

As we celebrate Founder's Day and honour Frances Mary Buss, I have taken time to reflect upon her achievements and the incredible impact she has had on the way society is shaped today. Her interest in education started young, at age 14 she was teaching at a school, and by 16 she was occasionally left in charge of the school. I know a lot of 16 year olds would love to have the opportunity to take charge of their school, but I think we can be sure that she would have taken the role a lot more seriously than most teenagers would. Any big societal change is always met with huge resistance and her tenacious spirit and conviction must have been so strong to be able to push her reforms through. This spirit has echoed through Camden School for Girls, as there is such an enthusiasm and passion to fight injustices in our own society and beyond.

Education is such a privilege, and we at Camden are so lucky to have such motivating teachers who share their knowledge and inspire us every day. My time at Camden has gone by so quickly, and over the past few weeks I have tried to appreciate every day I spend with my classmates.

At the end of year 11, I spent the summer worrying about whether I wanted to change school or not, as staying at my old school was definitely the easier choice. It almost came down to a coin toss, but in the end, I made the decision based on something which I am pretty embarrassed to admit. Camden had something else going for it. Both schools' terms started on the same day, but Camden had the edge, allowing me to come in to school 2 hours later, as my surname begins with an S. As it turns out, I feel extremely lucky that my surname is in the second half of the register, as changing school gave me a new perspective, and made me feel more confident. Only at Camden do I believe that I would have been welcomed in with such open arms and having such a positive start propelled me to throw myself into a variety of activities, some of which I could never have imagined myself doing, such as dressing up as Mrs Clause and singing don't stop believing in front of 500 girls.

As many of my friends know, I am one of two people in the year who have a passion for American football. The freedom this school allows has enabled me to start an American football club, where I have been able to pass down skills I have learnt from playing for a team, to completely new players. The club has been greatly successful, with high turnout each week and a fantastic team spirit amongst members. The fact that the formation of clubs is encouraged, and that they're so well attended, adds a lot to daily school life. There is definitely something for everyone, with some clubs being particularly niche, for instance the retro gaming club and the conspiracy club, although I do wonder whether that one actually exists.

I am so proud to be able to say that I am the Head Boy of Camden School for Girls, and love the bemused reactions I receive, my favourite being "Camden School for Girls? How did you swing that?!" I can now say that my 2 year transformation from the shy and nervous boy, entering the Camden gates at 11 o'clock is complete, as I am now a fully-fledged, and confident Camden girl!