

A New Academic Year at Heritage

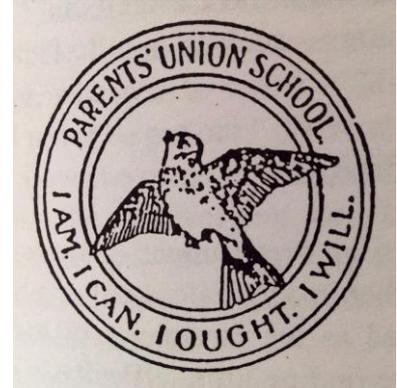
Welcome to The Skylark

We would like to extend a warm welcome especially to all our new families and to introduce our first E Newsletter.

Inspired by Shelley's poem *To a Skylark*, the badge of the original Charlotte Mason Parents' Union School showed a soaring lark – reflecting the unlimited potential they saw in each of their pupils.

We too hold high expectations for our pupils and would encourage parents alike to reflect on the challenging words:

I AM, I CAN, I OUGHT, I WILL!



Our New Head Boy and Head Girl

Siana Brealey Having joined Heritage as a five year old, I am delighted to be Head Girl this year. I hope that I can now give something back by providing strong and compassionate leadership, with a focus on helping others and creating a friendly environment for everyone. I know that in everything I do, I will have my great friend Iona in mind.

My main hobbies are sports and crafts. In school, I plan to set up a Newspaper Club focusing on world issues. I hope also to help with some of the sports clubs, to increase the school's charity work and to implement the ideas put forward by other pupils. I feel passionately about the responsibility of my generation to secure our future. Looking ahead, I would like to be a doctor.



Owain Williams I have lived in Cambridge nearly all my life and have been at Heritage for ten years. I love it here and am really happy to be Head Boy.

In my spare time I like to make short films and write scripts for longer films - that will never be made! (I want to make movies when I'm older.) I also enjoy walking and Kung Fu.

In the coming months, I am looking forwards to starting a Model UN Club in school and to helping the office and pupils around the school.'

A Tribute to Iona Sclater

It was with deep shock and sadness that we learned of Iona's death in a tragic horse-riding accident on a beautiful Sunday morning in August. Iona was due to start Year 11, having been at Heritage since Year 7.

Iona lived life to the full. Her parents said she seemed to be in a hurry from a very young age. She certainly packed a great deal into her 15 years. She decided early on, that eventing would be her sport, and she devoted herself to it with uncommon determination and maturity, showing remarkable poise under pressure. Mr Hulett, Director of Sport, observed these qualities too: "I have come across very few students in my 27 years of teaching sport with her drive, focus and ability to enjoy and thrive in the pressure of the match or event. She was a great example of someone who had a growth mindset and who bought into hard work from a very young age."

Iona was on the cusp of achieving her dream. She won a British Eventing Under-18 competition in June and she was due to represent Britain for the first time at the European Championships in Ireland later in the summer. British Eventing described Iona as an "exceptionally talented and dedicated young event rider" and one of the sport's "bright stars".

What was equally striking was Iona's natural modesty. She did not flaunt her successes and if she was tired from training or a competition at the weekend there was never any drama or fuss. Iona seemed to possess a quiet strength which enabled her to operate confidently and graciously. Mrs Rowland, Head of History, observed that she "was a great encourager of others and found ways of sympathising with those who were disappointed and showing real pleasure in their successes." Her kindness and readiness to reach out to others made her a great friend to her classmates and, (to an extent that was a surprise to her family), a counsellor to fellow competitors who were struggling in the eventing world.

Academically, Iona was on target to do very well in her GCSEs. Here too, her work ethic stood out, as did her disciplined approach to completing tasks with limited time and catching up with any work she may have missed. Her capacity to balance her school and social life with the pressure of training and competing at the highest level was exceptional for someone of her age.

Iona was a delightful girl with a ready smile. She was a much-loved member of this school community who enriched all our lives. Her qualities are to the credit of the wonderfully loving and close-knit family she was part of. She has two equally special younger sisters who are in our Senior School. I am sure we will all continue to remember Iona's family in our prayers at this unimaginably difficult time.



Farewell to our 2019 Leavers

We were delighted with our Year 11 IGCSE results. All our pupils achieved the grades they needed to progress to their preferred post-16 school or college. These include Hills Road Sixth Form College, Comberton Sixth Form, The Perse School, and the Stephen Perse Foundation.

There were some fantastic personal achievements and we would like to thank our dedicated staff team for all their hard work.



£10,000 Raised for Amazing Grace School

At Heritage, and through the work of the HCA we are delighted to be raising money for Amazing Grace School in Uganda. Since 2012 we have raised over £10,000 which has contributed towards a new flush toilet block, a new kitchen building, a surrounding boundary wall to prevent the children wandering off site, a new dorm for boys, solar power for the main dormitory blocks and most recently doors and windows for a classroom block.

This past academic year we have raised nearly £2,000 for Amazing Grace. Many thanks to all our wonderful HCA volunteers who have made this happen and to all our parents for their support through cake sales and special events.

A UK Director of Amazing Grace school said: *"I cannot thank the friends and family of Heritage School enough for the life changing difference that you have made to so many grateful children in Uganda. Education is quite simply the difference between subsistence farming at best to a reasonable standard of living. You have made that wonderful difference."*



New Additions to the Staff Team

Mrs Bethany Atkinson, Infant School TA

I am really excited to be returning to work at Heritage after maternity leave. I'm delighted to be a part of the school community and particularly enjoy helping run the Lower Prep After School club on Mondays. I have two young boys and I enjoy doing graphic design work in my free time.



Mrs Stephanie Austin, French, Year 9 – Year 11

Bonjour! I believe that learning a language is not all about vocabulary, verbs and grammar. It should be fun, enriching and valuable and I sincerely hope pupils will get a lot more from their French studies than just a grade. I moved from France to England in my early 20's and have been teaching French and Spanish in Cambridge ever since. Heritage has been part of our lives since 2011. Our three children have all been pupils at Heritage and our youngest, Emily is still here in Year 8!

Mrs Kat Deudney : French, Year 4 – Year 8

I am really looking forward to passing on my passion for languages to the children. I am excited to be working with staff and children in what seems a very special atmosphere. My husband, Gavin, and I have two wonderful children aged 10 and 12 (Gemma and Jack). In our free time we all enjoy playing and watching lots of sport; tennis is my main love, but I am also a very keen Sheffield United fan!



Mrs Sarah Dingley, Senior Drama

I am very much looking forward to working at Heritage and am very excited about the innovative, vibrant approach to education here. When I'm not teaching, I enjoy being with my family of three primary school aged children, walking, cycling and playing UNO! I also attempt, not always successfully, to grow more vegetables than weeds on my allotment.

Mrs Ruth Duffett, Year 2 Class Teacher

I have heard such amazing reports about Heritage School, and I am excited about joining such an incredible team of people, who are passionate about educating children using the distinctive principals of Charlotte Mason. Outside of school, I enjoy spending time with my husband and three teenage children. I also love travelling abroad, visiting art galleries, reading, drawing, painting, gardening and singing in a choir.



Mrs Julia Stevenson, Receptionist and Administrator

I am looking forward to getting to know everyone at Heritage. Please come to the School Office and say hello, I am always here to help. I have two daughters aged 17 and 14 and a 2 year old sausage dog called Dudley! In my spare time I enjoy playing the piano, reading and baking.



A Midsummer Night's Dream

Year 6 performed a magical and memorable rendition of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' on the final night of the Summer term.

The four lovers were skilfully played by Isla, Isabella, Tristan and Jonathan. Hermia and Helena's on-stage row was so convincing that it seemed incredulous to spot them chatting and laughing together after the performance; surely such harsh words could not be so quickly forgiven?!

Puck, played by Emilie, was particularly impish, and she interpreted her role as a meddling mischief-maker beautifully. Jacob was a jealous, powerful and interfering Oberon who brought tension to the play with his quarrel with Titania (played expertly by Betsy) as well as breaking and restoring order.

Bottom (Francesco) and Flute (Godfrey) raised eyebrows and had us all in stitches with their 'tragical tale' of Pyramus and Thisbe. Never before has a tutu and high-viz jacket been paired together with such panache!



Quince and his team should be applauded for their most amusing performances. The feisty fairies too brought their roles firmly into the 21st century and brought many a smile to the audience.

Duke Theseus and Hippolyta were wonderful hosts to their stage guests and the narrators delivered their lines with pace and vivacity. All the cast worked tirelessly and enthusiastically to make the play a truly wonderful performance. Congratulations to every child for their success. (Mrs Parkinson)

A Welcome from the HCA (Heritage Community Association)

The HCA seeks to help build community, to support the work of the school and to raise funds for both Heritage and Amazing Grace School.

We hope that by now everyone will have been welcomed by a Class Rep or a Committee Member. If not, please do get in touch – we would love to meet you! hca@heritageschool.org.uk

We hold lots of events, details of which can be found on the Wednesday email and on the Parent Portal. Please do save the date for our All Ages Ceilidh at 6.00pm on Saturday 2nd November.