

The Joy of the Summer Festival

On Saturday 25th June, we held our Summer Festival after a pause during the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions. We once again felt overwhelmed with joy to be welcoming students, parents, staff and the general public onto our beautiful campus.

We are delighted to announce that the overall event raised £5,500. Holding this event for the first time since restrictions lifted, the Sheiling team is delighted to have raised this wonderful sum towards an electric vehicle for school and college student trips and travel.

The warm weather helped make the day a great success and more people than ever attended, enjoying a range of family activities, workshops and demonstrations plus fabulous live music throughout the day.

There was a range of stalls selling delicious food and drink, a BBQ and a wide variety of artisan products, art and handmade gifts. The Police Neighbourhood Team and their patrol vehicle and meerkat mascot were very popular along with Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, FTY Lab and Three Counties Vintage & Classic Car Club.

For visitors who wanted a change of pace, they enjoyed discovering Sheiling Garden and our Sensory Garden.

All in all, a great day was had by all those involved, and we all look forward to hosting a Summer Festival again next year on Saturday 24th June 2023.



Inspiring Each Other

Students inspire staff each day at The Sheiling Ringwood but a truly wonderful experience is being able to watch students inspiring each other as in the case of one Upper School student. In the latter part of last year, students took part in job interviews which were held in the main office. The position available was for onsite egg delivery person.



From November 2021 through to July 2022, the successful candidate has completed his tasks to an exceptional level. He has learned the location of each of the buildings for delivery and he has also worked hard to remember the people in each building along with their names and their job role. The level of social and interaction skills has delighted teacher Andy who commented 'all of our students work very hard but, in particular, his commitment to this role has inspired his peers and they often offer help with the egg deliveries, both as a team and individually'. The increased independence, confidence and enjoyment has been an inspiration to all at Sheiling School.



Drama for School

School has been delighted to welcome Olivia from Forest Forge Theatre Company to run a fantastic drama club. Following on from drama club some of our Upper School students travelled offsite and joined the Forest Forge Theatre Club. The students immersed themselves in the experience and are keen to continue classes in the next academic year.



Winning Team

College is the 2022 Natspec award winner for 'equality, diversity and inclusion'. This was awarded for Making Waves, an innovative inclusion project in higher education. This project included working with City University New York, was led by college teacher Ceri and supported throughout college. Ceri's class were delighted that, soon after the award was announced, Sue and Michael from City University visited to congratulate them in person.



Forest Fun

Two students from Sheiling House went horse trekking in the forest. A lovely and positive experience where they supported each other through any nerves and embraced this wonderful first-time experience. House staff commented how proud they were of both girls and how they had worked together to make the day even more special.



Gary's Garden Goodies

This year, Sheiling Garden saw a stupendous crop of rhubarb.

The rhubarb was lovingly harvested by Gary, our Biodynamic Gardener, and he ensured the houses were kept in plentiful supply. Once the houses were fully stocked up on delicious crumbles, to avoid waste Gary sent 5kg of rhubarb to Fallen Acorn Brewery in Gosport, who made a beer from it called "Gary's Garden".



Beautiful Brownsea

This term, college classes visited Brownsea Island. The trip began on the minibus to Poole Quay, and then on to the National Trust Brownsea Island ferry across to the island. For some of our students, it was the first time they had been on a boat. Everyone was very excited but also a little nervous!

On the island, we did plenty of exploring and we had fun looking for red squirrels. Unfortunately, we didn't see any this time, but we did see chickens and peacocks.

The lunchtime picnic was popular but a visit to the café for an ice cream was soon top of the list! Students decided the top deck of the boat would have the best views for our return trip, and they were right. Brownsea Island is beautiful and we will be back soon.



Message from the Principal

Dear parents,

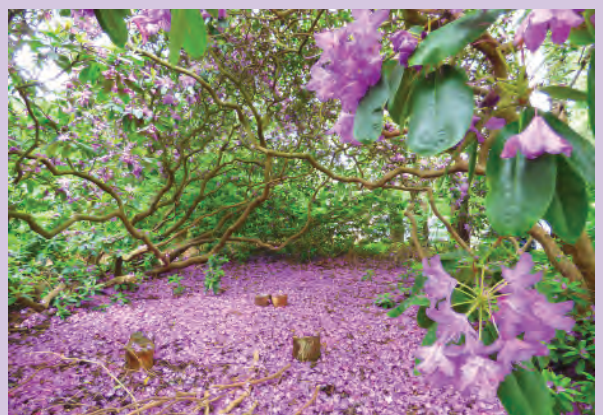
We are so pleased that we have managed to broaden our activities in these months following the end of Covid restrictions and this has clearly been of benefit to students and staff alike. It has been wonderful to see the photos of all the events onsite and trips and activities offsite that have taken place as this helps create an enriching experience for all our young people.

We say goodbye to several students this term and we wish them all the very best as they embark upon their next step post-Sheiling – we shall miss them all.

I hope that you all have a relaxing summer break and look forward to welcoming returning students after the holidays.

Hope you all have an enjoyable summer,

Kindest regards,
Corine



Active School

School classes have been particularly active this term. Students have taken part in a wide variety of activities at the QE2 Activity Centre including climbing and kayaking. They have also enjoyed cycling to Moors Valley Country Park. Staff have been delighted with the bike confidence and skills that have been displayed. It was just a couple of months ago that only smaller groups could cycle together, but now the whole class enjoy this experience as a group, which is wonderful!



Our Environment

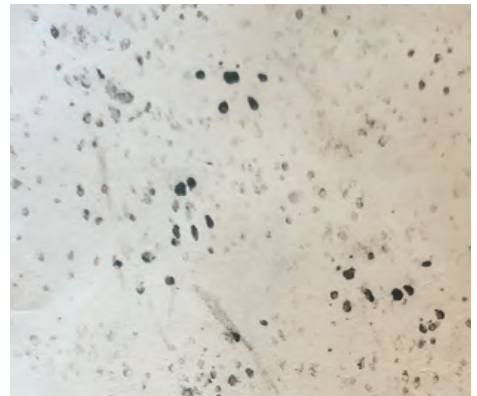
With 82 newly-planted trees and the recent warm weather conditions, we have had a lot of fun with our whole community working together to keep them well-watered. With the help of a wonderful symbol plan from teacher Andy, the students have been brilliant in nurturing these young trees.

A team of volunteers from Nationwide Building Society chose to join us for a volunteer day and worked tirelessly in maintaining our Sensory Garden, giving the whole area a well-needed weed and tidy.

A special environmentally friendly animal footprint tunnel was placed in the Sheiling Garden by school students. They left the tunnel in place for a couple of weeks and afterwards they could see lots of different footprints. Students could identify a range of prints and the clearest to see were likely to be hedgehog prints which caused much excitement as we love hedgehogs at the Sheiling!

We are pleased to welcome Adam to the Facilities Team. Adam is our new grounds person; he has a lot of experience and he is looking forward to leading environmentally friendly projects around our site.

Our bee colonies have naturally expanded, taking us from three to six hives. Students have been taking part in bee inspections and are beginning to learn how a colony of bees work together; we eagerly await a potentially plentiful harvest of Sheiling honey very soon-we will keep you updated.



Drumming and Dancing

Gaspard and Nee visited from Zamble Dance Company and were our wonderful hosts who led students on a vibrant journey with the opportunity to explore the rhythms and movements of West African Drumming and Dancing.

College and School students, along with many members of staff, joined in with great enthusiasm and were able to follow the moves and express their individuality through music and dance. Everyone had lots of fun and the room was full of smiling faces. We look forward to welcoming Zamble back soon.



Fundraising Update

We were delighted to receive a donation for £2000 from The Nineveh Charitable Trust. This generous donation was for a new, commercial grade poly tunnel for Sheiling Garden, which replaces an older version that had succumbed to the elements over the years. The new tunnel greatly benefits our children and young people, providing a valuable covered gardening and learning space.

We continue to be extremely grateful for the wonderful parent support we receive which has a direct benefit to students and their lives. Support for our Amazon Wish List has seen donations amounting to over £850 worth of items identified by our therapy and education teams, gifted for the benefit of students across both school and college.

If you would like to discuss any offers of support or help with fundraising, please contact Hayley on: **01425 482437**, **hayley.ramm@thesheilingringwood.co.uk**

Stay Connected

We would like to remind you that we have a range of methods in which parents can take the opportunity to connect with staff and with other parents.

The Sheiling Discord group is run by parent members of the Parent Forum. Discord is a parent-to-parent online chat platform.

'This group's aim is to keep all parents with an interest in The Sheiling Ringwood up to date with our news and achievements.

This group is open to all parents as and when they need to use it. There is no pressure on individuals to post, answer questions or to share any information. We are a unique group of parents who have a better chance of understanding any concerns, worries and can help provide solutions.'

To connect, simply click on the link,

<https://discord.com/invite/2G7trfWhuq>

The next Parent Forum meeting is via Teams on Wednesday 28th September at 7pm. If you would like to learn more about the Parent Forum, please email **sharon.maclennan@thesheilingringwood.co.uk**

Dates for your Diary

Autumn Term commences
Tuesday 30th August

Half Term Break
15th - 30th October
(inclusive)

Autumn Term Continues
Monday 31st October



Social Media

We are keeping our Twitter (@sheilingringwd), Facebook (@sheilingringwood) and LinkedIn (The Sheiling Ringwood) pages up-to-date. So, check them out to see what is happening across the campus, events, see great new pictures and even keep in touch. Our YouTube channel (The Sheiling Ringwood) is another fantastic source of information and activities or you could link with us on Instagram (#thesheilingringwood).



Enjoy the Summer Break