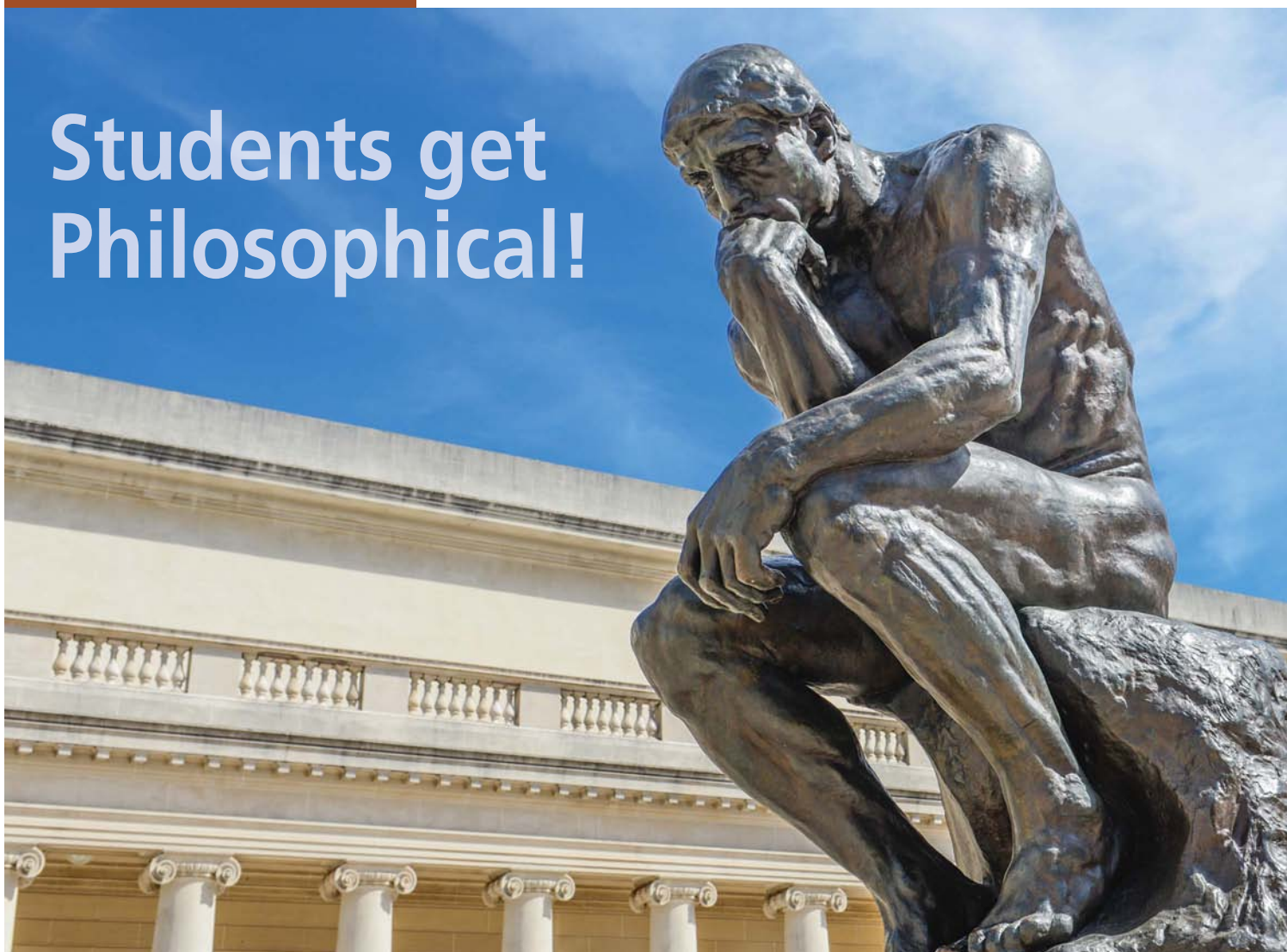
The only negative score is for English, and this is largely due to the impact of some students not doing Literature, and therefore getting a zero for this. All the other areas are positive, with students in French getting more than a grade better than expected on average.

We are in discussion with the Department for Education about how they could make the Progress 8 measure fairer, but in the meantime, we're going to continue working with our students, trying to help them to achieve the best GCSE results they possibly can.

Simon Thompson, Vice Principal



Students get Philosophical!



Learning the skills demonstrated by Socrates, Aristotle and Plato may sound a little intimidating and some might say it is beyond the reach of deaf students.

However, at Mary Hare, we don't believe anything is beyond the reach of deaf students! We are always looking for exciting new ways to boost learning and progress in addition to finding effective new approaches for developing language and thinking skills. This year we have introduced a learning programme based on Philosophy for Children, Colleges and Communities (P4C). P4C was created by Professor Matthew Lipman in the late 1960s, and its aim was to encourage children to be more reasonable, reflective and considerate. This is a powerful educational approach which has been found to have significant benefits on achievement both educationally and socially.

This approach is designed to develop creative, critical, collaborative and caring thinking. It uses fun activities that also build team working skills, self-discipline and creativity. Each P4C lesson gives students opportunities to work together to achieve a particular aim with warm up thinking games

and a focused team thinking task. At the centre of each lesson however, is a group discussion based around a particular stimulus. This can be a picture, a video, a story or just an interesting or thought provoking item. As the programme progresses, students develop independent thinking skills and the confidence to come up with their own discussion questions.

These discussions are particularly beneficial to deaf students because they nurture so many additional skills. They promote respect and understanding, help develop social responsibility and build logic and reasoning skills. Students come up with their own rules for a good discussion and then abide by these in every P4C lesson which helps them develop important social skills. It is also important for them to use their residual hearing and lip-reading skills to enable them to contribute thoughtful points to the discussion. P4C encourages students to focus on 'big ideas' that are important in the wider world outside school. These can be varied topics such as ageism, how we see ourselves, how we know who to trust, greed or fairness and equality.

Discussing issues such as these helps students build the confidence and self-esteem to develop and express their own points of view and not just follow their friends. We are delighted with the way these lessons have helped our students realise that there is not always a right answer and all their ideas are valued. Students from Years 7 to 11 relish voicing their views and being heard without fear of getting an answer wrong. They have also enthusiastically joined in the collaborative thinking warm up games!

We are adapting the P4C strategies to maximise the benefits for deaf students in experiencing this aspirational approach to expanding and stretching their thinking. We are also proud to be encouraging students in leading their own learning to help develop the independence, responsibility resilience and self-esteem that will bring them success at school and in life beyond Mary Hare.

Jo Walsh, Head of English



Virgin media

“ Mary Hare gave me some fantastic opportunities. I built friendships and made memories that will last a lifetime.

Being deaf is not without its challenges but keep persevering even when you feel like giving up! Don't worry if you are not sure of what you want to do. I changed universities, changed subjects and ended up studying Criminology but I now work in internal communications at Virgin Media.

Things will work out in the end!

BLAISE ROWSWELL
INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS EXECUTIVE

Set your sights high!

#sysh



“ I will always look back on my time at Mary Hare as a wholly positive experience. Thanks to my amazing teachers and a wonderful education, I left with great ambition and independence.

I remain deeply grateful to the school for fostering a culture of empowerment and inclusion which enabled me to grow in confidence both academically and socially.

EDWARD CLEERE
FRENCH LAW AND ENGLISH LAW

Set your sights high!

#sysh



“ I'm currently in pre-speciality training and have worked in lots of exciting areas like A&E and intensive care. All with a BSL interpreter. I got into medicine after applying three times.

The best things don't come by resting on your laurels but trying and trying some more.

JUSTINE DURMO
JUNIOR DOCTOR

Set your sights high!

#sysh



“ You can do anything through hard work and dedication.

Listen to yourself. Show people what you are capable of.

PEARL ORPIN
MIDWIFE

Set your sights high!

#sysh

SET YOUR SIGHTS HIGH

Our popular 'Set Your Sights High' poster campaign is still going strong. Here we showcase just a few of the inspiring Mary Hare alumni who have been involved with our most recent campaign posters.




“ As the Policy Officer leading on British Sign Language at the Scottish Government, I rely on my knowledge, experience, initiative and decision-making skills every day in my work on the BSL (Scotland) Act 2015.

When aiming for a career where you hold a position of responsibility, I know Mary Hare will give you a group of peers you can hone your teamwork skills with, develop your confidence, and give you the skills to succeed in any environment, as it did for me.

GORDON HAY
BSL POLICY OFFICER

Set your sights high!

#sysh



“ There is no doubt that Mary Hare prepared me well for an academic career of more than 35 years in Mathematics at both UCL and University of Oxford and later in Otolaryngology, Biomedical Engineering and Computational Medicine at Johns Hopkins University. Ambition knows no bounds.

The world is your oyster. Fulfil your potential and make dreams happen.

TILAK RATNAMATHER
ASSOCIATE RESEARCH PROFESSOR
JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

Set your sights high!

#sysh



“ Captions by Stagtext make the arts accessible to people who are deaf, deafened or hard of hearing.

“ Never let fear stop you from exploring new frontiers as it can open up many new possibilities. After all, fear kills more dreams than failure ever will!

DEEPA SHASTRI
PROJECTS MANAGER
STAGTEXTORG

Set your sights high!

#sysh



“ The Art Department at Mary Hare is exceptional, with a real focus on the individual. This gave me a solid foundation to use as a springboard to pursue a creative career path.

Social skills are an essential part of any job, and Mary Hare provides an ideal environment to develop and grow socially, as well as academically.

ADAM WATSON
MENSWEAR DESIGNER

Set your sights high!

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Our alumni continue to amaze us with their experiences, challenges and achievements after leaving Mary Hare.

OLIVER PRITCHARD

Oliver Pritchard is hoping to represent England in the Deaflympics in Japan in 2020. If Oliver is successful, this will be his third time representing his country. Oliver hopes to compete in the triathlon and will undertake trials over the coming months.

Oliver is already part of the deaf team for running and recently did a cross country in Poland as part of the GB team. Oliver says 'at the moment I am training 10 to 15 hours per week alongside my third year studies at University. Once summer arrives I will increase my training to 30 hours per week!'

When Oliver was at Mary Hare, he pursued his love of sport competing in cross country, the swimming gala and sports day. 'Sports Day', says Oliver, 'is one of my memory moments that I will never forget.' We wish Oliver the best of luck getting to Japan in 2020.



SAM ARNOLD

My name is Sam Arnold. I went to Mary Hare in 2001 and spent seven wonderful years there. I am now a Furniture Designer and I have been in the product/furniture industry for the past seven years. I have worked with many different design teams since I graduated in 2011. I have won several awards from different projects working within a design team. So, why did I get into furniture design? Because it is a super cool job to design furniture. I like the story behind

the designs and the brief to achieve functional and distinctive looking furniture. I love the feeling of seeing people using my designs!

I decided to take a break from my job to travel around South

America for eight months, starting in March 2019. You may ask, why I wanted to do this? Travelling to South America had always been one of my biggest dreams. I wanted to break out of my comfort zone to build a new chapter in my life. I also wanted to challenge myself and build up my confidence with new people, cultures and experiences. South America has so much to offer - majestic waterfalls, dense Amazonian jungles, active volcanoes, mysterious mountains, unparalleled cuisine and a rich and diverse culture. I needed eight months to see it all!

My trip started on the 1st March in Argentina, then moved on to Chile, Patagonia, Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador, Colombia and Brazil.

Do what you love and follow your dreams. Don't be afraid to try new things!





ROSS EDWARDS

My name is Ross Edwards and I am a Packaging Designer for Sass and Belle. Art and Design was always my strength. When I was at Mary Hare I developed my creativity which helped me secure the wonderful dream job I have now.

In 2018 I was very proud to reach the Gift of the Year shortlist for my design of a cactus suitcase. Even though I didn't win, I am still very proud of this achievement.

My other passion is travelling around the world, learning new cultures, meeting new people and trying new foods. Some of the favourite destinations have been Cuba, Belize, Guatemala and Morocco.



Carpet heaven



On my travels

ANDREW HEARN

After leaving Mary Hare and after further study, I entered my software engineering career. I currently work for Thales as a Senior Software Engineer for flight simulations. One of my more recent projects has been on Full Flight Simulators that are being exported to various European pilot training facilities. I also write software for prototypes and other R&D teams.

A few years ago I entered a Royal Academy 'I'm an Engineer, Get Me out of Here' initiative which I won. A couple of years later I was invited back to a Christmas Special which I also won, much to my surprise!

I would sum up a typical day at work for me as, arrive happy, drink coffee, engineer nifty code, destroy bugs, lose track of time and go home happy!



If you are an alumni of Mary Hare and would like to be featured in our next magazine and poster campaigns, please get in touch with us. We'd love to hear how you've got on and what you've been getting up to in your life since you left us. Send an email to: d.jacobs@maryhare.org.uk

Our Journey

