



HeadLines

As the days grow greyer and the mists swirl around the school fields, I look as I do every morning down to Heath Barn and think about the school and what makes it unique. Tragic events tend to bring communities in good schools together and so it was this week. On Saturday, I was shocked to receive a call to tell me that Glenn Hoffman, our Head of Economics, had died suddenly. Glenn had started at the school at the same time as me just over two years ago. He taught mainly Year 11, 12 and 13 examination classes and had achieved some significant results for his teaching groups. He was also a man of intellect and good humour. Born in Capetown fifty years ago, teaching was a second career for Glenn. He had been an important figure in the diplomatic service and had received an honorary knighthood whilst serving in Finland. He was very musical and I often heard him singing his way around the school. I also heard him speak fondly about his family, his teenage son and daughter, whom he adored. To Glenn, teaching at The Hemel Hempstead School was a second chance for him, an opportunity to be part of an honourable profession which he loved. He was a larger than life character whom some of Year 13 referred to as 'a legend' Our thoughts go out to his family. I will be representing the school at his funeral along with several of his colleagues and students who wish to pay their last respects to him. He will be sorely missed.

Sandra Samwell, Headteacher

Memories of Mr Hoffman from Year 11 students

Mr Hoffman was such a great man and he will be really missed by our whole class. He spoke about his family a lot so my thoughts are with them at this sad time. He cared a lot for our education and was always pushing us to work to the best of our ability. Business Studies will never be the same without you, Mr Hoffman.

“There are three kinds of people in this world; those who can count, and those who can’t.” - The famous quote by Mr Hoffman that always made us smile.

So funny, caring, family orientated. Taught Business Studies with good intentions and is truly a legend. Greatly loved and missed!

It was an honour being taught by Mr Hoffman in Business Studies. He was very active, quite humorous and he understood how to teach us. My thoughts go to his family.

Thank you. You were truly one of the best teachers I have ever had. I am sorry I gave you a hard time now and then but I hope I showed you that I am a good student. Whichever teacher we have now, I am sure they will never be as good as you.

Mr Hoffman was a good man, a good teacher and was very humorous. He said a few jokes each lesson just to lighten the mood.

Mr Hoffman was a great teacher. We always had a laugh as a whole class. He will be missed loads and will not be forgotten, especially his good advice and funny jokes.

Mr Hoffman was a good teacher, always there when we needed the help. He turned bad things into good and made us laugh. He was one of those teachers who always made you smile and he will not be forgotten. He played the guitar well. He was a caring guy.

I can't believe this has happened. It all just feels so unreal, and soon we will wake up and carry on as usual. Mr Hoffman was a good teacher. He always tried to be funny and gave us fun lessons. Near enough every lesson he spoke about his children and he loved them very much. Mr Hoffman will be missed by all of us very much.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Mon 22nd—Fri 26th Oct	Half Term—School closed ***Gold Week***
Weds 31st Oct	Year 10 Immunisations
Thurs 1st Nov	Year 8 Parents Consultation Evening

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 have been sent home already. Please return entry forms and payment to Student Services as soon as possible after half term and no later than Thursday 1st November.

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

Congratulations!

May I offer my congratulations to four students who represent the best of the school and exemplify the three Rs.

Matthew Gill has come up with some great ideas for Children in Need which he will be putting into practice after half term. Well done and thank you, Matt, for thinking of others before yourself.

Hannah Freeman of Year 11 is a star gymnast. She has represented Britain on a number of occasions. Hannah is now in the 'Top Women's Artistic Performance Squad' which comprises the top twelve women gymnasts in the country. Well done, Hannah.

Chloe and Fifi Mills are dedicated to their music and have achieved much. May I congratulate them on their involvement in the BBC Proms in the summer. Chloe and Fifi, you represent what is best about this school of ours!

Miss S Samwell, Headteacher

Quote of the Week: *“Mistakes, obviously, show us what needs improving. Without mistakes, how would we know what we had to work on?” Peter McWilliams*

Trip to The Royal Academy of Arts and The National Gallery

On Thursday 27th September Year 10 went on an Art Trip to The Royal Academy of Arts and The National Gallery. We saw two exhibitions at The Royal Academy of Arts; 'The George Baselitz Exhibition' and the 'Impressionists by the Sea' exhibition.

At the Baselitz exhibition there were many different abstract paintings. Most of George Baselitz's paintings were based on World War 2 and had a hidden meaning behind them. After this exhibition, we went to the 'Impressionists by the Sea' exhibition. The type of work displayed here was impressionism. There were many different landscapes and seascapes painted by various different artists. I liked the style of the paintings at this exhibition.

At The National Gallery we looked at three paintings: two were painted by an artist called J M W Turner and one was painted by Georges Seurat. I liked the paintings at this Gallery and I found it really interesting to find out about each painting.

Madhurima Dey, 10N

Music News

Our Saxophone Quartet and Flute Choir will be performing at the Mayor of Dacorum's Christmas Appeal Concert this year in aid of the Mayor's chosen charity, The Ian Rennie Hospice and Home. The concert will take place at the Boxmoor Playhouse on Sunday 16th December. Tickets are available from the charity on 890222 or from the Mayor's secretary on 228202. Please come along and support our students and this worthy cause.

The Hemel Hempstead School and Mgezwa School in South Africa

Mrs Botha, Ms Dayton, Mrs Bailey and Mr Dowling are to travel to Mgezwa School in the Eastern Cape, South Africa during half term to work with their pupils and to record their choir singing. On their return, the students in The Hemel Hempstead School's choirs will also be recorded and a joint CD will be produced to support the newly formed Partnership. It is also intended to 'mix' one track with students from both schools performing the same song.

This exciting venture began over a year ago when Rev. Brian Boggis from the South Hill Community Centre introduced Bishop Joseph Kobu, Nelson Mandela's cousin, to The Hemel Hempstead School. He was also an ANC activist during the apartheid era and spent time on Robben Island. Due to his truly inspiring accounts of those times and the opportunity given to The Hemel Hempstead School by Rev. Brian Boggis to form a Partnership with Mgezwa School, Lusikisiki, the seeds were sown. Students at both schools can now share their learning and develop an understanding of the global dimension.

Mathematics statistics work and letters from pupils have already been exchanged. The Mgezwa School have very few resources but their appetite for learning is both humbling and enlightening. Communication has been by post and occasionally by email to the Community Centre in Lusikisiki, built by the South Hill Community Centre.

The Specialist Schools and Academies Trust have supported this visit through a grant, due to The Hemel Hempstead School's Performing Arts status. This visit will give the opportunity for further mutual projects across the curriculum to be identified. Science and Sport are already being discussed and with The Hemel Hempstead School visiting South Africa on a sports tour next Easter, the Partnership can only grow and students from both schools will benefit.

Mrs M Botha

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

FIXTURES

Tuesday 30th October

Year 7 Netball League Tournament @ Astley Cooper School
3.30>5.30pm

Year 8 Netball League Tournament @ Adeyfield School
3.30>5.30pm

Thursday 1st November

Year 9 Netball League Tournament @ Astley Cooper School
3.30>5.30pm

Year 10 Netball League tournament @ Adeyfield School
3.30>5.30pm

Friday 2nd November

U18 ESFA v Hertswood (H) 3pm

Saturday 3rd November

Years 7—10 Football v JFK 8.30>11.30 am, venues to be arranged

RESULTS

Netball

Year 7 District Tournament: v Abbotts Hill won, v Astley Cooper won, v Kings Langley won, v Tring won, v Bridgewater won.

Year 8 semi-final v Longdean lost 8-7.

Year 8 match postponed until after half term.

SPORTS NEWS

Congratulations to the Year 8 Netball squad who reached the semi-finals of the District Tournament on Tuesday. Unfortunately, they narrowly lost to Longdean, 8-7.

Miss E Bevan, Head of PE

Headteacher's Commendations

For excellent contribution to the success of Open Evening: Sam Berry 13L, Katie McDonnell 13A, Amelie Lecoeuche 8P, Noah Jones 8L, Max Taylor 12Fg.

For excellent Steel Pan performance: Grace Masters 7A, Aaron Lloyd, Ben Catt 8N, Jesse Toms 8L, Zoe Brook 9F, Amy Mairs, Jenny Buttlerman 10N.

For excellent Drumming and Dance performance: Keith Johnson, Rebecca Wood, Philippa Hill 9A, Chelsea Sturges, Lauren Sumner 9C, Carrie-Anne Smith, Asa Foster, Sahrish Mahmood 9F, Marie Gorton, Sophie Clayson, Philippa Taylor, James Moss 9L, Ellie Dobby, Imogen Hudson 9N, Jasmine Bond, Luke Wartnaby-Lamb, Elliott Neal, Jacinta Goff 9P.

For excellent production of posters for Multicultural Evening: Maddie Gray, Alice Cook, Lucy Bridger 7A.

For excellent Science Homework: Sarah Kinley 9P.

Gold Letters issued recently:

Letter 41	A2 PE Conference
Letter 48	Year 12/13 'Authentik' Magazine
Letter 49	Year 8 Parents Consultation
Letter 50	Year 13 A2 English Literature Conference
Letter 51	Year 8 Progress Letter
Letter 52	Years 10-13 Public Exams
Letter 54	House Cup

Gold Letters are also available via our website— www.hhs.herts.sch.uk



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**