

Welcome to your first OMK e-newsletter,

As a now former Mount Kelly Parent, please find below a copy of our OMK e-newsletter which is sent out roughly at the end of every term to our former pupils, former parents and former staff. As a former parent, we hope that you will still wish to hear from us at Mount Kelly through the Development and Alumni Office; we will keep you updated on OMK and School news, developments and fundraising priorities. Should you prefer not to receive this newsletter, or indeed if you do not wish to hear further from us, you can unsubscribe at any time by emailing us at alumni@mountkelly.com or call us on 01822 813107/109.

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OMKs bring home Gold and Silver for GB at World Paratriathlon Series



Congratulations to Claire Cashmore MBE (2004-08) and Lauren Steadman (2007-11) for their fantastic performances at the World Paratriathlon series in Montreal earlier this month. Claire secured her first World Paratriathlon Series gold, and Lauren, hard on her heels, claimed silver in a close finish. Claire was awarded an MBE after bringing home swimming gold and silver medals from the 2016 Paralympic Games in Rio but has swapped the pool for triathlon and has soon climbed the ranks. Lauren is coached by fellow OMK and former MK Director of Swimming, Robin Brew (1978-80). [photo credit: Wagner Araujo/ Triathlon Live]

Georgie Killingbeck and Lizzie Tilley revisit DW Race



Ten years after Georgie Killingbeck (2005-10) and Lizzy Tilley (2003-10) competed in the junior Devizes to Westminster canoe race as pupils, they picked up their paddles again this year. This time they competed in the senior category, and came an impressive second in the K2 Ladies' category for the non-stop 125-mile race in under 24 hours. They borrowed a Mount Kelly double kayak and as a thank-you donated their two wing paddles to the School, and also raised over £1,300 for Crisis UK. [The Mount Kelly DW squad](#) of ten successfully completed the junior series of the race (over three and a half days), finishing in excellent time and in high spirits.



OMK Day & Dinner welcomed Rugby Legends

The School was delighted to welcome over 100 former pupils, staff and their families on 11 May for the annual OMK Day and Dinner. With some having flown in from as far afield as Africa, America and Europe, it was a day of happy reunions and friendships rekindled. It was a particularly special weekend for a large group of former pupils from the Class of 1969, who celebrated their 50th anniversary since leaving Mount Kelly. Our guest speaker was former England rugby captain, Phil de Glanville (1978-81), who enjoyed catching up with two of his fellow former England and Bath rugby players: Adedayo Adebayo (1984-89) and former MK parent, Graham Dawe. Phil spoke about his happy time as a pupil at the Prep, and shared some highly-entertaining stories about his experiences playing international-level rugby in the 1980s. It was a great privilege to welcome back three legends of England rugby, as well as a multitude of former pupils and staff who all share such happy

[More Photographs](#)



Golf and cricket on OMK Day

OMK Day this year included the traditional OMK Cricket match and also the OMK Golf competition at Tavistock Golf Club. The cricket was a 20/20 match which saw the MK 1st XI score a winning 204 runs whilst the OMKs finished 130 for 6 off their 20 overs. Thank you to Clive Insole (1989-90) as Captain. At the Golf Club, eight teams of three players each (including MK Governors and parents) enjoyed an afternoon of playing in the sunshine and the Team Prize this year went to Richard Wraith (1956-61), Michael Holmes (1961-66) and John Chaffe (1949-54).

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Gold DofE Awards for our most recent OMKs

Congratulations to this year's leavers, Tom Brew, Alex McShane and Jake Warren, who received their Gold Duke of Edinburgh Awards from Princess Anne at Buckingham Palace in May (whilst still MK pupils). Victoria Moore (2010-18) and George Key (2014-18) also received their DofE Gold certificates at the same event which was attended by 2012 Paralympic rugby captain and motivational speaker, Steve Brown.

[Congratulations](#)



London Gathering at The Sekforde

It was a pleasure once again to welcome a happy and busy crowd of OMKs to this year's London Drinks on Wednesday 19 June. This year we were particularly delighted to welcome international best-selling crime author, **Gerald Seymour** (1955-59), who was able to attend despite a busy schedule promoting his latest book, *Battlesight Zero*. We remain very grateful to David Lonsdale (1975-81) for once again hosting our London gathering in his beautiful, award-winning pub **The Sekforde** in Farringdon. His generosity is much appreciated by the School and all who attend this annual event.

[More photographs](#)

A message from the Head Master and Principal, Guy Ayling



I am enormously grateful for the warm welcome my family and I have received from all members of the community, including the many OMKs I have already been fortunate to meet this term.

It is with great pride that I write after my first term as Head Master and Principal of this great school. I find the School in good heart, well-functioning and in strong spirits; increasingly comfortable in its own skin and facing the considerable challenges of the 21st century with a burgeoning confidence that is becoming rarer in our sector.

Central to our future is the shape of the Foundation itself and we will bring real meaning and substance to the concept of one-School; a single school with one purpose, respectful of two converged histories, but not constrained by either, seeking only to forge a new identity as a forward looking, inclusive, innovative and creative place of learning. At the core of our unity is understanding a common purpose that is, quite simply, our responsibility to deliver a **life-defining educational experience** at the heart of which are the values of **compassion, courage, humility, respect, commitment and integrity**.

My challenge is to ensure that we maintain the highest standards in all that we do - with academic rigour and attainment firmly rooted at our heart - and to chart a course for the School that will secure its position as the preeminent independent school in the South West. I pledge that Mount Kelly will embrace a restlessness for continual improvement and an uncompromising commitment to excellence, and I am delighted by the many expressions of support that I have received from parents, staff and the Old Mount Kelleian community.

OMK Magazine 2018

The 2018 OMK Magazine has just been published online and is available to download by clicking on the link below. We hope you enjoy reading OMK news from 2018, as well as news that covers the academic year 2017-2018. Please note, we no longer send hard copies of the magazine unless specifically requested, but copies are available for free at all our events.





MK Space Corps Launch

To celebrate 50 years since the moon landing, Mount Kelly's Space Corps' was on a mission of its own: to launch a helium all weather balloon and capsule into the stratosphere. Under approval from the CAA, the high altitude balloon was successfully launched on 3 July in front of an excited audience of Prep children. An 'Astro-Smurf' and a Lego astronaut were the passengers on this successful voyage and the on-board camera captured some great images of the Earth's curvature, including the one above.

[Read more](#)

Successes for MK Swimming 2019

It has been a great year for MK Swimming. We have had an incredible 58 national qualifiers (second only to Loughborough University) in various championships in the UK. Mount Kelly won the National Arena League B Final at Cardiff - a superb achievement in our debut year in the Premier Division of the National Arena League (which includes the very best clubs from across England and Wales). In addition, five of our swimmers have been selected to represent their country internationally amongst three events: the European Junior, World Junior and World Championships. OMKs Oliver Taverner (2014-19), Harry Noble (2017-19) and Federico Burdisso (2017-19) enjoyed particularly glittering careers at Mount Kelly, and are swimmers to watch on the international circuit.

[Well done MK Swimming!](#)

National STEM competition qualifiers

A team of six of our Year 9 pupils have progressed to the finals of Go4SET, a rigorous national competition which encourages pupils to consider courses and careers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). The team's project proposal, Ocean Clean, to collect and process plastics recovered from the Pacific, won the Pupils' Choice Award at the South West competition amongst 20 participating schools. Their project scored so highly that Mount Kelly is just one of two schools selected to represent the South West at the Big Bang National Final, which will showcase the work of the UK's best young Scientists, Engineers and Designers later this year.

[Read More](#)

OMK Events 2019 & 2020

Sunday 8 September 2019
Cox Tor Walk (Mount Kelly)

Saturday 28 September 2019
OMK Ladies' Hockey Match v Mount Kelly

October 2019 (tbc)
OMKs gathering in Hong Kong

Friday 8 November 2019, 6.30pm
Mount Kelly Bonfire Night (Prep)

February 2020
OMKs Pub Gathering in Bristol

March 2020
OMK Men's Hockey v. Mount Kelly
Ladies' Netball v. Mount Kelly

Saturday May 2020 (tbc)*
OMK Day & Dinner
OMK Golf (Tavistock Golf Club)
OMK Cricket v. Mount Kelly

June 2020
OMK Pub Gathering in London

Saturday 4 July 2020
Mount Kelly Foundation Summer Ball

**NB The date for OMK Day 2020 is under consideration due to the nationwide change to the dates of the early May Bank Holiday. We will publish the confirmed date shortly.*

[Click here to enquire about any of the above events](#)



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