



The Hemel Hempstead School

News

29 February 2008

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HeadLines

I have been using the week's main assemblies to feed back to the students on the OfSTED inspection. In doing so, it has become even more obvious to me how outstanding our students are and how fortunate I am to have such a wonderful student body.

Whilst statements such as 'The students' personal development, their spiritual, moral and cultural development and in particular their behaviour are outstanding', 'Care, support and guidance are outstanding.....' pervade the full report to be published to you on March 5th, there are many other indications about students' impact on their own learning and what they think about the school:

'staff earn respect here, rather than demand it' (student comment)

'students play an important part in the life of the school' (inspectors)

'Students are happy, feel safe and enjoy coming to school' (inspectors)

'Everyone is accepted' (student comment)

'attitudes to learning are excellent' (lead inspector)

'there are few incidences of bullying' (inspectors)

'students develop an understanding of responsible citizenship' (inspectors)

'Year 7 students greatly appreciate the introduction of Sixth Form student buddies' (inspectors, based on Year 7 comment)

'the students' excellent attitudes to learning are a positive factor' (inspectors)

And so it goes on. Praise for our students. Praise for staff in relation to the care and guidance of our students. I congratulate our students on their contribution to our excellent OfSTED report. I have seen the best of them over the past week in the Year 11 interviews I have conducted and in the brilliant Year 13 production of 'Godspell'.

A member of staff who prefers to remain anonymous wrote the following poem about our students. I know that you will agree when you read the OfSTED report next week.

You're Outstanding

When OfSTED came to visit us
The one thing that they found
Was students here at HHS
Are the best students around.

You're bright, you're buzzy and you care
For each other and this place,
You care about the world
And folk of every creed and race.

In lessons you're engaged and keen
To answer and explore
And after hours still you stay
To learn and do much more.

And so our OfSTED team have said
You're 'outstanding' amongst your peers
-But we told them that as they arrived
We've known all this for years!

Anonymous but proud member of staff

Dates for Your Diary



Blue Week

2 nd - 9 th Mar	Yr 10 German Exchange to Speyer
3 rd - 10 th Mar	Yr 11 English GCSE Speaking and Listening exams
3 rd Mar	HHSA 7 pm
5 th Mar	Yr 8 Maths Trip to Watford FC
7 th Mar	Yr 12 Ethics and Philosophy Revision Conference

Gold Week

National Science Week

10 th - 14 th Mar	Yr 12 Geography Fieldtrip to Yorkshire
10 th Mar	House Science
12 th Mar	Yr 8 Maths Trip to Watford FC
	Yr 9 Revision Evening, 6 - 7 pm
	Yr 11 Revision Evening, 7.30 - 8.30 pm
13 th Mar	Yr 10 Personal Finance/Work Experience day
13 th / 14 th Mar	National Theatre Connections Performance
14 th Mar	Yr 9 History visit to the Somme

PTA News

WANTED – someone to review our charity accounts at the end of our accounting year (21st August). We do not need a full audit, so if you can help us and have a financial qualification, please contact our Treasurer at the email address below.

Next meeting is Monday 3rd March 2008 at 7pm in the Library.

Jumble Sale 10 am 8th March 2008, Main Hall

We are now collecting jumble. Please telephone the numbers below to arrange for jumble to be collected from the school car park. We would also appreciate help, either on Friday 7th after school or selling on the day. Thank you.

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

Job Vacancies

Required as soon as possible:

First Aider

H2: £7.64 per hour

32.5 hours per week, 8.30 – 3.30 pm term time only plus some training days. Job share considered

We are looking to appoint a First Aider to provide medical care for students. The successful applicant will also carry out some administrative duties including those relating to student medical care and medication as well as accident and Health & Safety reporting. First aid experience is desirable but full training will be provided.

Part-time Administrative Assistant

H1: £7.05 per hour, 24 hours per week, term time only

Monday – Thursday 12 - 5 pm, Friday 12.30 – 4.30 pm

Needed in our busy print room, someone who can assist with the production of printed materials, manage receipt of deliveries, distribution and despatch of post. Good administrative skills needed for covering in general office and reception area.

Further details are available on our website at www.hemelhempsteadschool.co.uk. Please apply in writing or online via letter of application and Hertfordshire Support Staff Appointment and Person Specification forms (available on the website) to Mrs S Cooper, Headteacher's PA, The Hemel Hempstead School, Heath Lane, Hemel Hempstead, Herts HP1 1TX. Tel: 01442 390100. Fax: 01442 233706.

E-mail: admin@hhs.herts.sch.uk

Closing date for applications: Tuesday 11th March 2008

We also need a Part Time Cleaner

£6.28 per hour, Monday to Friday, 3.30 – 5.30 pm

Please contact Dawn Morrison at school on 01442 390100

The Hemel Hempstead School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and expects all staff to share this commitment.



GODSPELL



Anyone who stayed at home to watch the rugby missed a real treat on Saturday night when our very talented Year 13 BTEC group performed their final major project, 'Godspell', at Kings Langley Community Centre. It was my first experience of a production by our students and what a fabulous night out it was! The cast exuded energy and enthusiasm and displayed an outstanding talent, complementing each other's strengths throughout. The singing was superb and very varied, ranging from haunting melodies to upbeat pop songs. The acting was light-hearted, alternative and humorous which kept the audience spellbound throughout, relishing every moment and looking forward with anticipation to the next 'turn'. I was particularly struck by the mobile facial expressions of the cast which were used to great effect.

Matthew's Gospel was brought to life and those of us who remember the Seventies felt that Brad Sarginson could certainly give David Essex a run for his money as Jesus! Despite the biblical source of the parables, there was plenty of clowning around, raspberry blowing and sheep bleating which kept the audience highly amused. This contrasted savagely with the dramatic climax of the show as Brad emitted a chilling howl of anguish, sending shivers down the spine, as he portrayed the crucifixion. The tension in the hall was tangible and contributed to the emotional reaction of the audience.

Congratulations to everyone involved in the production.

Ellen Krajewski, Librarian

World Book Day

ATTENTION YEAR 7 AND YEAR 8

There will be a House Book Challenge/Quiz in the Library at lunchtime on Thursday 6 March. See your House Captains if you would like to be in the team, or just come along to watch.

£1 World Book Day vouchers will be distributed in the registers next week and may be exchanged for one of the special £1 books available at Waterstones or used as part payment for a more expensive book, either at bookshops or from the Scholastic C2C brochure, which will also be distributed next week.

Mrs E Krajewski, Librarian

Headteacher's Commendations

For Excellent Work in RE:

Christopher Andric, Francesca Quinn, Sonia Odedra 7F.

For Excellent Work in Geography:

Rebecca Armorgie 9A, Rebecca Tyne 9F.

For Outstanding Effort in History:

Benjamin Kikta 7N.

For Excellent Work in Dance:

Emily Crawley 7F, Holly Woollatt 7P, Sidonie Reid 10N, Shelbey Joyce 10L, Jenny Stollar 10P.

For Outstanding Performance in 'Godspell':

Brad Sarginson 13N, Georgie Javins 13C, Rosie Westley 13A, Esther Shiells 13L, Daniel Cohen 13P, Zoe Ellis 13L, Daniella Paris 13C, Letitia Rees-Harris 13F, Amanda Brooks 13P.

For Excellent Work in English:

Clarice Walker, Sonia Odedra, Ivan Clayson 7F.

For Excellent Work in French:

Nicola Kennett 7N.

For Excellent Work in Textiles:

Charlotte Bateman 10P, Sadia Akhtar 11P, Arfana Saddiquee 11L, Ehnah Ahmed 11P, Katie Gillingham 11N.

For Excellent Work in Science:

Lauren Bodiam 8L

Lois Moore 8N

Daniel MacLeod 8F

Glen Taylor 8F

Tasmin Mason 8A

Sixth Form Parking

We have received a number of complaints from local residents regarding the inconsiderate way Sixth Formers are parking in local streets. Police have been called and in future, will ticket cars parked in this way. Students have been spoken to about this on a number of occasions and we would welcome your support in ensuring the message is made very clear to them.

Miss Dayton, Head of Sixth Form

Library Notices

There are a number of students with overdue library books. Reminder notices have been sent out in the registers this week. **Please** return these books to the Library by the end of next week, Friday 7 March. No fines will be charged on books returned within this period but invoices will be sent out for books still overdue beyond this date.

Mrs E Krajewski, Librarian

GCSE Catering

In the Year 10 Catering lesson on the 22nd February we were visited by an ex-pupil of the school. His name was Antoni Johnson and since leaving school he has gone far in his catering career. Antoni Johnson is currently a chef working at a very reputable restaurant. We had a great time and we learnt lots of new things. He showed us how to make Crème Brûlée that tasted brilliant. He also told us about the excitement tangled up in a career involved in catering. He then taught us about the main trades needed to go far in your catering career and we really enjoyed his presentation. The skills he showed us were amazing and the experience he had as a chef was outstanding.

While the Crème Brûlée was cooking in the oven Antoni Johnson answered our questions and he told us about his exciting experiences during his catering career and how he had progressed. He explained the choices he had made to be what he is today. So all in all the experience we had was great, we learnt lots of new things, heard some interesting stories and we also had a fun-filled lesson. We are now all eager and ready to get our catering career on the road and improve our skills. A special thank you to Antoni Johnson for coming in during his own time – thanks again from all the Catering staff and pupils.

Matt Reynolds and Chris James Yr 10

Gold Letters issued recently:

- Letter 117** Public Exams – Summer 2008
- Letter 121** Work Experience – private placement forms
- Letter 122** Yr 9 End of Key Stage Report
- Letter 123** Yr 11 Revision Evening
- Letter 124** AS Ethics & Philosophy Revision Conference
- Letter 125** Yr 8 Geography Docklands visit

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.**

Sport

Fixtures

- Mon 3rd March** – 1st XI Football v Cavendish (H) 2.30pm
- Yr 10 Inter Form Volleyball (H) 3.30pm
- Tue 4th March** – Sports Tour Football 5-a-side (H) on Astroturf
- Yr 7 Girls Basketball @ Tring
- Yr 8 Girls Hockey @ Tring

Wed 5th March – Yr 7 Hockey v JFK (H)

Yr 7 and Yr 8 District Swimming Gala at Tring

Thu 6th March – District Cross-Country, 2.30 pm start at Field of Hope

Sports News

This week sees the culmination of many of the first round stages of both District and County Basketball and Football competitions. Progress is as follows with fixtures yet to be confirmed:

- Yr 7 Basketball District Cup, semi-final
- Football County Cup v Owens (A), semi-final
- Football District Cup v Tring (H), semi-final
- Yr 8 Basketball County Cup v Beaumont, semi-final
- Football County Cup v Queens, quarter-final
- Yr 10 Basketball District Cup, semi-final
- ESBBA Shield competition
- Yr 11 Basketball ESBBA v Notre Dame, last 64

Congratulations must go to Ben McFarlane Barnes who has been selected to play for Luton Town FC Centre of Excellence. Congratulations and best wishes for all the great things to come.

The girls District Basketball and Hockey League competitions are continuing. All sides continue to progress well, with the Year 7 girls Basketball squad still unbeaten.

Miss E Bevan, PE Department



