



SOUNDWAVE

Securing the future of deaf children & young people





Contents

Reflections	4
The Mary Hare Year in pictures - Primary	6
The Mary Hare Year in pictures - Secondary	12
Pupil Success stories	18
People News	19
Arts News	20
Coles Diner	24
Fundraising	26
Getting Active	30
Special Features	32
Alumni	34
The 2022-2023 Prefect Team	38

Acknowledgements

Editors: Jane Mcmillan
Selina Cross

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

Follow us on Twitter - @maryharschool
Follow us on Facebook - @maryharschool
Follow us on Instagram - @maryharschool

Mary Hare
Arlington Manor, Snelsmore Common, Newbury, Berkshire, RG14 3BQ.
www.maryhare.org.uk



Robin Askew & Peter Gale



Robin Askew

An exciting future

As another academic year draws to a close it has been a relief to see the return of many pre-covid activities including the recent Sports Day when we were pleased to welcome so many parents back into the school. I hope you enjoy reading about and seeing pictures of some of the highlights of this year.

My attention is now focused on the 2022-23 academic year which promises to be an exciting and landmark one for Mary Hare School. It was under Dr Ivan Tucker's leadership that Mary Hare Primary School was founded back in 1996 and through the vision of the current Principal, Peter Gale, the Governors and Trustees we will start the new academic year with both schools on the same site. This development will lead to greater efficiencies and collaboration between the schools that will benefit all pupils and staff. In addition to the new purpose built primary school, we have aspirations to develop the wider site with a particular focus on sports provision and resources for the expanded variety of post-16 vocational courses.

I feel fortunate and privileged to be commencing my appointment as Principal/CEO of Mary Hare at this time. The school mission to transform the lives of deaf children and their families by providing an empowering and aspirational school is central to everything we strive to achieve.

I am looking forward to promoting the school to new and existing families as well as professionals working in deaf education, in order to firmly establish Mary Hare as a centre of excellence that pupils, parents and staff all feel proud to belong to.

Robin Askew
Principal and CEO

“ The school mission to transform the lives of deaf children and their families by providing an empowering and aspirational school is central to everything we strive to achieve.



Looking back over more than two decades of rewarding years

A part of the Mary Hare story for over twenty years, Peter Gale reflects on his time with us

To open with a bit of context, I joined the school in January 1996. I was 35, still listening to Radio 1 and going to Blur and Oasis concerts, I had floppy hair which I was constantly pushing out of the way, the origin of a sign name which exists to this day! I had recently got 'the internet' at home. Downloading a three minute song could take well over an hour. I wasn't sure I wanted a mobile phone!

The Principal was Dr Tucker - a truly great and influential figure in deaf education. I came for the interview because I was teaching his daughter at St. Bartholomew's and I think she put in a good word for me. When I came for interview, it was the last day of term. I had never visited a boarding school before and the last day of term was like it is now - suitcases, hugs, lots of noise. This looked like a happy school. I 'knew' it was a happy school when I realised that the first day of term was every bit as happy as the last. Pupils were and still are happy to be back in a setting where they have friends and which is set up to make their lives a little easier. I came as Head of Sixth Form. I knew it would be a huge change for me, but I knew I was doing the right thing.



Speech Day 2016 (one of many)

Or was I? Though I say it myself, I'd been pretty popular at St. Bart's but that wasn't carried forward. Pupils at Mary Hare made you earn respect and popularity, they didn't give their approval easily. And added to that, I'd been tasked to make the Sixth Form more of a studying community, who worked hard and took ownership of their studies. I introduced grade cards going home every half term and also Sixth Form prep. It was obvious to me that if many students weren't working after school, they were not going to get the grades they needed or deserved. I then introduced staffing in the Computer Corridor until 9pm. It was a slow start. But gradually they came and some evenings there were twenty or more students choosing to study in the presence of an adult. In fact, I am very proud of the changes to Mary Hare that I first suggested, from the appointment of Heads of Year through to Charlie Hadley's appointment as Wellbeing Co-ordinator, which was possibly my finest moment.

I was on the first ever Mary Hare/Oxford Brookes Teacher of the Deaf training course and relished the opportunity to study as a real grown up, having taken a few short cuts when I was at university. I became fascinated by the way the ear was optimised not just for hearing, but for the frequencies of speech. It made perfect sense for me for hearing families with deaf children to 'get them aided and start playing with them' as Ivan Tucker would say. There were a few children with a cochlear implant in my early days - some with a six inch scar. To have two implants fitted young was still in the future.

I guess the reason I never left Mary Hare was the amazing opportunities it gave me that I would not get elsewhere. These included travel - happy visits to Briskeby School in Norway and a chance to give a talk in Malta to parents of deaf children. One was the mother of Mariah, who eventually managed to get her daughter placed at Mary Hare and, thanks to whom, I spent an hour with the Maltese President earlier this year. It was great to track back Mariah's placement to a talk in a hotel several years earlier. I also got to meet some pretty important people too - David Blunkett MP came when he was Education Secretary, for example, and I had the pleasure of hosting a visit by Princess Anne.

It gave me great pleasure to play music in support of and with our pupils and some of my happiest memories are of playing with the school band, until a pupil got better than me at the bass and I was no longer required - which is exactly as it should be! In fact, I was a member of a supergroup for about 15 minutes, playing alongside Dennis Waterman and Bev Bevan of The Move and then ELO, but that's another story. I also met Supergrass and got my records signed and got to introduce Gaz Coombes when he returned to Arlington Arts as a solo artist. A real bucket list moment!

I also enjoyed, in a very strange way, appearing as a witness at over 100 tribunals. I got a real buzz from knowing that everything I said was true, right and in support of families and deaf children, in a system that seemed stacked against them.

Working at Mary Hare has given me two strong convictions. The first is that although we can all get behind the promotion of BSL use in the community and the Act, there is a whole generation of deaf children coming through who can talk, self-advocate and choose where they position themselves as adults. Your ability to speak should also be celebrated and understood by the outside world.

The second is that to be truly happy, many deaf children need people like them to learn with, and a school setting which makes it possible for them to lip-read, listen and take part.

I leave as sure as ever that this school is needed and that it is in good hands.

“...to be truly happy, many deaf children need people like them to learn with, and a school setting which makes it possible for them to lip-read, listen and take part.”



Peter with Pav and Alexis at the Newbury Show





OUR NEW SCHOOL!

We are all so excited at the prospect of moving into our new school in September. In July 2021 there was a ground-breaking ceremony to mark the real start of the building work. BBC South Today came along to film the event and interviewed Mr Gale.

In no time at all, the new school started to take shape. The first real impression of the building came when the steel framework went up in November. By Christmas the roof was on and most of the windows were in place.

The boarding house, which will be named Bradbury House, after a major supporter of the appeal, is set close to the new school and looks elegant in its dark wooden cladding.

The contractor - Beards - has been really supportive of us showing people around the site. The pupils and staff at the Primary School have visited, as have several governors and trustees of the Mary Hare Foundation and some of the generous people who have made the whole project possible with their donations.

All being well, we should be in the new school in September this year. Over the summer there will be a team of people working hard to make the final move from Mill Hall to the new school on the site of Arlington Manor.

We would love to see as many families of children who want to attend Mary Hare Primary School as possible so please book a visit on our website.



James Keer talking to BBC Radio Berkshire



Mr Gale, Abbie, Ahmed and Ava put a spade in the ground



On the digger



Spades to the ready...



What a view



Peter Gale talks to BBC South Today



The happy group

Looking back on the past year...

It has been wonderful to pick up with our usual activities that we had to put on hold during the past couple of years due to Covid - and some new ones too! Here is a look back at some of the highlights of our year.

For our **Pirate trip** we went to Portsmouth Historic Dockyard in **June**. We visited the Royal Navy's most famous warship, HMS Victory, which was at the Battle of Trafalgar. We had fun pretending to be pirates.

In **July**, we dug up the potatoes we had planted earlier in the year. The Dragons had the most potatoes, but we all enjoyed a good harvest.

All the pupils in year 6 who were moving into year 7 in Mary Hare Secondary School went to Paulton's Park at the end of term. There was lots to do and everyone enjoyed making a splash!

Fortunately no one made a splash on our canal boat trip in July.

It was great fun camping out for a night in the school grounds.

November saw us back at Mill on the Brue, after a break for Covid. It was lovely to be able to get into action with all the activities on offer.



Ready at Mill on the Brue

Christmas

This winter we saw snow at Mill Hall. We made biscuits at Christmas time. And our Christmas production was widely acclaimed.

In **February** we took part in a Breakfast Workshop where we learnt about where milk comes from for our breakfast. Some of us tried milking the cow.

We supported the NSPCC numbers day, making the most of maths and numbers games. We used our maths to weigh out ingredients to make cakes to sell, to raise money for the NSPCC.

The 3rd **March** is World Book Day. We love any excuse to dress up!

Books, books and more books! We have been sorting out our library in preparation for the move to our new school. To help us with some new stock we have been grateful to several supporters for grants to buy books and the donation of books.

It was a lovely **April** day for our Easter egg hunt and the Easter bunny was very generous.



World Book Day



Christmas baking



We love dressing up

PAULTON'S PARK LEAVERS' TRIP



Paulton's Park here we come!



Tom making a splash!



Flight of the Pterosaur



The Raging River



Felix, Harry and Talos ready for the ride



We made a splash!

CANAL BOAT TRIP



Getting ready for the trip



Talos at the helm



Messing about on the river



Helping to open the lock gates



We are just taking a break



Romeo enjoying his canal boat trip

CAMP NIGHT



Morning has broken...

MILL ON THE BRUE



We're on our way!



We've arrived at Mill on the Brue



Hard hat... just in case



Hitting the target



Superman!



Having some fun on the water



Smiles all round!



The obstacle course



I'm stuck!



Waiting to start the climb

POTATO HARVESTING



They have grown



How many are there?



Look at our crop!

EDUCATION BREAKFAST WORKSHOP



Learning to milk the cow



Felix milks the cow



Ryan and Ronan enjoying tasting the milk

NSPCC NUMBERS DAY



Giant dominos



Counting for the NSPCC

WORLD BOOK DAY



World Book Day



Beware of the wolf!

HAVEN BOOKS DONATION



Thank you for our books



We love reading



I can't put it down!



This is my favourite



Getting into character



Everyone joins in



A snowy Mill Hall

EASTER EGG HUNT



Thank you Easter Bunny!



Great fun



Are you the Easter Bunny?



We found lots

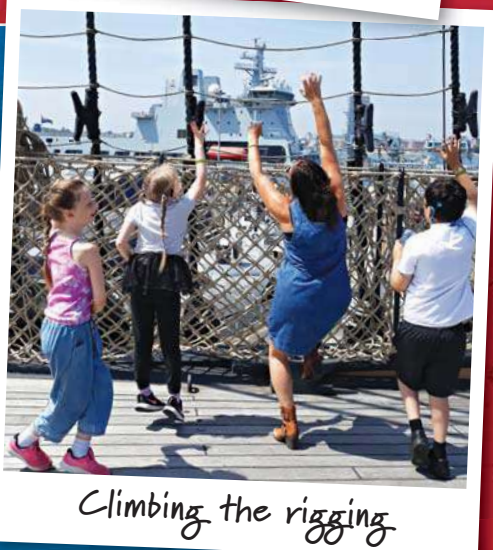
PIRATE TRIP



Call me Captain



Inside the Captain's cabin



Climbing the rigging



Abbie, Ahmed and Ava being pirates for the day



All hands on deck

AGRICULTURAL CHALLENGE



Dream catchers



We love our scarecrow



Celebrating our achievements



Another great year in the Secondary school

This academic year saw the return of so many familiar events and outings that we had to cancel in previous years due to Covid-19. Sports Day was a lovely day when pupils show their athleticism and stamina - but most of all, their support for each other. Their warmth and friendship shone through.

Year 10 were excellent ambassadors for the school when they acted as tour guides for visiting families at Open Day in May. Their enthusiasm is infectious and shows parents and young people just what it means to be a pupil at Mary Hare.

The activities and trips throughout the year were varied - from cookery to debating; from Strictly Come Dancing to walking together in support of the people of Ukraine. Surely one of the highlights was when some pupils were able to put their questions to an astronaut on the international space station, thanks to the local Amateur Radio Society.

All in all, a great year to look back on.

BLOUNT HALL CANOPY



A great space for lunch times



Construction outside Blount Hall



Miles shares his passion about Mary Hare

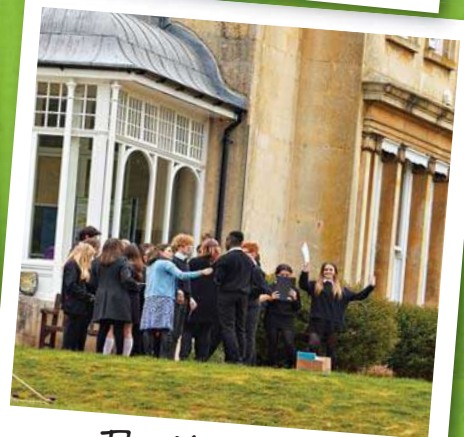
OPEN DAY



Peter Gale welcomes everyone



Lots of prospective families enjoyed the day



The Year 10s are ready to tour



Youth Speaks - Junior team



Youth Speaks - Senior team



Debate finalists



Mansell House straw challenge 2



Building bridges



Learning from the experts



Ready for Strictly Live Tour



Mansell House straw challenge 1



A great day learning construction skills



A fantastic night!



Year 7s explore mindfulness in photo hunt



A great way to connect with others



Jachima glazing the chelsea buns



Year 7 making friends on their first day

INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION



the ISS



The Newbury and District Amateur Radio Society



Joseph trying on a spacesuit



Dressed for the occasion!



South Today capturing the event



History was made

HISTORY WW1 TRENCHES IN A SHOEBOX



Students with their shoebox trenches

A DAY WITH THE WILLIAMS RACING TEAM



Racing in the E-Sports lounge



So many Formula 1 cars!



History in a shoebox!

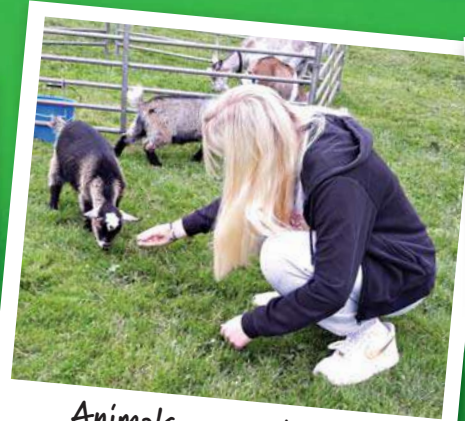


Amazing compact scenes

YEAR 11 ACTIVITIES WEEK



Georgie with the guinea pigs



Animals come to visit



Team 1 prepare for launch



We have take off!



Team 2 prepare for launch



Enjoying some Bowling



Confident they'll win!



A bag becomes a hat?

6TH FORM PIZZA NIGHT



Jenny and Amy getting stuck in to their pizzas



Cheers!



Just a few pizzas!

CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCE



Jingle bells!



Lots of festive cheer



Getting into the Christmas spirit!

WEAR IT LOUD FOR UKRAINE



Students marked a walk for Ukraine



Students wear yellow and blue for Ukraine



HR Department Wearing it Loud



The Ukraine Walk from a distance



Robin Asken Wears it Loud



Our Goat Wears it Loud

PROM ON A BOAT



Prom on a boat

A night that will be renowned for its joviality, filled with great food, laughter and dreadful dancing from staff... Certainly, the 2022 Mary Hare prom will not be an event forgotten in a hurry.

This year, Mary Hare decided to shake up our typical land-based prom celebrations and took to the water, voyaging down the Thames on a private disco boat. All students expressed how much they thoroughly enjoyed the festivity and the opportunity to have a proper farewell to their Mary Hare family. Indeed, although the end of the academic year can be rather saddening, with many of our students leaving, the prom superbly commemorated the end of an era for our transitioning year 13 and 14s, despite the small bouts of sea sickness...

JUBILEE QUIZ

On Wednesday 25th of May, Mary Hare sixth form gathered in Jean Canarvon Hall to celebrate our Queen's upcoming platinum jubilee. We marked the event with a classic Mary Hare kahoot quiz, testing our students' knowledge of Her Majesty to determine who will reign as our most devote Royalist.

Our results unveiled Matthew Deadman as our most knowledgeable student. Following his victory, our students finished the evening with a quintessentially British Victoria sponge, baked by our very own Alison Talbot.

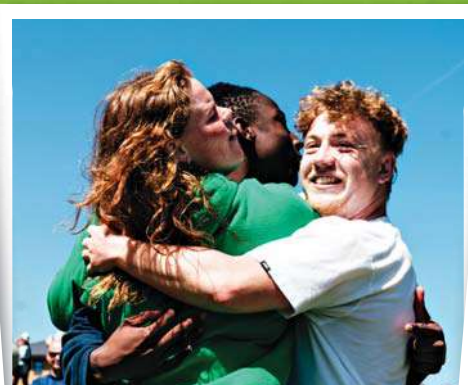


Jubilee Quiz

SPORTS DAY



Peter Gale announces the winners



Everyone showed so much support



Action!



Families cheering on!



Houses ready for action



Exploring in the woods



Learning the science behind plant conservation

THE MILLENNIUM SEED BANK

SHINING STARS AMONGST US

It's exciting and inspiring to hear about the wide and diverse range of skills and talents our students possess. Here we showcase just a few of our many remarkable students who are proof positive that deafness is no barrier to achieving your goals and realising your potential.

RYAN MAKES A BIG SPLASH!

Ryan Carstairs recently competed in the GB Deaf Swimming Championships, which were held at Loughborough University. He achieved in total a fantastic 4 Bronze, 2 Silver, and a Gold Medal.

'I have been swimming since I was 6, I joined the GB Deaf Swimming Team when I was 8. I love swimming and training with this team as everybody is deaf and I have made some great friends. I swam with the Deaf Olympic Record Holder Danielle Joyce and Nathan Young who has competed and represented his country 4 times internationally.'

Ryan hopes to represent the UK in the future and swim in the Deaflympics and help raise awareness and money for the GB Deaf Swimming Team to compete in any national or international competitions.

For more information on GB Deaf Swimming and how you can join, visit: www.gbdeafswimming.org



Ryan with his medals



Ryan swimming

LIKE A DUCK TO WATER!

Year 8 pupil Taylor Willmott has been making enormous progress in the swimming pool. Taylor's mum said, 'Taylor is a wheelchair user and cannot walk, so to be able to learn to swim is fantastic for him'. His coach, Luke Blackburn (pictured with Taylor in the pool) said: 'Taylor has come on in leaps and bounds since we started working together'.



Taylor grows in confidence



Taylor in the pool

SPEAKING AT THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

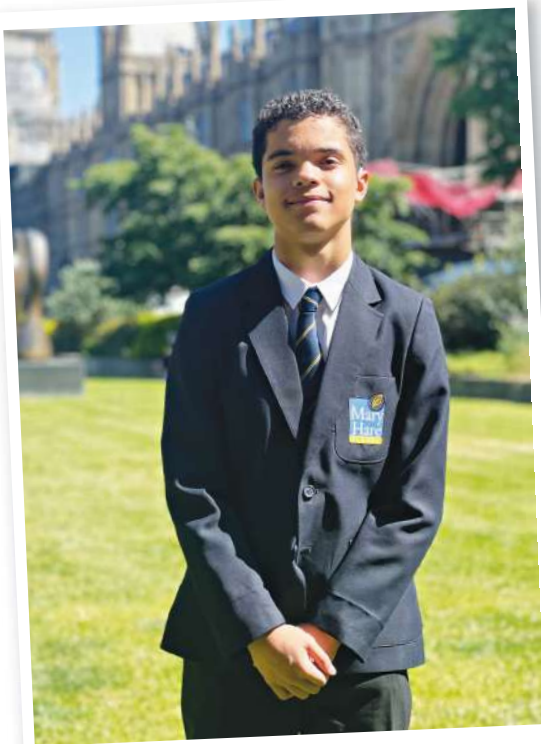
Jasper was one of the winners of the AVUK (Auditory Verbal United Kingdom) Power of Speech competition. AVUK held a nationwide competition, open to any previous participants of their Auditory Verbal Therapy programme, to write and submit an original story or poem.

The AVUK competition was originally held two years ago but the award event at the House of Commons was delayed due to the pandemic. In the initial entry, Jasper submitted a poem called *The Discovery*. Now two years later, it was decided that the older recipients should write a speech that was more personal to their individual journeys.

Jasper's speech shared his hearing journey and raised awareness of the importance of Auditory Verbal Therapy and why it should be fully accessible to all children with hearing loss and who are deaf.

He spoke to an audience of approximately 100 people with Members of Parliament, other dignitaries, professionals in the industry and recipient families and children attending.

Jasper delivered his speech with confidence, clarity and composure. He conducted himself with poise and was humbled and excited to have been part of and included in such a memorable event at the House of a commons.



Jasper outside the Houses of Parliament



Jasper delivers his speech

People News

Fran Alleyne

This year Mary Hare Primary School celebrated our Housekeeper, Fran Alleyne, who has worked at our school for 30 years. We are extremely grateful to Fran helping keep our school clean and tidy, and for her long-standing commitment to Mary Hare.



Fran celebrates 30 years at the Primary school

Simon Thompson

People keep asking me whether I'm counting the days until my retirement and I usually reply that they're going by so fast that I can't count them. That has been the story of the last 21 years (!) working at Mary Hare.

I started in 2001, teaching ICT and Physics, and in the blink of an eye I've ended up in 2022 looking back on all the fantastic opportunities I've been given here. It really is a fantastic place to work - watching students grow and develop, sometimes from being very challenging young people turning into delightful young adults. I've had some wonderful colleagues too, and been fortunate to live on the beautiful Mary Hare campus.

All in all, I feel very privileged to have worked here, and grateful to all the amazing people who have made it so rewarding.



Simon Thompson

A 'Royal' Visit!

Year 7 pupils were invited to take part in a workshop with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and Berkshire Maestros. We were also joined by pupils from Trinity School, and together were split off into groups where they learnt tips and tricks to composing music.



Royal Philharmonic Visit

ARTiculation Competition

Congratulations to Francesca Viney, who came second place in the ARTiculation regional final held at The New Arts Centre Roche Court, Salisbury. Her talk explored the works of David Weiss and Peter Fischli, and the themes and conversations that can be found in their installation pieces.

'It all started with an art trip to the Roche court sculpture park... the whole art class had the chance in smaller groups to prepare a presentation on one of the sculptures at the park - it was a lot of fun as a group, working out different interpretations, and being excitedly curious about art together.'

I was selected to enter the competition - but that didn't mean the work was finished for everyone else! There were many conversations, gentle critiques and practice runs.

And then... I tested positive for covid for the first time - and immediately had to go home to self-isolate. Thankfully, we discovered that I could still present my talk through a zoom call.

Francesca and fellow students were then invited to The National Gallery in London to see the Grand Final of the ARTiculation competition and it was a great opportunity to listen to ideas across a variety of subjects.

'I feel honoured to come second in the regional competitions, and to represent this amazing school! The whole experience has really unlocked a passion that I didn't know I had for public speaking, and I'm really looking forward to exploring that in the future.'



The students toured The National Gallery

Shakespeare Schools Festival

Mary Hare took part in The Coram Shakespeare Schools Festival, presenting their version of *The Comedy of Errors*.

The cast of KS3 students gave hilarious performances in the tale of mistaken identity on the island of Ephesus. Having worked hard for many months to create an ensemble, build characters and develop their understanding of Shakespearean English, the young people absolutely brought the house down.

The stage director from Shakespeare Schools praised the company, saying, *'You all had a lovely, professional energy from the moment you entered the theatre... This was a fantastically funny production of The Comedy of Errors from a generous and dedicated cast.'*



A generous and dedicated cast



Fantastically funny



Professional energy

Cultural Extravaganza event

In the last three days of the summer term we put on a Cultural Extravaganza that the whole school took part in. Pupils were able to choose from around 40 activities over the three days, many of which were completely new to them. We welcomed many local artists and artisans who ran sessions and workshops. The activities covered the arts and sports so there really was something for everyone.

Activities on offer ranged from aerial yoga, golf, den building, stage fighting, dance, dj'ing, painting, pottery, fire pit cooking, martial arts and many more.

Michele Carlile, one of the visiting artists, said, 'I really loved being at Mary Hare - such a beautiful place. I was delighted by the engagement of the students who, even with a new and tricky media really tried hard and followed directions so well.'

The feedback from the students was also amazing.



Great work!



Anyone for tennis?



Strictly eat your heart out



Blacksmithing



Singing workshop



Golfing



Year 7 dance workshop



Year 10 circus skills session



Pottery for Year 7



Glass fusion workshop



Aerial yoga



Year 7 wire workshop



Stomp in AAC



6th Formers capture the workshops



Fun around the firepit



Henna art



Dance workshop



Year 12 music

Deaf Explorers workshop

Deaf Explorer visited Mary Hare Primary and Secondary schools in September to run a full day workshop in Visual Arts and Drama. Actress Charlotte Arrowsmith, who is in her third season at the Royal Shakespeare, led the drama workshop at the Secondary School with exam students and during the afternoon with the Primary pupils. The Secondary students explored physical performance and improvisation.

Visiting artist Omeira Mudawi-Rowlings worked with Art and Textiles exam students on an exciting project. The project run by Audiovisibility and created by Ruth Montgomery (alumnus and mother of a current pupil) was designed to support Laurentia Tan, also an ex-pupil in her dressage performance for the Tokyo Olympics 2020.

As part of the project, pupils watched the live link to a performance by Dame Evelyn Glennie and the Birmingham Symphony Orchestra. This was also supported by Zoe McWhinney, Visual Vernacular Artist who is also an alumni of Mary Hare.

This has been a fantastic opportunity for our pupils to work with professionals and expand their knowledge of the arts.



Charlotte, actress, director & consultant



Romeo at the drama workshop



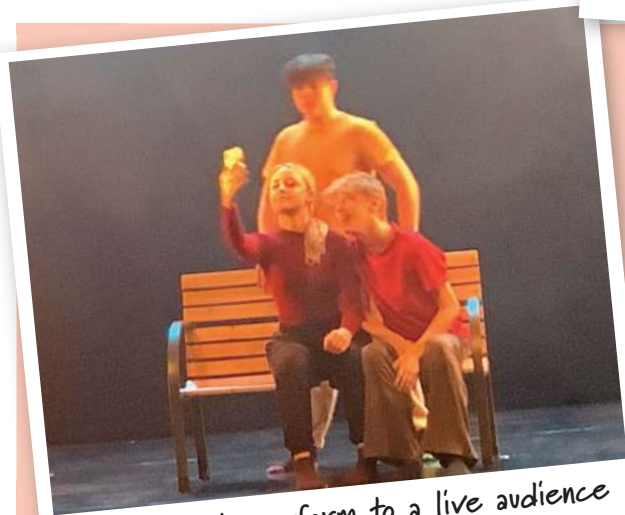
Drama workshop for exam students



Textiles with Omeira Mudawi-Rowlings



Improvisation task



A chance to perform to a live audience



A fantastic dance opportunity

Years 8 to 13 participated in a spectacular evening of dance with ACE Dance Studios at Corn Exchange Newbury. Dance teacher and choreographer, Reese Millard, worked with the students to help prepare them for the performance.

Young Artists Competition

Students had the chance to share their creative talents with a wide audience by taking part in The Rotary Club's Young Artist competition. This year's theme was 'Colours of Nature' - here are the entries submitted by our students.



Omar Sammour - Designs for a Mosque



Joseph Taylor
Study of tree bark



Seb Allen
A walk in the mountains



Georgie Ellis - Plastic Flowers



Emily's work also featured in this year's Open Studios INSIGHT exhibition.

Congratulations to Emily Barrett, who won first place in the Senior Regional Young Artists Competition and third place in the National Finals.

The theme for the competition was 'Colours of Nature'. 'My father takes photographs of nature and I wanted to create a painting using some of his photographs for inspiration. I have not copied his photograph but created my own composition based on some of his images.'

I chose these frogs because they look mischievous. You can find frogs of all sorts of different colours, but these ones are Cuban tree frogs found in Cuba, the Bahamas and the Cayman Islands. I wanted the frogs to look as if they might jump out of the painting at any time.'



Cuban Frogs - water colour on paper



There's no diner like Cole's

It's been another busy year at Cole's Diner. We run Cooking Clubs throughout the school year, one for the Seniors and one for the Juniors. This year we have been making a selection of vegan and vegetarian dishes. We've enjoyed looking at different cheeses and even made pasta from scratch. Pupils have delved into Asian cuisine and traditional American treats such as waffles and burgers - both meat burgers and non-meat burgers to see if there is a big difference.

In March, Years 8 to 10 were taken to a secret location in the forests of Borneo (in Herefordshire) to solve the mystery of 'Who is involved in the dodgy diamond dealings?!'. Four teams faced 14 challenges, including limbo, paintball, low ropes and obstacle courses. Suspects included two very dodgy looking characters! In the end, the culprit turned out to be Mr Trigwell-Jones all along.

Team Red Bull were the winners, but everyone who took part had great fun and threw themselves into the challenges. Teamwork was essential and it was great to see everyone working together.



Creeping through the jungle



Christmas fun



Mr Askew
Suspect 1



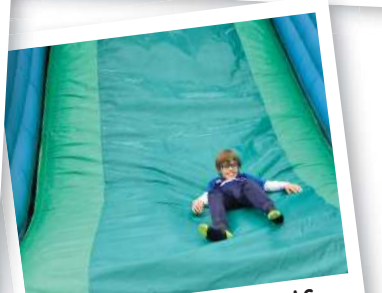
Rudolf and friends



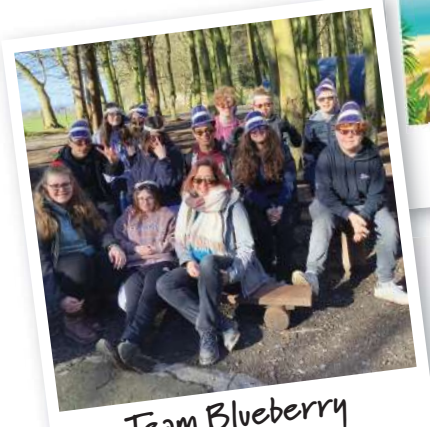
Mr Gale
Suspect 2



Speedy get away



Throwing myself into it



Team Blueberry

JUNIOR COOKING CLUB



These look yummy



Asian treats



Noodles!



Homemade 'take aways'

SENIOR COOKING CLUB



Rolling cheese straws



Empty plates - it must be good



Prepping like a pro



180!

GAMES CLUB



Table football



Friendly rivals

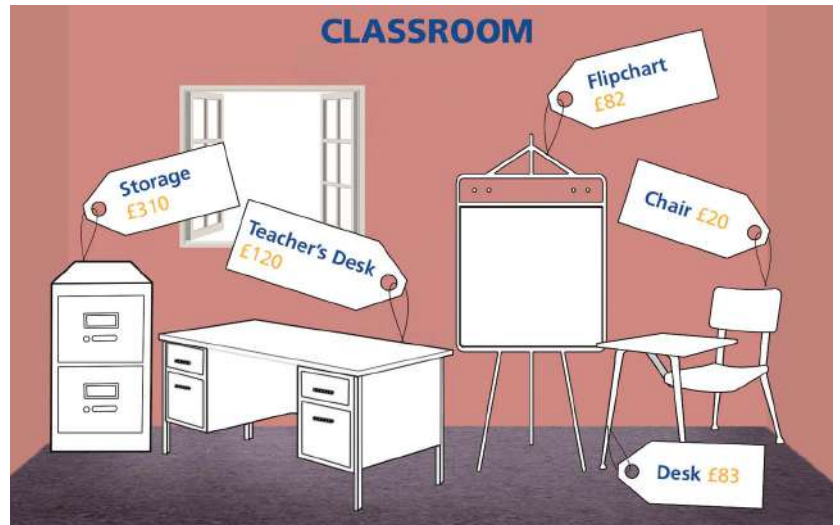
PRIMARY PUPILS SEE THEIR NEW SCHOOL



This year we are coming to the end of the Mary Hare Primary School appeal. We set out to raise £4 million and to date we have raised £3,850,000.

We have just launched our 'moving in appeal', asking donations to cover the costs of the furniture and equipment we will need. We hope that this, along with some events early in the autumn, will enable us to achieve our full target.

You can help us by making a donation on the Mary Hare website: maryhare.org.uk/moving-appeal



HUNGERFORD CHRISTMAS MARKET

With events that had been cancelled in previous years starting up again, we were delighted when the organisers of the Hungerford Christmas Market chose the Mary Hare Foundation as the charity to benefit from funds raised on the entrance fee and raffle.

We are grateful for the support of the Hungerford local community, and we received a total of £3,000.

The Fair in Hungerford Town Hall took place over two days and included some wonderful stalls - local artisan products and specialist food producers.



CYCLING ICELAND'S RING ROAD

In July 2021, Max Harrison and some friends, set off on a 1,500km cycle round the ring road of Iceland. The ride took them on climbs of more than 30,000 ft through the stunning volcanic landscape. They rode for an average of 100km every day for 2 weeks.

Max said, 'It was a fantastic trip. Extremely challenging at times but the scenery was amazing and we fought off the elements each day to enjoy Iceland's great food! We had rain for the first 7 days but then a mix of sun and overcast. We came across truly amazing landmarks and despite a minor fall off my bike, we were not defeated by Iceland'.

Max's mother was born deaf so he understands some of the challenges faced by deaf people. Max had terrific support from friends, family and work colleagues and his employer, BP, who matched the funds raised from this event. In the end Max raised a fantastic total of £13,691.54 which has gone towards our Primary School Appeal.



We are off to Iceland



Amazing scenery



Taking a well earned break



THE STATS

Distance Cycled	1,424km
Height Climbed	9,430m
Days on Bicycle	14
Hours in the Saddle	64.5



The route map



On the road

KATIE RUNS THE LONDON MARATHON

Katie Mills is the grand daughter of Mary Hare Governor, Rosemary Sanders-Rose. Katie, who is a keen runner, accepted the challenge of running the Marathon in October 2021 and set out to raise funds for the Mary Hare Foundation at the same time.

Katie is training to be an accountant and works for Macdonald's at its HQ in London. She was very pleased with her finishing time of 5.06 hours.

We want to say a big thank you to Katie for raising a total of £3,300 for the new Primary School.



Proud medal winner



I made it!



Katie celebrating

MILL ON THE BRUE

We are grateful to the Ewelme Exhibition Endowment for their grant of £1,600 to cover the costs of the Primary School's trip to Mill on the Brue in 2021.



Thank you - we had fun!

“ I enjoyed canoeing because we kept going round in circles and it was a lot of fun. By the end, I could steer the canoe in a straight line.



The Trustees tour the new school

FOUNDATION NEWS

Trustees of the Mary Hare Foundation put on their hard hats for a tour of the new school on a misty day in January. Everyone was pleased to see the progress that had been made.

In December Kirsten Loyd, who has been the Chairman of the Mary Hare Foundation since 2008, stepped down from the role. Kirsten has steered the Foundation through a number of Appeals, including Arlington Arts Centre, the Murray House Appeal (raising funds for the year 11 boarding house) and the Swimming Pool renovation.

Harriet McCalmont has been appointed the new Chairman. The board were delighted to welcome Kirsten's son, Kit, as a new member of the board of Trustees.



Making good progress

MARKING THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE

The Queen's Green Canopy (QGC) is a unique tree planting initiative created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in 2022 which invites people from across the United Kingdom to 'Plant a Tree for the Jubilee'. Mary Hare School was very pleased to receive some trees donated by the Greenham Trust to mark this occasion.



Kirsten Loyd with Richard Benyon and Cosi Magill at the Murray House Opening



Harriet McCalmont at the Gala Dinner, West Woodhay in 2018

IT'S A KNOCKOUT!



Sliding



Hopping



The Mary Hare teams



Rowing

In September two teams from Mary Hare entered 'It's a Knockout' organised by Spotlight UK (a charity for supporting young people and children in the local communities). In total 8 teams battled it out with games that used props from the original TV series.

In the Castle Sponge Challenge teams had to throw sponges to each other and then over the castle to the catcher - who had to wring them out to collect the water. The most water in the bucket won. The Mary Hare teams were against each other with team 1 just beating team 2!

Other games included Bouncy Relay involving a large space hopper, up and over - with lots of foam and water and Giants from the original TV show. Penguins was a penguin tag sumo race and there was of course the Water Obstacle - with teams wearing a builder's hat and holding a pint of water whilst running over the obstacle course hurdles without spilling it. It was a great end to the day and everyone got very wet!

Overall, it was a lovely day out and raised money for some great causes. Mary Hare Team 1 came 3rd and won a bottle of champagne that we sprayed over the other teams!

Team 1

- Kiri-Lynn Gardner
- Becky Withers
- Barry Withers
- Sarah Read
- Rebecca Romanovsky
- Miss Blackett
- Mr Britten
- Laura Young

Team 2

- Liesl Britten
- Mr Thompson
- Mrs Lethbridge
- Mr Askew
- Ed Rose
- Elly Crew
- Mrs Solly
- Charlie Mellor
- Paul Symes

FOOTBALL FINALS IN DERBY

Pupils travelled to Derby for the annual Deaf Schools' Football Finals which took place at the Derby Soccer dome, with schools traveling from across the country to attend.

This year's finals featured 9 different secondary schools and pupils through from years 7 to 11. With three trophies up for grabs on the day, Senior Boys', Junior Boys' and the Girls' Competition, determination from attending teams was high.

Mary Hare teams did exceptionally well, winning the Senior Boy's Cup and runners up in the Junior Boys' and Girls'.



The Senior and Junior Teams celebrate!



Equality of opportunity in football



#LetGirlsPlay

THE GIRLS TAKE A STAND

In March, Mary Hare was supported by Reading FC Community to join in with biggest EVER football session for girls in school. England Football and Barclays are determined that girls will have the same football opportunities as boys in schools and clubs by 2024.

#LetGirlsPlay is a campaign to drive influence and change perceptions, showing that football can and should be played by girls. At Mary Hare, we are proud that girls here have the same curricular opportunities as boys, play football fixtures and that we have a gender-neutral PE kit.

RUGBY STAR

Katie Dening, a Year 13 pupil, has spent this season playing for her local rugby club, Cambridge in their Rubies U18 girls team. She plays in the back row at number 6, and is the enforcer on the team, known for her big tackles and strong running game.

'Rugby this year has been brilliant', said Katie. 'I love the rough and tumble of it, especially tackling - I love putting in those big hits! And the other girls have been brilliant - I was welcomed from the very first training session. Plus it really helped me relax during all the A level revision.'



Katie Dening

CROSS COUNTRY

The Mary Hare School Cross Country is always a challenge. But it was so good to see the support pupils gave each other. There's nothing like being cheered on by a great bunch of friends.



Friends support each other



Ben makes a strong finish



William wins the day

Congratulations to William who triumphed as the West Berkshire Schools U20 Cross Country champion at the Newbury Showground in late January, against strong opposition.

YEAR 9 ACTIVITIES WEEK

Our Year 9's enjoyed the great outdoors and the chance to connect with each other in a week packed full of activities, such as canoeing, climbing, archery and more.



Holding it together



Scaling the heights



Primary Champions



Going for gold



Secondary Champions

PANATHLON CHALLENGE

Both Primary and Secondary pupils hit GOLD in this year's Panathlon Challenge Swimming Galas, which took place in the 2012 Olympic Pool at the London Aquatics Centre.

Mary Hare Primary's Assistant Head Teacher, Rachel Solly said, 'Having the opportunity to go on trips again, to come to a very special place like this and compete against others who are just like them is fantastic for our children, especially after the last two years... It has been a great opportunity for them to meet deaf children from other schools which they don't get to do very often. It's really, really, important. This will be a day they will remember for years to come.'

Speaking about the Secondary School competition, Cheryl Colby said, 'I knew this was an iconic venue, but had no idea about the power of its legacy until the pupils walked in and said 'Wow!' It took my breath away. It reminds me how important inspiration is in engaging children and showing them where they can go with their abilities. How many pupils can say that they were presented their winners medals on the London 2012 Aquatics Centre diving board where Tom Daley stood with his Olympic bronze medal?'



Farewell to Mill Hall

Everyone at Mary Hare is saying goodbye to Mill Hall, the home of Mary Hare Primary School since 1996. Mill Hall Oral School for the deaf was established by Mary S Corbishley in 1939. In 1995, the year of her death, Mill Hall School was in danger of closing. At that time Dr Tucker was Principal of Mary Hare School and recognised that there was still a need for a specialist Primary School for deaf children who learn through speaking and listening. So Mill Hall School moved to its new home in Newbury, along with pupils, some staff and even some of the furniture!

Re-named Mary Hare Primary School, its new home was the Grade 2 listed building that used to be the Officer's Mess on the American Airbase at Greenham. The building has a wealth of history and famous visitors during its time, including General Eisenhower (who is rumoured to have driven a tank up the main staircase!). In order to remember the school's origins, the building was re-named Mill Hall.

Over the past 27 years Mill Hall has been home to hundreds of young deaf children who have benefitted from the specialist teaching and support provided. For a number of years it was also home to Arlington Laboratories and the Hearing Aid Repair shop - two of Mary Hare's business ventures. Over a period of more than 15 years it was the place where hundreds of couples chose to get married.

This summer Mary Hare Primary School will move to its brand new home on the campus of Mary Hare Secondary school at Arlington Manor. There will be some sadness to leave what has been a very happy place for so many years. But there will be so much excitement at the prospect of moving in to a purpose-built, light and airy modern school and separate boarding house.



The Officers' Mess



Mill Hall will hold many fond memories for many pupils



One of many wedding receptions at Mill Hall



Ready for events



The old system used headphones



The new cordless microphone



Everyone can hear me read



We love the new system



New technology: Moving with the times

In every classroom at Mary Hare there is a group aid amplification system that enables every student to be able to hear their peers, their teachers and themselves. It is an area of our support for deaf young people that we are extremely proud and passionate about and is one of the things that makes us stand out amongst the rest.

Our very first group aid system involved pupils wearing headphones and meant that teachers and pupils were both 'tethered' to their desk by wires. New technology in this field is moving on apace and we are making the most of it by introducing a major upgrade to our system.

The group aid is looked after by the Audiology team, who make sure that all students can connect to it and that it is maintained in every classroom and teaching space. The group aid has evolved over time to adapt to the needs of cochlear implanted pupils and now is the time to go wireless.

The system we are currently working on is a combination of wired and wireless elements so that students can either connect through streaming or by a wired connection. Each student and teacher have handheld or wireless microphones, and this sound is projected through a soundfield speaker system, or it can be streamed directly to their personal amplification. This means everyone can hear each other and makes for a much calmer classroom as students and teachers can use a quieter voice.

This change in technology now means students can sit at their desks, move around and stay connected to the group aid, and students studying practical and vocational subjects, including those taught outside, have an enhanced learning experience and can now better benefit from the group aid system.

We are currently raising funds for the remaining work we need to carry out on the system. If you would like to make a donation please go to our website.

ART OPENS MANY DOORS

Ruaridh Lever Hogg attended Mary Hare School from 2009 to 2011. He studied Art & Design, Photography and Geography in 6th Form, and after 6th Form continued his studies at the University of Dundee. Ruaridh has become a successful artist and has even appeared on TV. Where did his artistic talent come from? How much does he really like being in front of the camera? We let Ruaridh tell us a bit more.



“I often give the advice, don't let your deafness stop what you can do.”

You have your very particular style as an artist. Can you tell us a bit more?

During my university period I had a variety of style of paintings to explore to develop my painting skills and experiment a lot in different types of paints. After I graduated with a BA in Fine Art, I discovered my painting style suited working with oil paints. My strength areas are portrait, landscape and imagination genres.

Tell us about your time at Mary Hare. Did it influence your career choice in any way?

Yes, in the part of it. Before I went to Mary Hare, I already knew what I would like to become in the future. I was lucky to have two brilliant art teachers to support me to learn more about art and develop my research skills and to look at other artists for inspiration or influence.

With a BA in Fine Art and an MA in Fine Art and Humanities you must really love to study your subject. Have these studies shaped the direction you took as an artist?

Yes, it does help me to shape up in my artist career by listening and working with art lecturers, with their experience and background to guide, to understand about 'what is art?' This encouraged me to visit exhibitions and read more in philosophy.

You play quite a prominent part in the deaf world with your mentoring. How does this work alongside you as an artist?

I think the role model is really important to show the younger deaf generation that people can do it. I'm lucky to have my talent to give the opportunities for the young deaf people to be inspired.

Does being deaf influence how you see the world through your art?

I don't think being deaf had influenced me to see through the art world. I think it's important to be yourself. I often give the advice, don't let your deafness stop what you can do. You have an ability to be visual or to be creative.

You appeared on *The Big Painting Challenge*. Was this one of the things on your bucket list?

Yes. I wasn't expecting to be selected for the competition. I never saw that coming. It's one of the best experiences I have had. The BBC crew were fantastic! I had a big learning curve and the expert judge helped me to discover my painting skills which enabled me to continue to develop my painting career.

What has been one of your proudest moments as an artist?

I have lots of proud moments. In the past to become involved in an art project for the university and tutor the art exhibition to help children and young adults enjoy art. I like to influence them to become artists in the future as a new generation.



A DISCOVERY OF WITCHES

Adam Sklar, who left Mary Hare in 2012 has landed a role in Sky One's *A Discovery of Witches*. After leaving Mary Hare, Adam went on to study Film and Television at Southampton Solent University. We asked him what he is doing now and how he landed this exciting role.

"At the moment, I'm currently developing an independent video game, after having released my first one in 2019 with a small team.

Funnily enough I didn't do anything specific to get into film! I saw an open casting call for a spoken deaf/hard-of-hearing role for television. Having seen casting calls for deaf actors before, they usually always had sign-language as a pre-requisite, something I don't know much of. But I decided to go for it anyway.

A Discovery of Witches is my first ever role on screen, and it was simultaneously very exciting and terrifying for my first role to be a spoken one in a considerably well-known show. A lot of the scenes were filmed in a dark interior setting, paired with quiet and soft-spoken characters, which made it difficult at first to know exactly when it was my turn to speak. I was surrounded by a hugely supportive cast and crew, and I rarely felt overwhelmed by my worry of letting any of these experienced professionals (both cast and crew) down. I wrote a lot about my experiences filming this as a deaf actor on my Instagram @Sklarlight.

Filming took place in Cardiff, where I stayed on and off for 5 weeks in order to film my scenes for Episode 1 and 2 of the show's second season. The first time I was called in was to Oxford for measuring, but after that, it was always in Cardiff at Pinewood Studios.

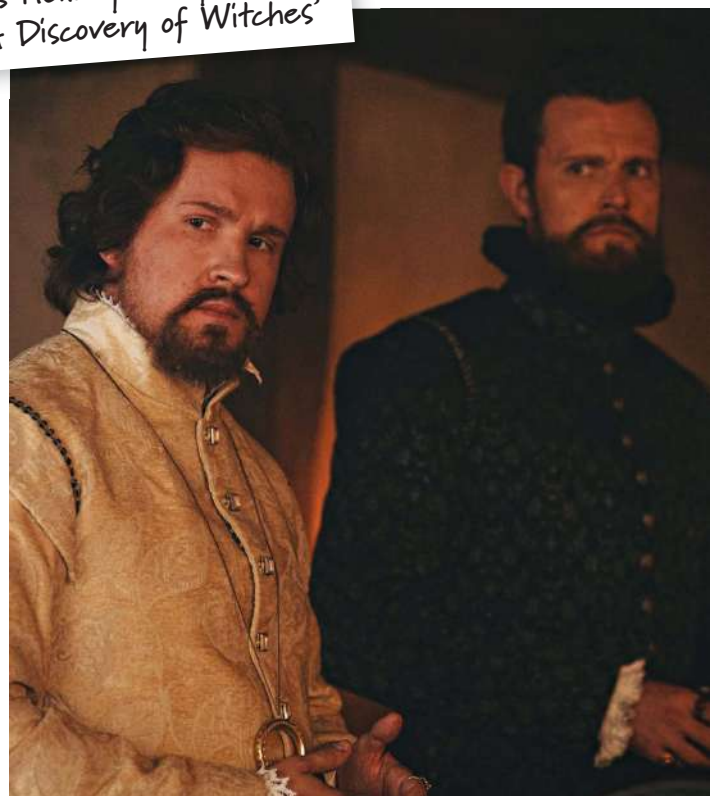
I'm applying for agencies and currently have been accepted by one non-exclusive agency. I'm keeping an eye out for any other opportunities! Before *A Discovery of Witches*, I wasn't 100% certain if acting was something I wanted to pursue; this experience would determine that for me, and it really helped me realise that it's something I love doing.

When I saw this open casting call, a big part of me was tempted to not even try, I didn't think I'd ever get it and a part of me thought I'd rather save myself from any potential disappointment. However, another part of me thought it couldn't hurt to try, and it really doesn't hurt to try. If I hadn't, I wouldn't have got this amazing opportunity."

“ it really doesn't hurt to try. If I hadn't, I wouldn't have got this amazing opportunity.”



Adam as Hendry Percy in the series 'A Discovery of Witches'



MARTHA RYAN IS RAISING AWARENESS

The theme of this year's Deaf Awareness Week was #MyDeafStory. Martha has recently completed her studies to be a teacher at Edge Hill University. For her final year dissertation, Martha chose to research 'Educating Deaf/Hard of hearing (D/HoH) children: mainstream schools and the potential for inclusion. Can D/HoH students be included in mainstream schools without compromising their chances of achieving their full potential?'. She approached Mary Hare's Research Committee to ask both teachers and students for their opinions and to gain a view of other student's experiences.

Martha said: *"Throughout my education, I have faced many challenges, due to my deafness. Despite this, I have been fortunate enough to experience both mainstream and residential specialist secondary education at a school for the deaf."*

"Going to a residential school meant I developed close bonds with my teachers. These teachers showed me I have potential which I did not see in myself; I looked up to my teachers. It's what inspired me to become a teacher and give back that same positive experience of learning; I want to set that example for my class now."

Martha is keen to use her new teaching skills to educate children about deafness and how learning sign language can be a useful life skill. While on a recent placement, Martha taught a Year Two class from Eastcroft Park Primary School to perform the song *This Is Me* from *The Greatest Showman* in sign language.

"Sign language is something I will always appreciate." Martha added. "I learnt sign language when I moved to a deaf school at the age of thirteen, it is a skill I will be forever proud of and love showing off whenever I get the chance."

Martha left Mary Hare School in 2019.



Martha Ryan with children from Eastcroft Park School.

“These teachers showed me I have potential which I did not see in myself...”



23 DAYS ON THE RUN

James Sorohan, who left Mary Hare in 2008, recently appeared as a contestant in Channel 4's reality series *Hunted*.

Teamed up with his best friend Nathan (who is also profoundly deaf), they were dropped off on a beach on the Isle of Wight and had 23 days to get off the island and evade being caught by an elite team of top police, security and military personnel who were hunting for them.

It was exciting viewing, they managed to stay off the hunters radar, survived the pressure and paranoia of being on the run and whilst James eventually got caught in the final stages, Nathan successfully made it through to the end to win a share of the £100,000 prize money. And he showed his team spirit by sharing his winnings with James. Well done to them both!



James (left) and his team mate Nathan

ALUMNI VISITS

We have not been able to welcome as many alumni for visits during the last year due to the lockdown restrictions but we hope to welcome more of you to Mary Hare in the future. If you would like to arrange an alumni visit or are interested in our alumni events, please email foundation@maryhare.org.uk

OUR AMAZING ALUMNI CONTINUE TO AMAZE US

Our Alumni are living proof that achieving your goals in life are always possible. As we hear of the amazing things they are doing and the heights they are reaching, we are immensely proud to have been a part of their story.

Our 'Set Your Sights High' campaign continues to provide an inspirational and positive attitude for younger pupils in showing that deafness is not a barrier to reaching your goals in life.



“ Attending Mary Hare gave me the confidence and experience to go towards my performance career dreams with courage. Here I am living the dream!

REBECCA A WITHEY
PERFORMING ARTIST,
CONSULTANT AND WRITER

Set your sights high!

#sysh

“ I will always be grateful to Mary Hare for giving me the opportunity to have an equal access to education, and enabling me to believe anything is achievable regardless of my deafness. I love working in Engineering because every day is never the same and I enjoy the opportunities that come with the job.

JENNIFER MCGEE
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE COST ENGINEER
CLH PIPELINE SYSTEMS

Danger Explosive atmosphere

Set your sights high!

#sysh

“ I left Mary Hare not entirely sure what I wanted to do. I wanted something that encompassed my love of science, geography and people. In my role as a Field/Process Scientist I combine all three, playing a key role in the delivery of safe drinking water to our consumers. I ensure that the need for public health protection is at the forefront of everything we do. It took me a few years to get to where I am now. Persevere and you will achieve your goals.

OLIVER RICHARDSON
FIELD/PROCESS SCIENTIST,
THAMES WATER

Set your sights high!

#sysh

Our new Head Prefects and their deputies

The prefect team of 2022-23 consists of twelve enthusiastic sixth formers committed to improving their second home and ensuring this school remains a safe, comfortable environment for all its students. They look forward to the challenges that this will bring and are honoured to have this opportunity to be the voices of all these young adults. Here is the new leadership:



Ever since I joined Mary Hare just before the end of Year 8, I have been supported so much and given the ability to thrive, something I wasn't able to do at my previous mainstream school. Having had the experience of both school settings truly made me appreciate this school more and treasure the opportunities it has gifted me. I applied for this position so I could finally give back to the school and take part in taking the first steps towards making Mary Hare more sustainable and an even more pleasant environment to study at.

Hope Lambert, Deputy Head Prefect



I am very excited to be part of this team as I relish the opportunity to give back to the school after how much they have helped me since I first came here in the primary school. As the first proper prefect team since the pandemic, I think our main aim for this year would be to help get the school back into some sort of normality after COVID-19.

Emma Kirkaldy, Deputy Head Prefect



Head Prefects Omar & Miles



I have been at Mary Hare since Year 7 and my main aim as head prefect is to have a lasting impact here, leaving the door open for the future prefect teams. I am deeply interested in politics and would say I have gained an immense amount of knowledge on issues around the world, and thus I passionately believe that it is crucial for people to be aware of issues and social inequalities around the globe. The prefect team has a responsibility to set an example and support the school community in educating ourselves to be the best versions possible.

Miles Priestman, Head Prefect



As head prefect, I am proud to be a representative for Mary Hare. Ever since I started here in Year 7, this school has given me every opportunity for me to succeed in, and I hope to make this available for each and every individual student from all various backgrounds, beliefs and abilities.

Omar Sammour, Head Prefect



The Prefect Team, excited to get started in their new roles

The 2022 - 2023 Prefect team:

Head Prefects	Miles Priestman Omar Sammour
Deputy Head Prefects	Hope Lambert Emma Kirkaldy
Charity Prefects	Matthew Deadman Athalia Beattie
General Prefects	Chloe Burton Matthew Culver Mayowa Bejide
Student Support Prefect	Fatima Chaw
Media Prefect	Vincent Rinzivillo



Opening in September!

Our brand-new Primary School is well on its way to completion, ready to open its doors and welcome its first students in September.

Scan the code to read the full story of our new Primary School.





BOOK TODAY




ASSESSMENTS NOW OPEN FOR SEPTEMBER 2023

Securing the future of deaf children and young people | www.maryhare.org.uk

Arlington Arts

#NewburysSecretTreasure

July-December 2022 | www.arlington-arts.com | 01635 244 246



Eddi Reader
Friday 30 September
£25



Simon Yates:
My Mountain Life
Saturday 08 October
£19



Dare
(Support: Troy Redfern)
Saturday 29 October
£25



Beautiful People
Tuesday 15 November
£16 Full Price
£14 Concessions



Ballet Theatre UK:
Beauty and the Beast
16-18 December
From £15

