

Dear Merchant Taylor

The Christmas elves have visited over the weekend and now the Hall is festooned with garlands. There's the scent of pine in the air, and an enormous tree by the Grand Staircase. We are ready.

To see your spectacular Hall in its Christmas glory you are most welcome at the <u>Christmas Oratorio on 10th December</u> and the <u>Vernon's Anniversary Service on 11th December</u> (click for details).

And in other news...

Lost Treasures of Strawberry Hill: Masterpieces from Horace Walpole's Collection

20 October 2018 - 24 February 2019



Horace Walpole's magnificent collection of paintings, sculptures, furniture and curiosities, later dispersed all over the world in the famous sale of the century of 1842, has been reassembled for a once-in-a-lifetime exhibition in his celebrated gothic villa at Strawberry Hill in Twickenham.

Walpole is widely thought of as the most important British collector of the 18th century and this unique opportunity is the result of a major treasure hunt for the lost collection. To date 200 more objects have been found in public museums and private collections from London to New York to Moscow.

One of those treasures is Cornelius Johnson's portrait of Francis le Neve, Master Merchant Taylor in 1629, bought by the Company in 1894. It has temporarily moved from its usual position in the middle of the longwall in the Court Room and now hangs in the Gallery at Strawberry Hill in the exact position from Horace Walpole's day.

For more information on the exhibition and to buy tickets click here.

Merchant Taylors' Quiz Night - 16th January 2019

This is a fun and relaxed evening for family and friends. Tickets are £25 each to include entry to the quiz, a welcome drink and some food, followed by a cash bar.



Get a team of ten together or we can organise a team for you. Book with Kym on 020 7450 4448 or on KAsh@merchant-taylors.co.uk.

<u>Annual Inter-Livery Ski Championships - 23rd - 25th January 2019</u>



We are looking for two more to join the Merchant Taylors' skiing team. The cost is £500 for two to stay in the team chalet. For more information about the competition click <u>here</u>. To sign up please contact John Price on John.Price@sourcecards.org.

Inter-Livery Bridge - 4th March 2019



The annual Inter-Livery Bridge Competition will be held next year on Monday 4th March 2019 at the Drapers' Hall. They will be hosting 64 pairs to two sessions of bridge, a two-course supper with wines and trophy awards with a stirrup cup in the Grand Hall. To find out more, click <u>here</u>.

<u>Foyle College Pupils' trip to Mansion House for Lord Mayor's Business of Trust celebration</u>

In Londonderry in early September, the Lord Mayor of the City of London, Alderman Charles Bowman, hosted a schools' workshop on pupils' perceptions of the principles and definitions of trust. This was part of 'The Business of Trust', a City of London Corporation initiative he set up to encourage the financial and professional services sector to operate with integrity and grow its positive impact in times of low stakeholder opinion in the ten years following the financial crisis.

11 A Level Business Studies pupils from our associated school, Foyle College, were included in this discussion on how trust is earned, maintained and severed, both personally and professionally, and what businesses can do to help restore trust and confidence.

The Company sponsored three of the students, Dylan, Ebony and Lewis, to attend the Lord Mayor's Business of Trust Celebration event at the Mansion House in London at the beginning of November. As his final event as Lord Mayor, Mr Bowman referenced his visit to Londonderry, and how the workshop had helped steer the direction of the overall project.



The pupils spoke with Edward Montgomery, The Honourable The Irish Society, and Deputy Henry Pollard, City of London Corporation, about the project and its benefits.

The students then visited the Hall. Arranged by Diana Watson, Education Officer, the three pupils were introduced to Liveryman Richard McBride, alumni and current governor of Foyle College, who gave the tour and talked to them about the Company.



Foyle students in the Library

To find out more, or to add to these listings, please contact Georgina Annett at GAnnett@merchant-taylors.co.uk or on 020 7450 4452.

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