



The Hemel Hempstead School

News

10 July 2009

www.hhs.herts.sch.uk

HeadLines

I write at the end of a successful year at the school in which staff and students have worked with enormous commitment to achieve great things.

We began the year with the best examination results the school has ever seen and we finish academic year 2008/9 with the school being placed in the top 30 schools nationally, which I believe will be followed, in turn, with our best ever results. On this point, may I remind you that A level results will be published on 20th August and GCSE results on 27th August.

I notice that high street shops are already exhorting parents to buy school uniform at bargain prices. However, I must remind you that the only official supplier of our school uniform, apart from our second hand uniform shop, is Stevensons in St Albans. It is absolutely vital that all students are in correct and immaculate uniform from 3rd September – let us start as we mean to go on! I intend to have no patience at all with students who appear at school in incorrect uniform with shirts hanging out and top buttons undone. Recently, the fashion for canvas shoes has infiltrated school. Such shoes are unacceptable and look scruffy when worn with uniform. Please ensure that students wear robust, smart, black shoes. From first thing in the morning to the time they arrive home, our students should be proud of their perfect uniform. Equally, our Sixth Form students should be attired in immaculate 'business' dress, with both boys and girls wearing their jackets at all times. The uniform requirements are on our website and Stevensons will be able to advise you. If students appear in inappropriate dress, parents will be contacted and students will be sent home. There will be zero-tolerance in 2009-10.

In September, we will welcome a number of new staff to the school. I will leave the detailed introductions until my Headlines at the start of the Autumn Term, but in the meantime, I would wish to bid a fond farewell to staff who are leaving the school. They are, Mr Cracknell, Mrs Cruz, Miss Draper, Mrs Tanner and Mrs Van Kempen.

For next year we have new Food Rooms, refurbished catering facilities and a brand new cleaning firm who will make the school sparkle!

Our Sixth Form numbers have increased considerably and will continue to do so in this popular and successful school. I have no doubt that our examination results will become even better and that we will continue to be the school of choice in Dacorum. There is also no doubt that the school will continue to present a vast range of extra curricular activities and performances which can be enjoyed by all.

School resumes on 3rd September. Year 7s will come into school at the normal time (8.30 am), Year 12 will start at 9 am and the remainder of students will join us at 10 am for tutor time and assemblies. Classes for Years 7 – 11 will commence from 12.20 pm that day and for Year 12 and 13 on Monday 7th September.

May I take this opportunity to thank you all for your support of the school over the past year and to wish you all a happy and safe summer holiday.

Sandra Samwell, Headteacher

HEADTEACHER'S COMMENDATION

for Excellent Work in ICT: Olivia Wright 7C, Lauren Stone 7P, Levi Smith 8A.

for Excellent Work in English: Eliza Dickinson 7P, Anna Wales 8C, Elizabeth Merrill 8L, Hollie Clarke 8P, Ellenor Ward 8P.

Arrangements for the start of Autumn Term

Wednesday 2nd September from 2 pm

Students with issues arising from GCSE or GCE AS results or seeking to amend option choices should see their Heads of House (in M9) to discuss these. Sixth Form staff will be available for consultation.

All students (Year 12 and 13) who have chosen to undertake courses with Cavendish, JFK, Kings Langley or West Herts College should register with Consortium Office staff in M9. Many will also need to book appropriate transport for their courses that begin on Monday 7th September.

Thursday 3rd September Year 7 to be on site at 8.30 am for registration in Form rooms at 8.40 am

Year 12 induction in M9 at 9 am

Years 8, 9, 10, 11 and 13 to registration in Form rooms at 10 am

At 1 pm there will be a barbecue lunch for Year 12 following which any remaining option queries will be addressed, otherwise students may leave.

Year 12 and 13 students are not in school on Friday 4th September. However, students who have registered to attend courses at Cavendish, JFK or Kings Langley should be in school by break to travel to their host establishment for tour and information sessions during periods 3 and 4. Classes for Year 12 and 13 students will commence on Monday 7th September.



ARTS NEWS

Big Arts Week

Last week during Big Arts Week students from Years 7 – 9 attended workshops led by Alex Pascall OBE, Performance Poet.

He worked with each year group focusing on different topics:

Year 7 – Cross-Cultural Foods, Year 8 – Calypso and Caribbean Music, Year 9 – Rhythm and Movement of Carnival. Alex Pascall then gave a presentation on the above topics to Year 10.

The whole day was energetic and full of activity, dance and song. The students and teachers found the workshop very inspirational and fun.

I look forward to organising another performance poet visit in the new academic year.

'Enjoyed it and was amused by it' Ben McFarlane
Barnes 8L.
Mrs Ramnarine

Library Notices

The Times Books for Schools scheme has now closed. Please send in any tokens by Wednesday 15th July as we have to get our final order for books in by the end of term. Thank you.

The Library will close for the summer at 5 pm on Friday 10th July. Books can still be returned during the last week of term either to the Library or to Student Services. The Library will open on Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th September to Year 7 and Sixth Form only. It will reopen for the rest of the school at 8 am on Monday 7th September.

Mrs Krajewski, Librarian

I Have A Dream

The English Department would like to congratulate the 55 Hemel Hempstead School students whose poetry, inspired by Martin Luther King's famous phrase 'I have a dream', has been selected to feature in the Young Writers 2009 regional anthology. The students' work has also been shortlisted to appear in the 'best of the best' anthology, which will be published later this year.

Ms H Redfern

MFL Stars of the Month for June

Year 7 French: Alice Vesty, Danielle Saunders, Ellie Wilson, Olivia Wright, Victoria Bennett

Year 8 French: Maddy Gray, Liam Wadmore, Tiffani Konstandi, Ben Johnson, Mary Pattinson

Year 8 German: Luke Harris, Grace Kershaw, Jack Heaslip, Amy Penhallow, Chloe Hann

Year 9 French: Abaan Suqulain, Olivia Nolan, Storm Frisby

Year 9 German: Dylan Bransgrove, Alex Burgess, Abbas Hussain, Demi Craig

Year 10 French: Zoe Harbour, Sophie Clayson, Anna Maduro.

Maths Stars of the Month for June

Year 7: Christabel Dodd 7F, Paige Kiff 7L, Mithushanaa Nesarajah 7N, Stanley Hayden 7C, Jack Rolfe 7C, Aidan Smart 7N, Callum Nolan 7N, Catherine Allen 7F, Daniel Sweetnam 7N.

Year 8: Olivia Church 8A, Paige Baah 8F, Scott Smith 8L, Levi Smith 8A, Chloe Hann 8F, Lucy Wiseman 8P.

Year 9: Steph Foster 9L, Abbas Hussain 9F, Scott Egerton 9F, Chandni Patel 9P, Harry Stancombe 9P.

Year 10: Kelly-Ann Walker 10F, Bridget Philpott 10P, Vicky Smith 10P, Jade Dempsey 10C, Claudia Woodham 10N, Yana Fawcett 10P.

Year 9 Science visit to Hertfordshire University

On 2nd July four Year 9 students went to Hertfordshire University to attend 'Express Yourself', a special science themed day for school children. We all produced posters to display a scientific experiment we conducted to share with other schools that attended. When we arrived we put up our posters along with the other schools; it was amazing just how many there were! To start with we heard an introduction to the day in the Auditorium from Kate Bellingham (who some of you will remember taught Maths at the school a few years ago) and we then proceeded to watch presentations that other schools had made. We saw a particularly good one, which was based around fear and how it affects our body, with a short film at the end that made everyone in the room jump when a screaming man appeared on a calm country lane! There were many other exciting displays and demonstrations set up by other students and it was really interesting to see what other schools were doing. We later returned to the auditorium for 'A Tour of the Universe' with Maggie Aderin-Pocock, a woman who knew a lot about space, who had appeared on the news and even met the Queen! It was a great presentation, that everyone enjoyed, and I'm sure we all wanted to listen to even more! Later we had a poster assessment, where the judges for the awards 'interrogated' us! Afterwards was what some of us considered the best part of the day: lunch! Our final activity was simply called 'Aliens' where we were given an alien landscape, and we had to design a creature that was perfectly adapted to these conditions. We then used our artistic skills to make our alien out of air dough. Finally, it was the awards ceremony, where unfortunately we didn't win anything, although secretly we were pleased, as we didn't have to go on stage in front of everyone! It was a shame when we had to leave, but we'd had a good day! Thank you very much to Miss Harris for organising everything and selecting us to go; we hope you continue to do this in years to come!

by Andrew Coe 9P

Gold Letters issued recently:

Letter 227 Year 9 Assessments

Letter 235 Spanish GCSE Course

All Gold Letters can be viewed on our website:

www.hhs.herts.sch.uk

School policies can be viewed on our website under 'about HHS/School Policies'. If you require a hard copy of any of the policies please get in touch with the School Office.

Maths Puzzle of the Month

Congratulations to our June winners **Liam Henniker 8F** and **Matthew Andrews 12P**.

Please come to the Maths office for your prizes.

June Solution:

BEARS: *Polar bears occur in pairs. By holes in the ice they gather round...*

How many dots on each die are gathered round the center dot?

That's how many bears there are! = **4 Bears**

FISH: *How many fish swim under the sea?*

What number is under the numbers that you see?

On a die, the 1 and 6 are opposite each other, the 3 and 4 are opposite each other and the 2 and 5 are opposite each other!

So the number of fish is the number opposite the one that is facing you! = **21 Fish**

Watch out for the next puzzle in September.

Enjoy your summer holiday.

Mrs Okusanya, Mathematics Department



We are pleased to announce the winning entries for this competition. The following students' doodles will be submitted to Google and entered into their prize draw:

Emily Wager 7P Lauren Stone 7P Levi Smith 8A
Emma Johnson 7C Jack Rolfe 7C Olivia Church 8A

Good luck to you all!

We were so impressed with the number of good entries, that we decided to award three in-house prizes as follows:

Third prize – Headteacher's Commendation: Olivia Wright 7C for a doodle based on her family.

Second prize – Headteacher's Commendation: Lauren Stone for a doodle about Indiana Jones.

First prize – Headteacher's Commendation: Levi Smith 8A for an imaginative doodle based on Banksy's artwork.

Levi also wins a box of Heroes!

Well done to everyone who entered.

Mrs Head, Subject Leader: ICT

Work Related Learning and Enterprise Week

13th to 17th July

Everybody should have received a letter and a copy of the programme for this week. If there are any outstanding return slips and monies please return them to school as soon as possible.

The Year 9 Team Challenge Week will begin on Friday 10th July with the Army coming in to work with the students on Team Building and Leadership.

All other groups will arrive in school on Monday in full school uniform apart from Year 7 who will be work-shadowing for the day.

Students need to be aware that there will be a change of Form Room for the week and in some cases a change of Form Tutor. They will have been notified of these changes today (see below).

Year 7

Room

W1 7A – Ms Tanner
W2 7C – Mrs Van Kempen
W3 7F – Miss Jackson
W4 7L – Mrs Hussain
W5 7N – Mrs Okusanya
W6 7P – Mrs Palmer

Year 8

Room

S9 8A – Ms Redfern
S7 8C – Mrs Eder
S8 8F – Mrs Wickett
S6 8L – Miss Smith
S11 8N – Dr Brown
S10 8P – Mrs Cruz

Year 10

Room

M1 10A – Ms Kydd
M2 10C – Mr Bezuidenhout
M8 10F – Mrs Jones
M6 10L – Miss Ramji
M7 10N – Miss Johnson
M4 10P – Miss Garman

Year 12

Room

AR2 12A – Mr Mitchell(His)
TE4 12C – Mr Mitchell(Eng)
M11 12F – Mr Williams
M12 12L – Mr Goodfellow
IT4 12N – Miss Rayner
IT5 12P – Miss May

Mrs Botha

Sky Dive – in aid of the Hospice of St Francis

The Hospice of St Francis is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year. Two Sixth Formers, Emma Saunders and Ryan Bellman-Jeffreys, are throwing themselves out of a plane to mark the event, in the hope of raising £1000 for the Hospice. The 10,000 ft sky dive takes place this month, however we are continuing fundraising until August.

If you would like to sponsor us, please visit

www.justgiving.com/hsfskydive

or you may send a cheque to school, payable to The Hemel Hempstead School. Please mark the envelope for the attention of the Finance Office.

Emma Saunders and Ryan Bellman-Jeffreys

Dates for Your Diary



11th July English Schools National Athletics Championships

11th – 16th July Year 10 History trip to Munich

11th and 12th July **MUSIC ON THE MOOR**

Blue Week

13th July Year 12 UCAS preparation day

15th July Year 12 Art visit

17th July Last day of term, school finishes at 1.20 pm

Please see separate notice of arrangements for first day of Autumn Term – also on our website.

Sport



Congratulations!

Judo

The students below won medals at the Judo competition last weekend. Congratulations to all competitors.

Daniel Vials Yr 10
Tyler Smith Yr 9
Joe Gibles Yr 10
William James Yr 7
Harry Hartnell Yr 7

District Athletics

On Wednesday 1st July all the athletics squads took part in the annual District Athletics Championships at Jarmans Park. It was extremely hot but we had some great performances. Full results will be published once they have been received by the school. Well done to all teams who competed in the difficult conditions.

Partnership Awards

Tuesday saw the second annual Partnership Awards evening, held at The Cavendish School. Many of our students were nominated for awards in a variety of categories and I am pleased to report that we had a very successful evening.

The following students were recognised in their categories:

Young Sports Achiever of the Year KS3 – Francesca Quinn (Runner up)
Young Sports Achiever of the Year KS4 – Courtney Hart (Runner up)
Young School Sports Leader of the Year KS3 – Harry Mansbridge (Runner up)
Young School Sports Leader of the Year KS4 – Barney Brown (Runner up)
Rebecca Armorgie (Runner up)
Young School Sports Leader of the Year KS5 – Mark Allday (Winner),
Paul Minter (Runner up)
Young Community Sports Leader KS4 – Ollie Edwards (Winner)
Luke Wartnaby-Lamb (Runner up)
Young Community Sports Leader KS5 – Jenna Love (Winner)
School OSHL Secondary Award – Mr A Smith (Runner up)
School Sports Team of the Year KS3 – Year 8 Girls Basketball Team (Runner up)
School Sports Team of the Year KS5 – 1st XI Football Squad (Winner)

Congratulations to all the students who were nominated and well done to those who were short-listed and awarded their trophies at the Awards evening on Tuesday night.

Archery

Archers from many Hertfordshire clubs competed at the Herts County Open at Haslam Field, Berkhamsted last week. Ali Postoyko won his event and lifted the TSB trophy and is now Herts County Champion in the Junior Recurve U14 age group.

Hockey

Congratulations should go to Charlotte and Georgina Bartlett. Over the last few weeks they have been busy with Hockey trials and have recently had some successes. Georgina (7C) has been selected for the Junior Development Centre at Under 14 level and is hoping to progress to the Academy in the New Year. Charlotte (8A) has been selected for the Junior Regional Performance Centre at Under 15 level. This is fantastic achievement for both girls to gain representative honours in age groups above their own.

Smartcards

As we have a new catering company from September it would be useful if small amounts left on Smartcards could be spent before the end of term. However, any balance will carry forward to the new company.

Mrs Hodson, School Manager

Sickness/absence line

Please will all parents contact us daily if your child is sick, going to be late in due to a medical appointment, or is absent for any other reason. Please call our sickness/absence line on 01442 390103 by 9am if possible.