



HeadLines

We like to pride ourselves on a rich and varied curriculum with a vast range of extra curricular activities, but one of the other learning adornments that adds to the academic and intellectual landscape of every child at our school is the use of themed days or weeks where lessons are taught with a somewhat different emphasis or days are collapsed to provide space and time to explore a particular avenue of learning. One such day was Wednesday's International Languages Day. Led by Mrs Cunnie, Year 8s enjoyed taster sessions in Japanese, Mandarin Chinese, Portuguese, Greek and Welsh to name but some of the languages presented by members of staff like Mr Miller, Ms Cruz, Miss Phung and Mr Kourris who more usually teach other subjects on the curriculum. A good time was had by all and according to the students during the final session, much had been learnt and enjoyed. Certificates were presented and a sense of achievement prevailed on this day when our students looked way beyond Hemel Hempstead for inspiration and interest. We look forward to Black History Week in a week's time!



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Blue Week

Thurs 4th Oct	Open Evening for Year 6 Parents Please note school will finish early— see Gold Letter No. 28
Fri 5th Oct	Jeans for Genes Day—see Gold Letter No.34
Gold Week	
Mon 8th—Fri 12th Oct	Black History Week
Mon 8th	Years 10/11 Parents Information and Coursework Evening
Weds 10th	Open Morning for Year 6 Parents Years 10/11 Dance Trip Multi-cultural Evening, School Hall 6.15-9.30pm
Thurs 11th	Year 7 Parents Cheese and Wine Evening
Fri 12th	Open Morning for Year 6 Parents

Jewellery

We would like to remind parents about the school rules concerning jewellery. Earrings should be small, plain metal studs with one in each ear only. Rings, bracelets and necklaces (unless of religious significance) may not be worn. No facial jewellery is allowed. Students who break these rules can expect to face severe consequences, using new powers which the Government has expressly given schools concerning uniform issues.

Miss S Samwell

Sickness—new guidelines

The recommended time to be kept away from school after suffering from sickness and diarrhoea is now 48 hours from the last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting.

Mrs L Bower, Matron

Quote of the week: "All who have accomplished great things have had a great aim, have fixed their gaze on a goal which was high, one which sometimes seemed impossible." Orison Swett Marden

SCHOOL ASSOCIATION NEWS

We have a date for our Autumn Jumble Sale - Saturday 17th November at 10am. Please start sorting through your wardrobes and cupboards. We can start taking items from you straight away; please contact me on the number below or email me. We would also appreciate any help you can give us either on the Friday after school (16th November) or actually selling on the day.

Dates for your Diary:

Quiz Night: Saturday 3rd November at 7pm in the School Hall hosted by Mr Chappelow. Tickets will cost £5 and this includes pizza and salad. Teams may be up to eight people and entry forms will be available soon.

Jumble Sale: Saturday 17th November at 10am.

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

Academic Tutoring 2007-08

We are now well into a new school year, a year full of potential success for every student. To help support every student's learning, a new programme of academic tutoring has been introduced. The activities taking place in this fortnightly lesson will be study skills, thinking skills, career education and learning style activities amongst other topics such as preparing for university and maintaining a healthy lifestyle. The activities are designed to better prepare students for our ever-changing world as well as teaching them skills which can be implemented and used in every subject with the aim of further improving student achievement.

The lessons have started exceptionally well and will benefit the students' education.

Mr A Stuart, Assistant Headteacher

Science Revision Guides

Revision Guides are now available to buy from the Science Office. The Science Department have selected the most appropriate guide for the class to aid them in their revision for their exams.

Year 10

Set R - Three Guides to last the 2 year course—£2.50 each

Sets O, G and Y - GCP Core Guide - £2.50 each

Sets B, V, I and W - Lonsdale Core Revision Guide - £3.50 each

Year 11

Sets O and R - CGP Additional Science - £2.50 each

Sets G, B, Y, I, V and W - Lonsdale Additional Science - £3.50

Miss J Harris

'The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui' by Brecht

On Monday afternoon The Watford Palace Theatre Touring Company performed the first run of their new production in our school hall. 'The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui' is a scathing satire of Hitler's rise to power during the early 1930s, in which Brecht skilfully portrays Hitler as a mafia thug in depression-hit Chicago.

Directed by Kate Saxon (of Shared Experience fame), the five actors created a world of corruption, tyranny, betrayal and fear against a backdrop, literally, of the Chicago skyline. Original music composed for the tour allowed the multi-talented actors to demonstrate their skills as musicians, playing several different instruments and capturing the mood of the jazz age. The action in Chicago was cleverly interspersed with actual events in Germany during Hitler's rise, including The Night of the Long Knives, The Reichstag fire and the occupation of Austria.

Playing many roles apiece and demonstrating Brecht's Epic theatre devices with confidence and clarity, the cast made us laugh and gasp at the role the ordinary man plays in allowing a leader like Hitler to succeed. The strong social and political message left us in no doubt of Brecht's political views and the epilogue reminded us that we must not allow it to happen again.

We are very fortunate to have a touring company of such calibre in Herts and I hope the Year 12 and 13 students who attended the performance found the play beneficial in developing their understanding of Brecht and political theatre. I certainly did.

Mrs D Heale

Black History Week

October is Black History Month. It is celebrated nationally, but will be celebrated in the school the week commencing Monday 8th October.

During the week there will be lunchtime activities for Year 7 and 8 including Chinese Calligraphy, Chinese Language/Games and Rangoli. Other year groups will have the opportunity to go to video clubs, have a henna tattoo (**parental permission only**) and will take part in drama workshops and discussions in lessons throughout the week.

On Wednesday 10th October the school will hold a Multicultural Evening in the hall from 6.15-9.30pm. This evening is open to everyone, so please come along!

Look on the School website in latest information for news on these events. There will be updated information on Black History Week on this webpage.

Mrs J Ramnarine

Book Boxes

In the past, every Form has had the facility of a book box in their rooms to use during form time. These are brilliant resources for students to do research, improve their literacy, to revise from and support the learning taking place in lessons. To provide relevant material to all year groups is obviously a costly business. Subsequently, we are asking for your help in supplying the books. If you have any novels, short story or revision books you no longer use we would be very grateful if you could send them in with your son or daughter for us to recycle and re-use with other students.

Mr A Stuart

Headteacher's Commendations:

For excellent work in Biology: Chloe Bradley, Daniel Ford, Charlotte Bailey, Mark Baldwin, Rachel Lotts, Harry Bassett, Amy Walters, Courtney Rowe, Grace Neal, Kayleigh Hendin, Nicola Kennett 7N.

For Good Citizenship: Elliot Kidd 11C, James Conibear 11N.

For excellent work in Science: Amelie Lecoeuche 8P, Andrew Coe 8P, Cale Tilford 8C, Glen Taylor 8F.

For 100% attendance 2006/07: Jasmine Bond 9P.

Sport

FIXTURES

Monday 1st October

U14 County Cup Football v Verulum (A) 2.30—6.30 pm

Tuesday 2nd October

Year 7 Netball @ Astley Cooper 3.30-5.30 pm

Year 8 Netball @ Adeyfield 3.30-5.30 pm

Year 9 Netball v Cavendish (H) 3.30-5.00 pm

Wednesday 3rd October

Year 11/Senior Netball @ Berkhamsted 3.30-5.30 pm

U18 County Cup Football v Onslow (H) 3.45 pm ko

RESULTS:

Netball

Year 7 – v Astley Cooper won 5-0, v Tring won 2-1, v Kings Langley won 4-2, v Cavendish won 6-2.

Year 8—v Tring won 8-4, v Astley Cooper won 6-1, v Adeyfield won 8-1, v Kings Langley won 9-2.

Year 9— 9A v JFK 3-2 win, v Ashlyns 6-0 win, v Astley Cooper 7-2 win.

9B v Astley Cooper 2-2 draw, v Ashlyns 4-0 win, v Adeyfield 5-0 win, v JFK 0-5 lost.

Year 10— v Cavendish 3-2 draw, v Adeyfield 7-0 win, v Kings Langley 7-2 win.

Football

Year 10 v Chiswick Community School lost 6-2.

Basketball

Year 8 v Bridgewater won 34-27

National Disabled Games 2007

Jack Morrell in Year 8 competed in the National Disabled Games held at Stoke Mandeville Stadium last week. The games were held over five days and saw many teams and individuals from around the country compete. Jack competed both as an individual and as part of several team events. I was lucky enough to get to see Jack competing in the Hockey event where his team narrowly missed out on a bronze medal. However, despite that, Jack came home from the Games with one bronze, two silver and two gold medals. He won the swimming event and also the table cricket—not an easy game, I did try! Massive congratulations must go to Jack for taking part in and doing so well in the competition. Well done Jack!

Miss N Black

Connexions Interviews

Students in Year 11 will be having interviews soon with our Connexions Advisor, Helen Ewers and parents are welcome to attend. If you wish to attend but the time is inconvenient please call Mr Nash in the Careers Department.

Gold Letters issued recently

Letter No.

Letter No. 24	Years 7 and 8 Black History Month
Letter No. 25	Year 12 PE
Letter No. 26	Year 10 Information and Coursework Evening
Letter No. 27	Year 11 Information and Coursework Evening
Letter No. 28	Open Evening 2007
Letter s 29-32	Year 11 English Set Texts
Letter No. 33	Voluntary Contribution
Letter No. 34	'Jeans for Genes' Day
Letter No. 35	Year 12 AS Biology Information Letter
Letter No. 36	Year 13 A2 Biology Information Letter