



Connaught
School for Girls

Newsletter

July 2022

2021-22 Issue: 42

Special points of interest:

- Fantastic creative work in Product Design
- Students selected to participate in filming for the DofE
- Onnatti Theatre Ltd perform a play in MFL
- Lots of interesting Science experiments enjoyed by the students

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Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers and students

It is with mixed emotions that I write my final newsletter as Headteacher of Connaught School for Girls. As I pack up my office and go through my files, I reflect on the last three years and what it has taught about headship. Whilst I could dwell on how tough it was to lead us through a pandemic, my thoughts turn to sunnier moments that make our school such a joyous place to be.

It reminds me of a quote from my childhood:

"How lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard."

A.A. Milne (Winnie-the-Pooh)

I am delighted to be handing the baton to my successor, Ms Linsey Hand, who will, I am sure, lead the school and move it forward on the next phase of its journey. Whilst no one can fully know what the future holds, I am confident that the school will be successful and that I'll miss everyone that I've had the pleasure to work with. But most of all, I'll miss the students who are the reason I get up and come into work every day. Best of luck to all of you!

My message to the students is that it's not about being perfect, it's about effort. When you bring that effort every single day, that's where transformation happens. That's how change occurs. There has been a lot of change over the last few years and I'm in awe of how resilient, resourceful and determined each and every one of our students are.

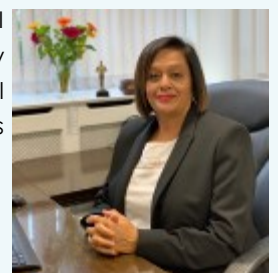
You'll see from our bulletin that we have been extremely busy. Our extra curricular clubs are going from strength to strength. If your child has not joined one yet, I would recommend they get involved next year. They are a brilliant way to develop all sorts of skills and a way to meet other students from across the school. A good example is the Year 10 Duke of Edinburgh award which has been reintroduced post pandemic. The students involved have made a film showcasing how enthusiastic they are about it, highlighting new skills and physical challenges they face. Look out for it on our website!

Please take the time to look through this bulletin and see all the fantastic things that your child has been getting involved in.

I'm not one for long goodbyes. So I'll say 'au revoir' because I will always be a friend of Connaught. It has a special place in my heart and, even though I won't physically be here every day, I will keep in touch and see how everyone is doing from time to time. For the students, I wish them well for the future and thank them and the staff for all the highs and lows that have made my time here so inspirational.

Best wishes

Avani Higgins



Science

Hydroponics

In our science lessons, with Mrs Mujahid, 7G have been learning about hydroponics and have carried out an investigation. In this investigation, we have found out a different way to grow plants without using soil- this is called hydroponics. Furthermore, our class has been observing the plants in the plastic bottles for quite a time now, and they have begun to grow successfully.

We also asked some of our peers about their opinion on this experiment and its

purpose:

"Experimenting with Hydroponics was really fun and what made it better was that we were also learning at the same time."

Irum Azad 7G

"I think that hydroponics is one of the greatest ideas that have been made because it helps the environment and it is well kept, which makes the plants fresh and new."

Hafsah Hussain 7G

"I think hydroponics is going to be the future of growing plants because it is helping the planet survive longer and limits



the use of the earth's resources. This means the plants have less competition and they will grow much more effectively."

Maryam Zafar 7G

Hanna Ali-Ansar and Amna Baig 7G

"Experimenting with Hydroponics was really fun and what made it better was that we were also learning at the same time."



Year 7

This is what the year 7 students had to say about their recent experiences in science:

"In science we had a really fun, exciting and educational practical. We got some Hydrochloric acid in a boiling tube and then

added a small strip of magnesium, which started to react straight away giving off some bubbles. We put an orange bung onto the tube, then we lit a splint with a match and carefully put it near the opened tube. It made a loud pop sound. The pop sound was made by the

gas called hydrogen."

Demie, Safiyah, Mia & Soraya

"The experiment was really nice and a lot of fun to do, especially the bit when the tubes lid popped out with a loud popping sound due to the reaction of the magnesium with

Science (continued)

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Hydrochloric acid. All of the different metals had similar reactions but some had more bubbles than others, depending on which metal (magnesium, Zinc, Iron or Lead.)

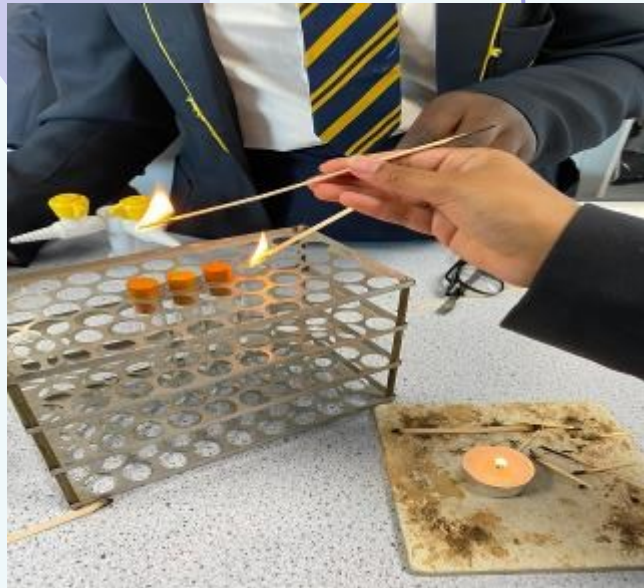
Magnesium gave the most bubbles."

Rijja Wasim & Aamna Iqbal

"We tested different metals with Hydrochloric acid. It was a cool experiment as each metal reacted differently. Each gave off different amounts of bubbles. Magnesium gave the most bubbles. When we put the splint near the tube it made a loud popping sound.

Khalisa, Minal & Fiza

"In this experiment, we looked at metals and acids and how they react. First we tested Magnesium with Hydrochloric acid. We trapped the gas in the tube and tested it with a lighted splint. It made a



large pop sound which was the Hydrogen. We then tested Zinc, lead and iron which gave fewer bubbles."

Joylyn

"Mrs Siddique showed us an experiment which was different metals reacting with Hydrochloric acid.

They all reacted differently. Some gave a lot of bubbles and others gave fewer bubbles.

The one that gave off a lot of bubbles made the lid pop off by itself. It also made the largest pop

sound."

Fatimah Jameal

"In science we have been learning about how to make a circuit. We used batteries and leads to light a bulb. First we used one battery, then two and then three. We saw that using a number of batteries can change the brightness of the bulb. We then attached a voltmeter to find the voltage. We drew the circuit to represent our findings.

Zannat al Rahman

The Reproductive System

In science, we were learning about the stages of the reproductive system and what happens when they occur. The four stages of the reproductive system are: Pre-labour, Dilation, Birth and the delivery of the placenta. On the next page are some paragraphs of these words.

"It was a cool experiment as each metal reacted differently."



Science (continued)

Pre-Labour

Pre-labour is the time when a woman experiences tightening and contractions that then softens and thins the part called the cervix. The cervix then widens and expands into a sac that contains amniotic fluid which eventually breaks. The baby at this time is just a dot and begins to specialize.

Dilation

This stage is when the cervix gradually begins to dilate leading the uterus

to contract regularly. This allows the baby to have more space to move around. At this time the baby is developing a spine, brain and it's heart is just starting to beat. The baby is just around 3mm long

Birth

Birth is the stage that you may know of. It is when the cervix is fully dilated and leads to the baby being pushed out of the vaginal opening. The two types of birth are Natural birth and C section which

means it comes out of the womb. The baby uses its muscles to kick, suck, swallow and to start to breathe. It is 7cm long and 12 weeks old.

Reynad Ahmed



"I liked it when we did shadow puppets. When we shone the torch on the image, the torch makes a shadow of the image on the wall. It looked really cool!"

Zoya Zeeshan 8C



Year 7 testing for acids and alkalis using universal indicator paper



Year 8 Science Fun Club investigated the properties of magnets



Year 8 students had great fun learning about how shadows are formed

Science (continued)

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Year 9 science

In science we carried out food tests on a range of different foods. We tested crisps, biscuits, cereal, bread, egg white and egg yolk for starch, sugars, protein and lipids. We found it very interesting finding out about the different nutrients in our daily diet. We were very busy checking and recording our results for the different foods.

We can't wait for our next practical!

Kallisto, Sarah, Tasneem & Halima



"We found it very interesting finding out about the different nutrients in our daily diet."

Drama Lighting

All students have been making excellent use of the new lighting system in the hall during their lessons.

It's a great way to

enhance mood and atmosphere in a scene. This is clearly seen in the picture showing a group of year 7 students acting out a mimed journey

through Darkwood Forest, a spooky haunted forest.

Ms Jemal

Head of Drama



Modern Foreign Languages

Bonjour tout le monde!
!Hola a todos!

Visit from a Tenerife school - organised by Mr Ferreira

On Monday 20th of June, Connaught received visitors from LFT School Tenerife.

Thirteen students and two staff spent the morning attending and participating in MFL lessons. Our students and the Spanish students took turns in presenting their towns and their schools, followed by group speaking activities.

They also took part in a treasure hunt in English, walking around the school and looking at our building facilities and display boards.

They finally attended a science lesson with Mr

Stephens and were really impressed by the quality of the teaching and learning taking place.

All students and staff involved were really excited and thought the visit was a great success.

Here is part of the message sent to Connaught by the head teacher of LFT School Tenerife:

"I would like to thank you and your team for your time and hospitality last week when our students visited your school. I would like to give a special thanks to the teachers who allowed us into their classrooms to participate and observe their lessons.

Our students thoroughly enjoyed the classes, they had the opportunity to practise

their English as well as help your students with their Spanish. The classes were very interactive and fun and my students commented that time passed by very quickly!

The treasure hunt around the school was also very well received, learning some interesting facts about history, mathematics and languages. They were fascinated by how different Connaught is from their school in Tenerife. It was definitely an interesting experience for them which they will remember for a long time.

We welcome the opportunity to have your students at our school to share the same experience in Tenerife".

"Our students thoroughly enjoyed the classes, they had the opportunity to practise their English as well as help your students with their Spanish."



Modern Foreign Languages (continued)

Onatti

Connaught were delighted to invite Onatti Theatre Ltd into school this term. Years 7-9 watched a play in Spanish and a play in French, whilst Y10 watched the play of the language they are studying for GCSE. The plays were really visual and included a variety of KS3 and KS4 vocabulary, allowing the students to become immersed in the language and improve their confidence and listening skills. Students were also able to ask the actors questions at the end. A special well done to Beverley in Y10, who asked her question to the actors in Spanish.

The MFL department also ran a lesson prior to the play, to further aid comprehension of the plays. Students and teachers really enjoyed acting out extracts of the plays and students improved on their speaking skills.



"I enjoyed the (Spanish) play this morning. I understood what the actors were saying because they spoke slower and acted it out. I also liked how they asked the audience to take part."

Eva 8W

"The (Spanish) play was really funny and the actors were very nice and made us enjoy it."

Malahim 7C

"I really enjoyed it (French play), the actors were really passionate and happy. I liked how they interacted with the audience, 10/10. Very impressed. :)"

Eimaan 7F

"I enjoyed the French play. They spoke slowly and clearly for me to understand."

Kassidy 7F

"The (Spanish) play was really funny and the actors were very nice and made us enjoy it."



Modern Foreign Languages (continued)



Twitter:

@MFLConnauht



Instagram:

@MFLConnauht



Clubs

Students at Connaught have been instrumental in establishing new clubs alongside more established clubs that have reemerged post covid. Listening to student voice is something we always strive to do here at CSFG. This year we have been very impressed with a number of students who have come up with ideas for clubs they would be interested in helping to run and they have seen this through to conception successfully.

As a result, students have improved their organisational and leadership skills by troubleshooting any potential issues and coming up with solutions, creating tokens for the clubs, ensuring students sign the register and taking it to reception at the end of the club as well as designing posters to promote their clubs.

Thanks to these students, others are now able to enjoy a more varied club programme, with the likes of Aminé/Manga Club, Games Club and

Origami Club now up and running and being regularly attended.

Special thanks go to Yusra Sabri 9F, Danica Amankwah 9S and Sapphina Saleem 9W.

Remember to revise from your French & Spanish books every week in order to keep up :)

Merci beaucoup!

¡ Muchas Gracias !

With Best wishes,

The Modern Foreign Languages department.

Duke of Edinburgh update

A group of our Year 10 Duke of Edinburgh students have recently been selected to participate in some filming to promote the DofE on their global website and social media, allowing the

CSFG students to 'tell their story'. The students were asked to discuss what the DofE means to them, what skills, volunteering and physical activity they are currently doing to get the bronze award

and how they think having this award is helping them now and will help them in the future. A huge well done to Mia (10F), Summer (10S), Maneeka (10C), Amirah (10G), Ayesha (10G), Zeynep

Duke of Edinburgh update (continued)

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(10F), Zhara (10C) and Maryam (10S) for taking part in the filming. Our thanks also go to Mia (7S) and Joylyn (7S) for helping, too. We can't wait to see the CSFG DofE video on their website soon. Congratulations to you all!

Ms Noakes



"A group of our Year 10 Duke of Edinburgh students have recently been selected to participate in some filming to promote the DofE on their global website and social media."

Product Design

This year KS3 Product Design students have been cutting and shaping acrylic to design and make key fobs in the style of de Stijl. They have also learnt to use tools and machines to cut and shape softwood. Year 7 have made heart shaped key fobs and Years 8&9 have made boxes using finger, mitre, lap and butt joints.

Ms Thompson
Product Design



Product Design (continued)



"Year 7 have made heart shaped key fobs and Years 8&9 have made boxes using finger, mitre, lap and butt joints."





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seize the day

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MS AVANI HIGGINS



Published and
edited by

Mr L. Simpson

Media Resources

ROMEO & JULIET RE-IMAGINED

R

J

“Romeo & Juliet Reimagined”
playing in September

Dates for your Diary

Last Day of Summer Term	- Wednesday 20th July 2022
(school closes at 12pm for Years 9 & 10 and at 1pm for Years 7 & 8)	
Staff Training Day 1	- Thursday 1st September 2022
Students start 2022-2023	- Friday 2nd September 2022
	8:20am - 8:30am Year 7 arrive to school
	2:00pm - Years 8 to 11 arrive to school
	3:10pm - End of school day
Staff Training Day 2	- Friday 21st October 2022
Half Term Holiday	- Monday 24th - Friday 28th October 2022
Last Day of Autumn Term	- Friday 16th December 2022
Start of Spring Term for all	- Tuesday 3rd January 2023
Half Term Holiday	- Monday 13th - Friday 17th February 2023
Last Day of Spring Term	- Friday 31st March 2023
First Day of Summer Term (all)	- Monday 17th April 2023
May Bank Holiday	- Monday 1st May 2023
Half Term Holiday	- Monday 29th May - Friday 2nd June 2023
Staff Training Day 3	- Friday 16th June 2023
Last Day of Summer Term	- Wednesday 19th July 2023

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