



# ST HELEN *and* ST KATHARINE



Activities and Clubs  
2011 / 2012

# Beyond



## Introduction

At St Helen and St Katharine we place great emphasis on our broad extra-curricular programme. Life beyond the classroom is so important in offering pupils the opportunity to explore and extend their wider interests, to make friends across age groups and to build confidence. It is this combination which embodies the ethos of the school.

Life beyond the classroom here is full. A wide range of sport, clubs and societies, music, drama, educational visits and expeditions are available. We encourage the pupils to explore their interests and try new things. They can participate purely for fun, to broaden their interests or to follow their strengths and excel through

selective teams and groups, music and drama productions.

We aim to inspire them to develop their learning and experiences, to enjoy all that is on offer and provide them with the space and opportunity to make their own choices and find their own niche.

The dates and times are accurate at the time of printing but the extra-curricular programme will continue to develop and grow throughout the year. A 'living' version of 'Beyond' can be found on the school website with all the latest information. I hope the following pages will inspire the girls and help them to plan enjoyable, interesting and fulfilling lives beyond the classroom, in preparation for rewarding lives beyond school.

*Miss Rowan Edbrooke, Headmistress*



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# CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

A wide variety of clubs and societies are available. Catering for all year groups and from general interest to specialist subject areas, there is a club or society for everyone, designed to spark a new interest or develop an existing passion.

## Art and Design Technology

### CDT Club

Students have the opportunity to design and make their own project using a variety of materials and techniques. Projects range from mirror frames to storage units.

**Who:** Years 7 – 9  
**When:** Lunchtime  
**Where:** Technology Room  
**Staff i/c:** ACL

### Life Class

Linking directly to the AS and A2 art coursework, these classes offer an insight into the symbolic use of the figure in art. The courses provide a rigorous grounding in observation skills in drawing, painting and printmaking using traditional and experimental media in a range of different approaches.

**Who:** US1 and US2  
**When:** 4.15 – 6.15pm  
**Where:** Art Department  
**Staff i/c:** HEM and KJS

### Lower School & Yr 9 Art Club

General themes and projects are set each term for those who want a starting point. Independent work is encouraged and extensions to class work undertaken.

**Who:** Years 7 – 9  
**When:** Lunchtime  
**Where:** Junior Art Room  
**Staff i/c:** ASW

### Senior Art Club

An opportunity for pupils taking GCSE art and design to extend their classroom work, do specialist art homework, experiment with media and discuss progress.

**Who:** Years 10 – 11  
**When:** 4.15pm – until late bus  
**Where:** Senior Art Room  
**Staff i/c:** JCM

### Lower School Pottery Club

A range of exciting ceramics projects developing new skills.

**Who:** Years 7 – 8  
**When:** Lunchtime  
**Where:** Pottery  
**Staff i/c:** SMC



### Senior Pottery Club

Learn to use the potter's wheel and hand building projects.

**Who:** Year 9 +  
**When:** Lunchtime  
**Where:** Pottery  
**Staff i/c:** BQD

## BMAT Preparation Sessions

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Preparation sessions for those taking the Bio Medical Admissions Test (BMAT) in November 2011.

**Who:** Any US2 from St. Helen's, Larkmead, Fitzharry's or John Mason  
**When:** Tuesday, 12.30 – 1.10pm from mid September to early November 2011  
**Where:** Room B1  
**Staff i/c:** COB

## Chemistry Club

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This club offers pupils the opportunity to experience a wide range of fun and entertaining practical chemistry. There will be lots of hands-on laboratory work, including fire writing, fireworks, golden coins, silver mirrors and much more.

**Who:** Year 8  
**When:** Monday, 12.15pm  
**Where:** Room S1  
**Staff i/c:** GEL

## Christian Forum

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**Who:** All year groups  
**When:** Friday, 12.30 – 1.10pm  
**Where:** Various  
**Staff i/c:** SRK, COB and HQN

## Confirmation Preparation Classes

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Informal instruction with discussion about the Christian faith.

**Who:** Year 7+  
**When:** Lent Term: 9 weeks after school to include a day away on a Saturday  
**Where:** Vestry Room  
**Staff i/c:** JAT

## CREST

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Would you like a taste of being a real scientist, doing your own research? CREST is run by the British Science Association and is Britain's largest national award scheme for project work in science, technology, engineering and maths. Through CREST you can undertake your own creative project work in an area that interests you.

**Who:** Year 9  
**When:** Lunchtime, day tbc  
**Where:** Science Lab S1  
**Staff i/c:** TQB and CJH



## Debating Society

---

Debating is a dynamic and challenging activity and a fabulous skill to learn. Debating complements all subject choices and gives you an opportunity to discuss, and hear others discussing, the key ethical and topical issues of the day. We also enter teams in a number of competitions over the course of the year.

**Who:** Year 11, US1 and US2  
**When:** Thursday, 12.30pm  
**Where:** Lecture Theatre  
**Staff i/c:** LDH and CJN

## European Youth Parliament

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A debating competition with a difference! Teams take on the role of a Committee of the European Parliament and debate issues concerning the governance and role of the EU. Resolutions range from dealing with youth unemployment to curbing human trafficking. Regional and national competitions lead to the chance to represent the UK at an international session of the EYP. If you enjoy debating, have an interest in politics and current affairs and can speak French (or another European language) confidently then EYP could be for you!

**Who:** 10 pupils in US1  
**When:** From January, times tbc  
**Where:** Orchard Room  
**Staff i/c:** LDH

## Glee Club

---

Glee Club is inspired by the TV phenomenon "Glee". We learn commercial and current songs with simple group dance routines for fun and enjoy working as a team.

We aim to have one performance per term.

**Who:** Years 6 – 10  
**When:** Thursday, 12.40 – 1.10pm  
**Where:** Music Tech Room  
**Staff i/c:** JET

## Helicon Club

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A club for all ages interested in classical activities. No knowledge of Latin or Greek is required. Roman cooking and Greek vase painting, writing and performing in plays, games, films and jigsaw puzzles are typical pursuits carried out by club members.

**Who:** All year groups  
**When:** Lunchtimes (day tbc)  
**Where:** Room 23  
**Staff i/c:** Upper School pupils

## Lower School Debating

---

Debating is a dynamic and challenging activity and a fabulous skill to learn. An interest in current affairs and an understanding of politics are not a requirement but, even if you don't have them before you arrive, you'll soon develop them! We look forward to welcoming beginners and intermediate debaters, with the aim of improving your skills.

**Who:** Years 7 – 10  
**When:** Monday, 12.30pm  
**Where:** Lecture Theatre  
**Staff i/c:** ECH

## Knit Chicks

---

Knitting and handicrafts for all year groups. Come and learn a new craft or share your skills with other pupils.

**Who:** All year groups  
**When:** Monday, 12.05 – 1.10pm  
**Where:** Ground Floor Library  
**Staff i/c:** DSP and KAG

## Lego League Club

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Members design, build and program a robot from Mindstorms Lego which in entered into a national competition 'First Lego League' at the end of Michaelmas Term. Team members enjoy a trip to Lego land in Trinity Term.

**Who:** Years 8 – 11  
**When:** Lunchtime and some after school  
**Where:** CDT Room  
**Staff i/c:** DSJ and ACL

## Lower School Book Club

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Lower School Book Club is an opportunity for pupils to discuss their favourite books in a more relaxed setting. They can bring in their favourite books to share with others, make recommendations and swap over books. Sometimes we will pick a book and all read it together. We usually have cake or biscuits to enjoy during our discussions!

**Who:** Lower School  
**When:** Lunchtime  
**Where:** Library  
**Staff i/c:** ECH



## Lower School Creative Writing Club

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Lower School creative writers work together on a writing project each term. These have included story collections, magazines, and plays. We do a mixture of individual and collaborative writing. Lunchtime meetings involve some writing time and some discussion of work in progress. This is a time for imagination, inspiration and encouragement!

**Who:** Years 7 – 8  
**When:** Lunchtime  
**Where:** Room D14  
**Staff i/c:** FAM

## Middle School Literary Society

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A joint St Helen's and Abingdon School Society. We meet to talk about texts: prose, drama and poetry. Sometimes we respond creatively to texts or discuss the language and ideas within them.

**Who:** Years 9 – 11  
**When:** Wednesday, 4.15 – 5pm  
**Where:** St Helen's  
**Staff i/c:** HQN



## Modern Foreign Languages (MFL)

### Joint MFL Club

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A joint St Helen's and Abingdon School Club. An opportunity to explore a range of languages and cultures in a fun and sociable way. Parents must complete and sign a permission slip committing to a full half-term's attendance.

**Who:** Years 7 – 9  
**When:** Tuesday, 4.15 – 5pm  
**Where:** Abingdon School  
**Staff i/c:** LAH

### MFL Cinema Club

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The opportunity to eat your lunch whilst enjoying a foreign cinematographic classic. Just drop in. Suggestions of films welcome!

**Who:** Years 10 – US1  
**When:** Michaelmas and Lent Terms: Friday lunchtime  
**Where:** Room D13 at St Helen's  
**Staff i/c:** LAH



### Junior MFL Club

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Run by Upper School pupils, the Junior MFL Club is a light-hearted way to enjoy getting to know other languages and cultures whilst making new friends and being creative. There is no need to sign up, just come along and bring your friends too! Nibbles provided.

**Who:** Years 5 – 7  
**When:** Lunchtimes, day tbc  
**Where:** St Helen's  
**Staff i/c:** US2 pupils

### Senior MFL Society

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An opportunity for like minded sixth formers from surrounding schools to socialise and discuss topical linguistic and cultural issues. Events will be advertised in advance.

**Who:** US1 and US2  
**When:** At least twice per term  
**Where:** Largely based at St Helen's or Abingdon School  
**Staff i/c:** LAH and ACL



## Open University Young Applicants in Schools Scheme (YASS)

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The YASS scheme is designed to challenge academically able sixth form pupils, to provide a taste of university level study and to develop their independent learning and research skills. Students can choose from a wide range of Open University short courses including: science, mathematics, the arts and social sciences. Students work independently towards their course assessment, supported by an Open University tutor. All courses are certificated and enable the students to deepen and extend their subject knowledge beyond the A Level curriculum and demonstrated key skills such as motivation, independent learning, research and communication skills.

**Who:** US1 and US2  
**When:** Begins March for US1  
**Where:** Upper School Common Room  
**Staff i/c:** AMM

## Parnassus Society

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Parnassus is a joint society for Upper School students of St Helen's and Abingdon School interested in classical subjects. Films, debates and lectures are typical activities carried out by society members.

**Who:** Upper School  
**When:** 5.30pm (2/3 times a term)  
**Where:** Lecture Theatre  
**Staff i/c:** JFT

## Philosophy Club (Junior)

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An opportunity for pupils to explore different issues in philosophy including beauty, truth, justice and God.

**Who:** Years 5 – 7  
**When:** Monday lunchtime  
**Where:** Room D15  
**Staff i/c:** KPM

## Precious Metal Clay

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Working with metals and other materials to design and produce jewellery.

**Who:** Years 10 – 11  
**When:** Lunchtime  
**Where:** Technology Room  
**Staff i/c:** MAL and ACL

## Psychology Film Club

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To support and extend those pupils studying Psychology.

**Who:** US1 and US2  
**When:** After school, day tbc  
**Where:** Lecture Theatre  
**Staff i/c:** CCS

## Schools Challenge

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A general knowledge schools quiz competition based on the TV programme University Challenge. Two teams will be put forward for the regional competition in November, including two 'junior' members (Years 7 – 10) and two 'senior' members (Years 11 – US2). If you know what a tine is, can identify three countries which border Brazil or know how to make laver bread, come and join the try outs at the beginning of the Michaelmas term.

**Who:** 8 pupils from Year 7 – US2  
**When:** 12.30pm  
**Where:** Room D14  
**Staff i/c:** LDH

*NB please still come to tryouts even if you can't answer those questions – there will definitely be some that you can!*

## School Council

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Meeting of school council reps to discuss issues concerning the running of the school, school meals, school uniform, buses etc.

**Who:** Years 5 – US2  
**When:** Wednesday lunchtime, bi weekly  
**Where:** Lecture Theatre  
**Staff i/c:** LJA

## Shutterbugs

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Shutterbugs is a digital photography, film and animation club providing opportunities to learn new techniques and work with software not taught in ICT lessons. Shutterbugs will operate as a workshop, you may attend occasionally or on a regular basis depending on your interests.

**Who:** Years 7 – US2  
**When:** Friday, 12.30pm  
**Where:** Room IT1  
**Staff i/c:** PAB and CWB

## Silversmithing

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Working with metals to design and produce jewellery.

**Who:** Years 10 – 11  
**When:** Lunchtime  
**Where:** Technology Room  
**Staff i/c:** MAL and ACL

## The Times Spelling Bee Competition

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The Times Spelling Bee tests the skills of Year 7 pupils from all over the country. The Spelling Play-Off is a team event where teams spell words in turn and are eliminated for an incorrect answer. In the Quick-Fire Challenge, the team must spell as many words as possible in two minutes.

**Who:** 4 pupils in Year 7  
**When:** From March  
**Where:** LDH's office  
**Staff i/c:** LDH

## Upper School Extension English

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The Extension groups offer Upper School pupils the chance to enrich their A Level study with a broader and more challenging range of texts. They are particularly aimed at those who think they might like to apply for English at university.

**Who:** US2 (Michaelmas Term)  
US1 (Lent and Trinity Term)  
**When:** Lunchtimes, twice a week, days tbc  
**Where:** Room D2  
**Staff i/c:** FAM and CJN

## Young Enterprise

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Pupils run their own company for a year designing, producing and marketing products. Starting with market research, to define product ideas, they put together a business plan and a management structure which will enable them to run a successful company. They take part in trade fairs and area presentations which result in companies gaining awards in a range of aspects.

**Who:** Years 10 and 12  
**When:** Tuesday and Thursday, after school  
**Where:** Orchard Room or Meeting Room  
**Staff i/c:** CAM and KAC



## DRAMA

Drama is a thriving part of school life. Productions take place throughout the year that allow pupils the opportunity to take part in technical support, design, stage management and front of house, as well as acting. Productions, where possible, join forces with Abingdon School. Original play writing is encouraged and supported through annual play writing competitions, the winning entries being staged as lunchtime performances. Upper School pupils are invited to take on the role of Assistant Director for a specific production and work alongside a drama teacher, Director. A busy calendar of theatre trips to London, Stratford and other regional theatres support those studying GCSE Drama and A Level Theatre Studies including the Shakespeare Institute where pupils research original performance conditions in the 16th and 17th centuries.

### Audition Workshops

Individual sessions are offered to anyone who is planning to audition for National Youth Theatre, drama school or university. Suggestions for appropriate speeches are given by the teacher and the selection is made by the student. It is an opportunity to build confidence, develop skill and get feedback from staff. NB It is not open to students auditioning for a school play.

**Who:** Years 9 – US2  
**When:** A lunchtime when you are free  
**Where:** Studio Theatre  
**Staff i/c:** OLH and JOW



### Drama Clubs

Weekly drama clubs for each year group are offered at lunchtimes, supported by drama prefects, to provide opportunities for pupils to be involved in drama beyond the curriculum. The clubs showcase their work at various points of the year in lunchtime performances.

**Who:** Years 5 – 8  
**When:** Monday, Thursday, Friday lunchtimes  
**Where:** Studio Theatre  
**Staff i/c:** JBW, SHM, MQM

### Film Club

Films of particular resonance and interest are shown to a small group of Upper School pupils on a weekly basis. Notes on key features of the film choice are handed out prior to viewing and a seminar style discussion is held post viewing.

**Who:** US1 and US2  
**When:** On a day that suits everyone after school  
**Where:** Lecture Theatre  
**Staff i/c:** OLH and AVV

### Introduction to Japanese Language

Prior to the Japan tour in July 2012, Japanese language and culture classes will be offered to those taking part.

**Who:** US1 and US2  
**When:** Tuesday and Wednesday after school from Jan 2012  
**Where:** Lecture Theatre  
**Staff i/c:** OLH

### Stage Fighting Workshops

Techniques for hand to hand combat, skirmishing and grappling and basic weaponry are taught by a member of the British Academy of Dramatic Combat

**Who:** US1 and US2  
**When:** Occasional after school workshops  
**Where:** Studio Theatre  
**Staff i/c:** OLH





## Drama Productions and Activities for 2011 / 2012

	Description	Who
October	<b>Dido and Aeneas</b> <i>Purcell's iconic tragic opera transported to the 1860s and the American Civil War.</i>	Years 11, US1 and US2
December	<b>Cabaret</b> <i>A joint senior production set in Berlin in 1930s, with well known songs such as 'Willkommen', 'Tomorrow belongs to Me' and 'Cabaret'.</i>	Years 11, US1 and US2
November/ December	<b>Abingdon Arts Festival*</b> <i>Four joint short productions in a range of styles and genres.</i>	Years 11, US1 and US2
February	<b>Twelve Angry Jurors</b> <i>A student-directed production about a jury who has to agree unanimously whether a boy accused of murder is guilty or not guilty.</i>	Years 9 – 10
May	<b>Lower School Original Production</b> <i>After attending a script writing course, Mrs Mason is considering taking the plunge and writing an original piece for this year's Lower School Production.</i>	Years 7 – 9
June	<b>Junior Department Summer Production</b> <i>An opportunity for Years 5 and 6 to demonstrate their developing drama skills in their own production.</i>	Years 5 and 6
July	<b>Mythology Festival</b> <i>Every student in Year 7 will take part in a performance based on a myth, working in groups.</i>	Year 7
	<b>Shakespeare Festival</b> <i>Run by the English department with support from the Drama department, every student in Year 9 will contribute to a class performance of a Shakespeare play.</i>	Year 9
	<b>Tour to Japan</b> <i>Twenty students from Abingdon and St Helen's 6th form will go on a 12 day tour to Nagahama, Gifu, Japan to train with the Tonda Bunraku Puppet Company and perform a piece of devised work.</i>	US1 and US2

\*Drama productions that comprise the Arts Festival, Lower School and GCSE productions will be announced in Michaelmas Term.

# MUSIC

Musical activities lie at the heart of the school, with hundreds of pupils involved in individual music lessons. The Music department aims to provide opportunities for all pupils to participate and perform music, whatever their level of experience and expertise. Everyone who learns a musical instrument or has singing lessons in school or outside is strongly encouraged to join a group, ensemble or school choir. Groups and ensembles are directed by members of staff, visiting music staff and some by senior pupils.

## Big Band

The Big Band performs at the Christmas Revue and at the summer Jazz afternoon, covering a range of traditional and contemporary Jazz.

**Who:** Any jazz players, Grade 5 level and above  
**When:** Friday, 12.40 – 1.15pm  
**Where:** YPH  
**Staff i/c:** NRS

## Brass Band

Open to younger brass players, the brass band performs at the February and June concerts.

**Who:** Any brass players, beginners to Grade 5 level  
**When:** Friday, 8.30 – 9.10am  
**Where:** Studio  
**Staff i/c:** FIP

## Camerata

Camerata gives our most advanced string players an opportunity to tackle established string repertoire. They have taken part in tours abroad and in joint ventures with Magdalen College School and Abingdon School.

**Who:** String players, Grade 7 level and above (by invitation)  
**When:** Wednesday, 4.20 - 5.00pm  
**Where:** YPH  
**Staff i/c:** HMB

## Cantores

Cantores is open to anyone in Year 9 upwards who enjoys singing. They perform a variety of musical styles at a number of different events and are the current holders of the Oxford Music Festival choir cup! They have taken part in tours abroad and featured on several CD recordings, available from the music department.

**Who:** Year 9+  
**When:** Wednesday, 12.05 – 12.40pm  
**Where:** YPH  
**Staff i/c:** HMR

## Chamber Music

A large number of music ensembles are coached by visiting music staff. The groups have a special concert in February and participate in the Oxford Music Festival, Abingdon Music Festival and school music festivals. A number of groups are selected to enter the national Pro Corda competition each year, and ensembles regularly reach the semi final and finals stages.

**Who:** By invitation  
**When:** Various mornings and lunchtimes  
**Where:** Music department  
**Staff i/c:** HMB

## Chamber Choir

Performing a variety of music, the chamber choir performs at school concerts and music festivals.

**Who:** Upper School  
**When:** day tbc  
**Where:** Music department  
**Staff i/c:** Upper School pupils

## Chapel Choir

The Chapel Choir leads the school in weekly services, termly eucharists and special occasions such as Nine Lessons and Carols and the Confirmation service. The choir also performs in school concerts, the Oxford Music Festival and has taken part in tours abroad and featured on CD recordings, available from the Music department.

**Who:** Year 8+ (by audition)  
**When:** Monday, Tuesday and Friday, 8.40am;  
Tuesday, 12.05 – 12.45pm  
**Where:** Chapel  
**Staff i/c:** AJK



## Clarinet Choir

For all experienced clarinetists, performing at the Chamber music concert and senior concerts.

**Who:** Clarinet players, Grade 5 level and above  
**When:** Monday, 8.30 – 9.10am  
**Where:** Music department  
**Staff i/c:** Upper School pupils

## Composing Club

A lunchtime club for anyone interested in learning more about musical composition and in becoming more confident in handling the Sibelius program.

**Who:** All year groups  
**When:** Friday, 12.40 – 1.15pm  
**Where:** Music department  
**Staff i/c:** AJK

## Concert Band

The Concert Band is for our most advanced wind and percussion players and has taken part in tours abroad and featured on several CD recordings, available from the music department.

**Who:** Wind players, Grade 5 level and above (by audition)  
**When:** Thursday, 4.20 – 5.00pm  
**Where:** YPH  
**Staff i/c:** FIP

## First Orchestra

First Orchestra performs in the two Senior Concerts each year in November and May, often giving concerto opportunities to advanced music scholars. They have taken part in recent tours to Belgium (2006), Tuscany (2008) and Germany (2010) and have also featured on several CD recordings, available from the music department.

**Who:** Orchestral players,  
Grade 6 level and above (by audition)  
**When:** Thursday, 4.25 – 6.00pm  
**Where:** YPH  
**Staff i/c:** HMR

## Flute Group

For all flute players, performing at the February and June concerts and school music festivals.

**Who:** Flute players, beginner to Grade 5 level  
**When:** Wednesday, 8.30 – 9.10am  
**Where:** Music department  
**Staff i/c:** Upper School pupils



## Jazz Ensembles

The Jazz Ensembles perform at a variety of events and always feature at school concerts and the summer Jazz afternoon.

**Who:** All year groups  
**When:** Various lunchtimes  
**Where:** Music department  
**Staff i/c:** NRS

## Joint Choral Society

The JCS includes pupils, parents and staff from both schools and responsibility for its organisation alternates between schools. The November 2011 concert will be directed by staff from Abingdon School.

**Who:** Year 9+ (boys and girls)  
**When:** Tuesday, 4.15pm and Wednesday, 4.00pm  
**Where:** St Helen's, Room M14 and Abingdon School  
**Staff i/c:** St Helen's and Abingdon School music staff

## Junior Choir

A new choir, performing a variety of material, for any junior school pupil who enjoys singing.

**Who:** Years 5 – 6  
**When:** Thursday, 12.20 – 12.50pm  
**Where:** YPH  
**Staff i/c:** AAS

## Lower School Choir

The Lower School Choir is open to anyone in Year 7 and 8 who enjoys singing. They perform at the Christingle service in December, the Oxford Music Festival in January and at school concerts in February and June.

**Who:** Years 7 – 8  
**When:** Tuesday, 12.05 – 12.40pm  
**Where:** YPH  
**Staff i/c:** HMR

## Music Aural Classes

A number of classes designed to prepare pupils for the aural requirements of ABRSM examinations.

**Who:** All year groups  
**When:** Various mornings and lunchtimes  
**Where:** Music department  
**Staff i/c:** Music staff

## Music Theory Classes

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A number of classes covering the basics of music theory and preparing pupils for ABRSM grade 5 theory. An advanced (post Grade 5) class is also available on request.

**Who:** All year groups  
**When:** Monday, Thursday and Friday, 12.40pm  
**Where:** Room M20  
**Staff i/c:** HMR

## Opera Club

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This club will show screenings of well-known and more obscure operas for anyone who would like to broaden their knowledge of this musical genre.

**Who:** All year groups  
**When:** One evening per month tbc  
**Where:** Music department  
**Staff i/c:** PKG

## Saxophone Ensembles

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The saxophone ensembles perform at a variety of events and always feature at school concerts and the summer Jazz afternoon.

**Who:** There are various groups of differing size and abilities  
**When:** Various mornings and lunchtimes  
**Where:** Music department  
**Staff i/c:** PAF



## Senior Brass Ensemble

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For all experienced brass players, performing at the senior concerts.

**Who:** Any brass players of approximately Grade 5 level and above  
**When:** Thursday, 8.30 – 9.10am  
**Where:** Music department  
**Staff i/c:** FIP

## Sight-singing Club

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This club is for pupils preparing for ABRSM examinations and those who just wish to improve their sight-singing skills.

**Who:** All year groups  
**When:** From January 2012, day and time tbc  
**Where:** Music department  
**Staff i/c:** PKG

## Sinfonia

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Sinfonia performs a variety of light and accessible music, giving performances in two school concerts each year.

**Who:** Any instrumentalist of any standard  
**When:** Monday, 4.30 – 5.00pm  
**Where:** YPH  
**Staff i/c:** AJK

## Sinfonietta

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Sinfonietta tackles a mixture of standard orchestral repertoire and lighter material and they perform twice a year, in February and June.

**Who:** Any orchestral players from approximately Grade 3 level to Grade 5 level (by audition)  
**When:** Tuesday, 4.20 – 5.00pm  
**Where:** YPH  
**Staff i/c:** HMB

## Tea Concerts

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The Tea Concerts are an informal concert series which take place in the school Chapel. Anyone of any standard is welcome to sign up for each concert, whether they learn in or out of school.

**Who:** All year groups  
**When:** Three Fridays every term, 5.00 – 6.00pm  
**Where:** School Chapel  
**Staff i/c:** Music staff

## Turn Up and Play

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This will be a very informal opportunity for anyone to come and perform a piece or even part of a piece. The aim is to build confidence and help to prepare for any other upcoming performances.

**Who:** All year groups  
**When:** Friday, 12.05 – 12.40pm  
**Where:** Piano Room  
**Staff i/c:** EFH

## Vocal Ensembles

---

There are a number of vocal ensembles which tackle advanced choral and close harmony repertoire, performing at a variety of events.

**Who:** Pupils having singing lessons in school, by invitation  
**When:** Various mornings and lunchtimes  
**Where:** Music department  
**Staff i/c:** PKG

## Wind Band

---

The Wind Band performs at the February and June school concerts and members enjoy a range of music with an emphasis on enjoyment.

**Who:** Any wind players from beginner to approximately Grade 5 level  
**When:** Friday, 4.20 – 5.00pm  
**Where:** YPH  
**Staff i/c:** PAF

## Music Activities for 2011 / 2012

	Morning	Time	Lunchtime	Time	After school	Time
Monday	Clarinet Choir	8.30am	Music Theory (HMR)	12.40pm	Sinfonia (AJK)	4.30pm
	Chapel Choir (AJK)	8.40am				
Tuesday	Chapel Choir (AJK)	8.40am	Lower School Choir (HMR)	12.05pm	Joint Choral Society	4.15pm
			Chapel Choir (AJK)	12.05pm	Sinfonietta (HMB)	4.20pm
Wednesday	Flute Group	8.30am	Cantores (HMR)	12.05pm	Joint Choral Society	4.00pm
					Camerata (JCS)	4.20pm
Thursday	Senior Brass Ensemble (FIP)	8.30am	Junior Choir (AAS)	12.20pm	Concert Band (FIP)	4.20pm
			Glee Club (JET)	12.40pm	First Orchestra Strings (HMR)	4.20pm
			Music Theory Class (HMR)	12.40pm	First Orchestra (HMR)	5.15pm
Friday	Brass Band (FIP)	8.30am	'Turn up and Play' (EFH)	12.05pm	Wind Band (PAF)	4.20pm
	Chapel Choir (AJK)	8.40am	Big Band (NRS)	12.40pm	Tea Concerts (Various)	5.00pm
			Composing Club (AJK)	12.40pm		
			Music Theory Class (HMR)	12.40pm		

NB Chamber music groups will meet daily (mornings and lunchtimes) to play together, rehearse for concerts, festivals and competitions.

# SPORT

Sport and Physical Education play a major role in life at St Helen's. We strive to provide opportunities for every girl to enjoy participating in a wide range of activities both within and in addition to the curriculum, whether it be for competition, skill development or recreation. A busy and inclusive extra-curricular programme allows all pupils to participate and reach their potential in activities that they enjoy. Clubs in all age groups are open to every girl and participation is actively encouraged. There are many opportunities for pupils to play and perform in matches and competitions both within school and through fixtures, competitions and local, regional and national tournaments. Days and times of clubs for each year group are published in detail at the start of each term and can be found on the School website and in the PE Department.

## Athletics

Athletics clubs operate throughout the Trinity Term and pupils compete in a range of fixtures with local schools.

**Who:** All year groups  
**When:** Trinity Term: 2 lunchtimes and an after school session each week  
**Where:** Sports fields  
**Staff i/c:** SRE

## Badminton

Badminton is played competitively in school teams. Mixed badminton also takes place with Abingdon School. Both pupils' and mixed teams compete in local leagues.

**Who:** Year 9+ with Abingdon School  
**When:** Michaelmas and Lent Terms: Friday, 4.15pm  
**Where:** Sports Hall, St Helen's  
**Staff i/c:** DBJ

## Basketball

Basketball is a very popular sport played in Middle and Upper School. Teams compete against other schools and in the county league.

**Who:** Year 9+  
**When:** Michaelmas and Lent Terms: lunchtimes by age group  
**Where:** Sports Hall  
**Staff i/c:** DBJ

## Cross-country

Running and cross-country prove to be popular to supplement fitness training as well as being important activities in their own right. Pupils have the opportunity to compete in cross-country fixtures against other schools and we are currently investigating opportunities for biathlon.

**Who:** All year groups  
**When:** Michaelmas and Lent Terms after school  
**Where:** Sports fields and local area  
**Staff i/c:** SLW

## Dance

Dance will be introduced into the curriculum for Years 5 – 8 from September 2011. Dance clubs will also be introduced through the year using an external dance coach. A major dance production will be staged during the autumn of 2012.

**Who:** All year groups  
**When:** After school  
**Where:** Dance Studio / Gym  
**Staff i/c:** SLW



## Fencing

Fencing takes place after school for all ages, trained by an external coach.

**Who:** All year groups  
**When:** Thursday, 5.15 – 6.15pm  
**Where:** Gym  
**Staff i/c:** External coach

## Fitness Suite

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Fitness suite; offers opportunities for individual training and fitness sessions.

**Who:** Year 9+  
**When:** Open every day to card holders, formal sessions for Year 9 + at lunchtimes  
**Where:** Fitness suite  
**Staff i/c:** JQC

## Football

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Now an established club operating in the Michaelmas and Lent terms. Football is an increasingly popular sport with a number of local school fixtures and training towards the county tournament.

**Who:** Years 7 – 8  
**When:** Friday lunchtime  
**Where:** Sports field  
**Staff i/c:** DBJ

## Gymnastics

---

Gymnastics is a rapidly developing sport for St Helen's. This year, we are offering clubs for all year groups and are planning to take our first competitive squads to local and regional competitions.

**Who:** All year groups  
**When:** Clubs after school, squad training at lunchtimes by age group  
**Where:** Gym  
**Staff i/c:** SLW

## Lacrosse

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Lacrosse is the major winter sport at St Helen's. Coaching is provided by specialist lacrosse coaches and regular fixtures against local schools provide ample opportunity to develop match play skills. Junior and Senior teams also compete at area and national level. St Helen's pupils regularly achieve county, area and national representation.

**Who:** All year groups  
**When:** Michaelmas and Lent Terms:  
Clubs and squad practices by age group:  
lunchtimes and after school  
**Where:** Sports fields / Sports Hall / Radley College  
**Staff i/c:** SEK



## Netball

---

Netball is another major winter sport with specialist coaching and teams of all age groups play regular fixtures against local schools. St Helen's hosts area tournaments and have enjoyed significant success at county level with county champions at all levels over recent years.

**Who:** All year groups  
**When:** Michaelmas and Lent Terms:  
Clubs and squad practices by age group:  
lunchtimes and after school  
**Where:** Sports Hall  
**Staff i/c:** SLW



## Rounders

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Rounders is a major summer sport, played at the highest competitive levels, with St Helen's pupils currently represented at county, area and national level. Teams play regular fixtures against local schools and compete in national competitions.

**Who:** Years 5 – 10  
**When:** Trinity Term: Clubs and squad practices by age group: lunchtimes  
**Where:** Sports fields  
**Staff i/c:** SLW and DBJ



## Sailing

---

Pupils learning to sail do so in pairs in Picos. We also have use of Laser Funboats and Fireflies depending on conditions and ability of sailor.

- Who:** This is open to any-one in the school but numbers are limited.
- When:** September – October and the Summer Term, one evening per week after school, usually either Tuesday or Wednesday, from 4.15 – 6.30pm
- Where:** We take pupils to Farmoor Reservoir after school in the minibus. At the end of the session pupils can be collected from Farmoor or we can take them back to school.
- Staff i/c:** CAR

## Swimming

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Swimming takes place throughout the year using Abingdon School pool and, in the Trinity term, St Helen's outdoor pool. During the year opportunities are available for competitive swimming in a number of inter school swimming galas.

- Who:** All year groups, Swim Squad by invitation
- When:** After school, day tbc
- Where:** Abingdon School and St Helen's
- Staff i/c:** SLW



## Tae-Kwondo

---

Tae-Kwondo is an after school club, open to all age groups leading to grading and opportunities to compete outside school.

- Who:** All year groups
- When:** Friday, 4.20 – 5.20pm
- Where:** Gym
- Staff i/c:** External Coach



## Tennis

---

Tennis is a major summer sport with a full programme of coaching available during PE lessons and lunchtimes, provided by specialist tennis coaches.

- Who:** All year groups
- When:** Trinity Term: by age group: clubs and squad practices at lunchtimes and after school
- Where:** Hard Tennis Courts
- Staff i/c:** SLW

## Trampoline Club

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Trampoline Club is open to pupils of all abilities and provides the opportunity for competition vs local schools.

- Who:** Year 9+
- When:** Lunchtimes by age group
- Where:** Gym
- Staff i/c:** SLW

# EXPEDITIONS

First-hand experience is an essential part of developing life-long interests. We therefore provide a range of expeditions both in length and scope which offer opportunities for personal development for all ages, aptitudes and interests.



## Art Trip to Cornwall

All year 10 artists stay in a youth hostel outside Penzance, which has links with Tate St Ives, to spend 4 days working on an environmental project linked to their GCSE coursework. Pupils produce a finished sketch book having visited galleries, museums and gardens which are submitted with coursework for external moderation at the end of Year 11.

**Who:** Year 10  
**When:** Four days at the end of June, beginning of July  
**Where:** West Cornwall  
**Staff i/c:** JCM, ACL, BQD and EAC

## Art Trip to Italy

Upper School pupils visit Florence for 4 days to work on projects linked to their AS and A2 coursework. This year the visit is aimed at pupils studying Italian, Art or Art History and aims to enrich the A Level curriculum by combining art and language.

**Who:** US1 and US2  
**When:** September  
**Where:** Florence  
**Staff i/c:** JCM, EAC and JEC

## Biology Field Trip US1

A morning of ecology fieldwork for all US1 biologists.

**Who:** All US1 biologists  
**When:** March 2012  
**Where:** Harcourt Arboretum, Nuneham Courtney  
**Staff i/c:** AMM

## Biology Field Trip US2

A residential field trip to Dale Fort, Pembrokeshire for all US2 biologists.

**Who:** All US2 biologists  
**When:** 31st August – 3rd September 2011  
**Where:** Dale Fort Field Centre, Pembrokeshire  
**Staff i/c:** COB

## Berlin Trip

Year 11 History trip to Berlin to visit some of the key historical sites in and around Berlin relating to the Modern World GCSE course they are studying. Sites visited include Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp, The Wannsee Villa, Jewish Museum and Stasi prison.

**Who:** Year 11  
**When:** 13th – 16th December  
**Where:** Berlin, Germany  
**Staff i/c:** DJS and LMG

## Château Trip

Four day trip to Château du Broutel in France, for Year 9 to get to know their new tutor groups. Time spent visiting Ypres, eating out, shopping for lunch in Carrefour, eating crepes in St Valery, playing rounders on the beach and speaking French! Visits also take place to the battlefields of the Somme and Ypres as part of the history curriculum. Using drama and poetry in the grounds of the Château, we reflect on the horrors of war.

**Who:** Year 9  
**When:** October  
**Where:** France  
**Staff i/c:** CMD



## The Duke of Edinburgh's Award



This nationally recognised scheme is identified by employers as the most desirable non-academic qualification in the UK. The Award operates at three levels: Bronze, Silver and Gold, each requiring participants to complete activities from each of the following categories: Volunteering, Skills, Physical Recreation and Expeditions. At Gold a residential element is also incorporated.

Each level of the Award requires organisation, commitment and perseverance to ensure completion. Support is provided by the D of E office in school to advise and guide participants through their chosen Award. Expedition training, practice and assessment is provided in school for Bronze and Silver Awards, Gold participants are encouraged to participate in expeditions organised by external providers in Wild Country Areas.

### DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD EXPEDITION DATES 2012

	Description	Award
January	Expedition training	Bronze
March	Practice expeditions	Bronze
	Expedition training	Silver
May	Qualifying expedition	Bronze
June	Practice expedition	Silver
July	Qualifying expedition	Silver

**Who:** Year 9+  
**Staff i/c:** GCW and CAW

## French, Spanish, German and Italian exchanges

Designed to enhance pupils' linguistic and cultural knowledge, the exchanges run every year. Participating pupils are carefully 'matched' to like-minded pupils in our partner schools. The itinerary comprises a combination of time spent with the host family, at the partner school, and as a group on cultural visits.

**Who:** Year 9 (French); Year 11 (Spanish and German with Abingdon School; Italian)  
**When:** *French visit:* Lent *Host:* Easter hols  
*Spanish/Italian visit:* Michaelmas *Host:* Lent  
*German visit:* Lent *Host:* Michaelmas  
**Where:** Paris, Santiago de Compostela, Bielefeld and Novara  
**Staff i/c:** LAH, CPF, GAC and JEC

## Geography Field Trip

Year 10 three day field trip focused on developing investigative skills. Pupils study river processes and features, investigate river water quality, measure long shore drift at Porlock Bay and study the impact of tourism at Minehead. Geography in action!

**Who:** Year 10  
**When:** 14 – 16 May 2012  
**Where:** Nettlecombe Court, Somerset  
**Staff i/c:** RAD

## Kilve Court

The annual residential trip to Kilve, Somerset, is one of the most eagerly awaited events in Year 7 and the one which many older pupils look back on with real fondness. Set in the Quantock Hills, an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, these 3 days are spent in a variety of outdoors activities. Having visited Cheddar Gorge to complete Geography fieldwork, pupils settle in at Kilve with a beach visit and night orienteering. Over the following days, pupils challenge themselves with a range of sports, including climbing and abseiling, mountain boarding, archery and the much-discussed Fantasy Trail!

**Who:** Year 7  
**When:** 14th – 17th March 2012  
**Where:** Kilve Court, Somerset  
**Staff i/c:** KLT

## Ski Trip

This year the ski trip will be taking beginners and advanced skiers/snowboarders to explore the mountains of Saalbach in Austria.

**Who:** Year 8 and 10  
**When:** 15th – 22nd December 2011  
**Where:** Saalbach, Austria  
**Staff i/c:** DBJ

## Swaziland Expedition 2012

Travelling to Swaziland, the pupils main objective will be to build a store room at the Majembi School for orphans, to add to the kitchen that was build on the last expedition. The group will also build a wall and fencing around part of the Shewula Mountain Camp. The trip will involve a safari, overnight trek and conservation project.

**Who:** Year 11 and US1  
**When:** 13th July – 6th August 2012  
**Where:** Swaziland  
**Staff i/c:** CAR

## Upper School Trip to 'Your future in Europe'

The European event to inform, enthuse and inspire young minds, featuring a fantastic range of speakers - from leading politicians to experts in European business, economics and culture. Pupils have the opportunity to quiz speakers in a Question Time session featuring a panel of leading MPs and journalists. Whilst in Paris, pupils also visit some of the iconic sights of the city.

**Who:** US1 and US2  
**When:** First weekend in February – once every two years  
**Where:** Palais des Congres, Paris  
**Staff i/c:** LJA and KLT

## LECTURE SERIES

The aim of this series is to broaden and enrich the pupils understanding of subjects beyond the standard curriculum. This may be subject specific lectures or the wider canvas provided by school's award winning higher education, careers and general studies programme.

### Animazing

As part of extension work beyond the science curriculum Steve Bridger and his animals visit school to bring, quite literally, the natural world to life!

**Who:** All of Year 7  
**When:** Michaelmas Term date tbc  
**Where:** Room B1  
**Staff i/c:** COB



### Abingdon Schools' Joint Author Visit

An annual event involving local Abingdon schools. A top author is invited to entertain and inspire more than 600 pupils throughout the day.

**Who:** Junior and Lower School pupils  
**When:** 9th February 2012  
**Where:** Abingdon School  
(St Helen's will host the 2013 event)  
**Staff i/c:** DSP and KAG

### Junior and Lower School St Kate's Day Author Visit

Informal author talk with the opportunity of purchasing books and getting them signed.

**Who:** Years 5 – 8  
**When:** St Kate's Day, morning  
**Where:** Lecture Theatre  
**Staff i/c:** DSP, KAG, EMD

### Biology Lectures

Monthly biology lectures for any US1 and US2 that would like to attend.

**Who:** US1 and US2  
**When:** One per month, 4pm, dates tbc  
**Where:** Abingdon School  
**Staff i/c:** COB



### British Psychological Society

We will be attend the renown British Psychological Society lectures to provide extension material and broaden thinking.

**Who:** US1 and US2  
**When:** December  
**Where:** London  
**Staff i/c:** CCS



## Careers and Higher Education

St Helen's offers an award winning Higher Education and Careers programme which aims to combine guidance and support through careers understanding and advice. This begins as part of the PSHE programme in Year 7 and continues to develop in depth and content throughout the school. There is a one to one interview programme in Year 11 and in US1, to offer advice on AS choices, university and careers research and work experience placements. A full programme of higher education and careers advice and guidance is in place throughout Upper School in support of the university application process, practice interviews, gap year and career planning.

### Highlights of the programme include:

#### JANUARY:

Higher Education Evening for parents and pupils in US1 to give detailed information on applications. This year there will be an additional focus on opportunities to study abroad.

#### FEBRUARY:

UCAS Event. This is open to all schools, maintained and independent, from across the County. The topic this year will be Oxbridge applications.

#### MARCH:

Abingdon Independent Schools' Careers Convention, hosted by St Helen's, in conjunction with Abingdon School and Our Lady's Abingdon. This event includes a range of guest speakers and representatives from approximately 60 different careers areas who are available to discuss their career paths.

#### JUNE/JULY:

Work Experience. This is compulsory for one week for pupils in Year 11 although many opt for two weeks. Pupils in Upper School are also encouraged to gain further work experience in order to enhance their university applications.

**Who:** All year groups

**Staff i/c:** JSA

## Upper School General Studies

### US1

This academic year US1 will undertake a revolving 8 week programme of Critical Thinking and Life Skills. Based on the Critical Thinking AS specification, pupils will be taught critical thinking in form groups enabling ample opportunity for discussion and debate. Life skills lecture topics will include finance, presentation and study skills and emergency first aid.

### US2

The US2 lecture programme\*, including three lectures jointly with Abingdon School, provides the opportunity to listen to high profile external speakers on subjects as diverse as graduate recruitment, prison and criminal justice system and personal safety issues.

### Highlights for this academic year include:

- Steph Ahrens, Head of European Graduate Recruitment at Morgan Stanley
- Nigel Walker, Suzi Lamplugh Trust
- Erwin James, Guardian Columnist on prison and criminal justice issues.
- Camilla Carr, former hostage in Chechnya.

**Who:** US1 and US2

**Where:** Lecture Theatre and Form Rooms

**Staff i/c:** SJH

*\*Some lectures also open to US1*



## St Helen and St Katharine staff 2011 / 12

AAS	Miss Sideris	DSJ	Mrs Jackson	JET	Mrs Thomas	MQM	Mrs Mason
ACL	Mrs Langston	DSP	Mrs Pocock-Bell	JFT	Mrs Twaits	NRC	Miss Copeman
AJK	Mr Knowles	EAC	Ms Cobb	JGH	Mr Hunt	NRS	Mr Somerville
AMM	Mrs Mobbs	ECH	Mrs Haines	JKE	Mrs Edwards	OLH	Mr Hogben
ASW	Miss Wardell	EFH	Miss Hayes	JNW	Mr Williams	PAB	Mr Burnett
AVV	Mr Verjee	EMD	Ms Dickens	JOW	Miss Watt	PAF	Mr Foster
BES	Mrs Stublej	EMP	Mrs Poole	JQC	Mrs Chilvers	PKG	Miss Grant
BQD	Mr Drew	FAM	Dr Macdonald	JRC	Mrs Campbell	PMH	Mrs Hall
BRD	Mrs Durkin	FCF	Mrs Fisher	JSA	Mrs Armstrong	PTM	Mr Moylan
CAM	Mrs McKenna	FIP	Ms Parker	KAG	Mrs Gray	RAD	Mr Delacour
CAR	Mrs Russell	GAC	Dr Clark	KAC	Mrs Collett	RCE	Miss Edbrooke (Headmistress)
CAW	Mrs Walker	GCW	Mrs Wilson	KHH	Mrs Homann	REK	Miss Kingcombe
CCS	Mrs Canlan-Shaw	GEL	Mrs Lydford	KJS	Mr Stiles	SAF	Miss Furneaux
CEE	Mrs Eyles	GGR	Mrs Grant-Ross	KLT	Mrs Taylor	SEK	Mrs Keogh
CJH	Dr Holyoak	HEM	Miss McCague	KPM	Ms Meuleman	SHM	Mrs Hughes-Morgan
CJN	Mrs Nash	HMB	Miss Birt	LAH	Miss Hillier	SJH	Ms Hayward
CLS	Mrs Sanchez	HMR	Miss Rakowski	LDH	Mrs Hughes	SLW	Mrs Wilson
CMD	Mrs Douglas	HQN	Mrs Nash	LJA	Mrs Astbury	SMB	Mrs Butcher
COB	Miss Bulmer	JAS	Mrs Shearan	LJS	Ms Snowdon	SMC	Mrs McCullagh
CPF	Mrs Fisher	JAT	Rev Taft	LMG	Dr Gribble	SRE	Mrs Evans
CSM	Mr Morris	JBW	Miss Wright	LRL	Mrs Littlejohn	SRK	Miss Kennedy
CWB	Mr Busby	JCA	Miss Attia	MAL	Dr Leigh	TQB	Dr Bainbridge
DBJ	Miss James	JCM	Mrs McDonald	MAM	Mrs Moore	TQM	Mr Marjot
DJS	Miss Smith	JCS	Mrs Sherbrooke	MAS	Mr Stinton		
DLI	Mr Ireland	JEC	Mr Earnshaw-Crofts	MJA	Mrs Abbott		



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