



## HeadLines

In celebrating Black History Month, the School has taken this week to mount a range of activities which allow us to reflect and celebrate. Ms Darby has shared 'her' history with students in assemblies, thinking about her recent journey back to her homeland of South Africa and how it has changed for the better.

On Wednesday evening, Mrs Ramnarine organised a marvellous Multicultural Evening in which many groups from Dacorum gathered in our school hall to celebrate cultural diversity in all its forms. Sampling Caribbean and Indian food, exploring Indian pattern making, watching dance and music displays, hearing a motivational talk from Action Jackson (Ogunyemi Jackson from fixupseminars) led to a superb event permeated by a happy atmosphere.

As with any of our themed weeks, the main emphasis has been on introducing elements of the topic into our teaching and learning in every subject as well as quizzes and lunchtime events which have run throughout the week. Perhaps the most moving and influential event for many of our students was the Holocaust play "And Then They Came For Me", particularly the moment when the group realised that a person they had seen a few moments earlier on the screen in the context of the Anne Frank story was standing before them speaking to them directly about her experience of Auschwitz. The letters and messages we have received from parents indicate that this may have been one of the most powerful learning experiences ever for their children.

Nelson Mandela once said 'Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world' and the events of Black History Week have indicated the truth of this tenet.

Sandra Samwell, Headteacher



### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

#### \*\*\*Blue Week\*\*\*

Fri 12th -Fri 19th	Year 7 CAT Tests
Thurs 18th	Year 13 Parents Consultation Evening
Thurs 18th—Tues 23rd	D of E Silver Practice
Mon 22nd—Fri 26th	<b>HALF TERM</b>

#### \*\*\*Gold Week\*\*\*

Weds 31st Oct	Year 10 Immunisations
Thurs 1st Nov	Year 8 Parents Consultation Evening

### House Drama Festival — 6th November 2007



Please note the revised date for House Drama, the first major House event of the academic year. The theme for this year's House Drama will be Harry Potter and each House will take on one, or in the case of one House, two) Harry Potter books to perform. The new House Captains have been preparing for this event for a few weeks. From Monday they will begin recruiting students and rehearsing. Rehearsals will not finish any later than 5pm. Tickets will be on sale the first week back after half term.

Mr J Mitchell

### SCHOOL ASSOCIATION NEWS

#### Dates for your diary:

#### Quiz Night: Saturday 3rd November, 7 pm

This will be held in the School Hall and hosted by Mr Chappelow. Tickets will cost £5 and this includes pizza and salad. There will also be a raffle during the evening. Maximum of eight people and entry forms will be issued next week.

#### Jumble Sale: Saturday 17th November at 10 am

Please contact Mrs Stallworthy on the number below if you need any jumble collected. We would also appreciate any help either on Friday 16th after school or selling on the day.

**Date of next meeting: Monday 12th November** at 7 pm in the Library, all welcome.

Judith Stallworthy, Chair HHSA (01442 393266 or mobile 07749 727350), Email: s.stallworthy@sky.com

#### Jeans for Genes Day — 5th October 2007

Many thanks to all staff and students who participated in this event. A grand total of £1075.70 was raised which will benefit seven national charities, as part of this national appeal.

Mrs K Saunders, Science Department  
Jeans for Genes Day Co-ordinator

#### God and The Tsunami

There will be a debate between Buddhists, Christians, Muslims and Humanists at The Hemel Hempstead School on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm. This is being sponsored by The Chiltern Humanists and Churches Together in Hemel Hempstead. All are welcome.

Mr K Norwood

#### Smartcards

Due to our supplier lowering their costs for producing smartcards, from October 2007 the cost of a replacement card will now be £3.50 or £4 including plastic holder.

School Bursar

## Black History Week 8th—12th October

### Year 9 African Drumming and Dance

During the week some Year 9 students were selected to take part in an upbeat, energetic workshop that consisted of different movements to 'traditional African chants'. This was later performed at the Multicultural Evening on Wednesday. Everyone had a good time and we would like to thank Mrs Ramnarine for organising the workshop.

*Pippa Hill, 9A*

### Indian Food at lunchtime — 15th October

There will be Indian food on sale at lunchtime in the hall foyer for staff and students on Monday 15th October. This will be provided by the Asian Association. Remember to bring your money in!

*Mrs J Ramnarine*

### “And Then They Came For Me” - Holocaust Play

On Monday 8th October, Years 9 and 10 saw the above play about the Holocaust. At the end of the play, concentration camp survivor, Eva Schoss, spoke to the students and answered questions. Everyone who saw it found it intensely moving. Below are some reactions from students.

*Mrs L Abbott, Learning Leader: History*

Rebecca Tyne 9F: The story saddened and sickened me when I realised people were actually treated in this way. It shows our lives are very privileged compared to theirs and we shouldn't take our life for granted.

Thomas Durrant 9F: When Eva Schoss was talking I felt a surge of respect and admiration for her as she was brave and heroic. She is an inspiration to all people who have dreams.

Laura Dowse 9P: The Holocaust play was extremely moving and one I will never forget. I have great respect for Eva and hearing her story has really made me think; in comparison my worries seem stupid. Thank you to Eva and the performers.

Eloise Phillips 9F: I felt empathy with Eva and all the punished people who were so brave. It has taught me to appreciate what I have. I hope history will never repeat itself. So many were lost but people stayed strong and I admire that.

### Maths Star of the Month/Puzzle of the Month is Back!!

Welcome back to all students. As you know, each month your Maths teacher will nominate one person to receive the title of 'Maths Star of the Month'. This does not necessarily go to the student who gets top marks and everyone has a chance to be nominated if they try their best at classwork and homework. Results are published on the Maths notice board and also in the Newsletter. So, what are you waiting for...

#### September Stars of the Month are:

Amy Dowse, Rosie Watt, Harrison Bassett 7N, Ben Kaye, Callie Waters 7C, Ryan Georgiou 7L, Jenny Imrie 7F, Jodie Hardcastle 7C, Jamie Lamb, Gemma Putt 8C, Alice Rimmer, Amelie Lecoche 8P, Matthew Harris 8L, Billy Soden 8P, Jack Eykelbosch 8P, Evangeline Baker 9F, Fay Breed, Alex Hatt 9L, Rebecca Wood, Elliot Neal, James Moss 9L, Vincent Tang 10A, Amelia Doona 10C, Leah Deacon 10C, Emily Woolatt 10F, Sam Sydney 10N, Gemma Annis, Rebecca Munjic 10C, Zoe Farrell 11C, Thomas Clayson 11A, Luke Thomas 11N, Michael Armogrie 11L, Karla Blenes, Sam Messenger 11P

#### Maths Puzzle of The Month:

October's puzzle has now been published (see Maths Department noticeboard). Your teachers should also have a copy in their room and be highlighting this to you. If you want to enter simply put your name, form and correct answer on a piece of paper and hand to any of the Maths teachers. The first correct name pulled out of a hat will receive a prize!

*Ms L Ellis, Maths Department*

#### Headteacher's Commendations

**For excellent work in History:** Sophie Hatchett 8L, Ross King 8N.  
**For excellent work in English:** Imogen Hudson 9N, Thomas Durrant 9F, Jasmine Bond 9P, Benjamin Storrie 9N. **For excellent work in Maths:** Ben Kaye 7P. **For excellent work in Art:** Rosie Hoskins 9C. **For excellent group discussion on Art Trip:** Tom Nicholson 10P, Lilyma Yousuf 10L, Catryn Scantlebury 10A, Liam Whissell 10N, Lewis MacLeod 10C, Toby Hunt 10P, Alex Belcher 10C, Louis Bransgrove 12Ng, Isabella Michniewicz 10P, Lorna Freeman 10F, Daniel Smart 10C, Jenny Buttlemann 10N, Hannah McKenzie 10F. **For excellent work in Biology:** Edward Lane, Paige Baah 7F.

## FIXTURES

### Saturday 13th October

Football:

Year 7 A and B v St Clement Danes (A) 8.30-11.30am

Year 9 v St Clement Danes (A) 8.30-11.30am

Years 8 and 10 v St Clement Danes (H) 8.30-11.30am

Netball:

U14 County Netball Tournament @ Parmiters 9am—3pm

### Monday 15th

Football: Year 9 ESFA v Hertswood (A) 3.30—5.30pm

Rugby: U16 v Rickmansworth (A) 3.30—5.30pm

### Tuesday 16th October

Netball:

Year 7 District Netball Tournament @ Astley Cooper 3.30—5.30pm

Year 8 District Netball Tournament @ Adeyfield 3.30—5.30pm

Year 9 Netball v Cavendish (A) 3.30—5.30pm

### Wednesday 17th October

Senior Netball @ Berkhamsted 3.30—5.30pm

Football: U14 County Cup Football v Astley Cooper (A) 3.30—5.30pm

### Thursday 18th October

Year 9 Rugby Development Camp

Year 9 District Netball @ Astley Cooper 3.30—5.30pm

Year 10 District Netball @ Adeyfield 3.30—5.30pm

## RESULTS

**Football:**

Year 7 v Bridgewater won 3-0, Year 8 v Bridgewater won 7-1, Year 9 v Ashlyns lost 3-1, Year 10 v Ashlyns lost 2-1, Year 11 v Ashlyns won 3-0  
 U15 District Cup v Cavendish lost 7-0, U18 ESFA v Twyford School won 5-3.

## SPORTS NEWS

Congratulations to the following students who have been selected for representative honours so far this year.

**Football:** James Shaw 8L, Courtney Hart 9N, Carl Richardson 9P, Luke Marsh 9N, Bradley Penhallow 9L, Rakeeb Khan 10P, Joe Welton 10N, Matthew Church 10P.

**County Football:** Courtney Hart 9N, Max Farrelly 10N (Captain)

**Hockey:** Charlotte Bartlett 7A, County U13.

**District Netball:** Amber Bartlett 10F, Louise Verroken-Jones 10C, Alice McQuade 10C, Charlotte Bateman 10P.

It has been my pleasure this week to be involved in the interviews for the Young Sports Ambassadors, a new and exciting programme which is running across the Herts Sports Partnership. The field of nine Year 11 students selected for interview performed exceptionally well and presented themselves as very mature and enthusiastic young people who are passionate about sport. The six successful candidates will have the opportunity to raise the profile of sport, both at The Hemel Hempstead School and within primary school and the local community.

*Miss E Bevan, Head of PE*

## Message from the Music Department

**Found:** Electric Guitar — Fender, Squire Strat Sunburst, black/brown, in plain black bag with a 'Rockbag' label on. Please come to Heath Barn to reclaim it.

*Mrs S Jackson, Admin. Music Office*

## Gold Letters issued recently:

**Letter 40:** Year 13 Parent Consultation Evening

**Letter 42:** Year 8 Visit of Roman Legion

**Letter: 43:** Years 10 and 12 Clothes Show Live

**Letter 44:** Year 10 German Exchange Visit

**Letter 45:** Year 9 Visit to the Somme

**Letter 46:** Year 12/13 Art Trip to Paris

**Letter 47:** Year 12 University Day



## School answerphone for sickness or absence

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