



HeadLines

The year used to be divided up into religious days of commemoration and celebration. The church's year still is. Whilst we might mark the season of Lent in various ways and be looking forward to Mothering Sunday marking the mid-point of Lent or Easter Day denoting the end of a solemn and abstemious time, the internet generation might be more aware of secular days of note. For example this week is national pie week, a concept as far removed from the sentiments of Lent as it is possible to be, one might argue. Some of you may have received 'round robin' emails informing you that it is 'international friendship week' or 'find the angel in your inner self week' or 'save a guinea pig week', telling you that if you don't send the email on to ten other gullible people your life will be unhappy, your wishes will not be granted and you will never have a pension like Sir Fred's.

How much better and sensible and self improving to celebrate the two events that we have: World Book Week and World Maths Day. How utterly amazing for our students to be going online simultaneously with thousands of youngsters all over the world to do Mathematical puzzles. To be sharing knowledge, to be excited by the world of numbers, to calculate en masse in the classroom of the world. Brilliant! Many thanks to Miss May and the Maths team for enabling us to take part in such a worthy enterprise.

World Book Week? A fantastic opportunity provided by Miss Bradley, Ms Akeroyd, Mrs Krajewski and Mrs Tompkins with some thought provoking quizzes and games and activities to celebrate the pleasure of reading and to encourage us to read more. Mrs Krajewski even put a special Daphne du Maurier question in the quiz to make me feel at home and stop me stressing over my lack of 'Harry Potter' facts. Mr Chappelow gave us some high quality assemblies during the week and there were some excellent incentives to read more whilst exploring the worlds of authors new to ourselves. Pendley won the book quiz in the Library. The staff team's score was the equivalent of Corpus Christi on a good day, but no-one was disqualified as teachers had declared their great age and lack of student status, although this didn't stop them accepting chocolate prizes afterwards.

I eagerly await National Headteacher Day in which headteachers are praised all day and no-one criticises their actions, merely recommending them for massive bonuses and general acclamation. This day may be preceded or followed by 'pigs might fly day' or take place on April 1st. In the meantime, may I recommend that you tackle a nice mathematical puzzle or find a great book to read as both will stretch the mind and feed the soul. Our students had such a good time and such a stimulating time this week engaged in both activities!

Sandra Samwell, Headteacher



Year 13 BTEC Variety Performance

available from Student Services for the Year 13 BTEC Variety Performance, taking place Tuesday 10th March at 7.30 pm in the Hall (£4 adults / £3 concessions).

Mrs D Bailey, Director of Music

The Hemel Hempstead School on TV

The programme filmed by the BBC at half term will be broadcast on CBBC on Wednesday 11th March at 4.30 pm.

Red Nose Day Red noses will be available to buy in school next week.

Royal Institution Family Fun Days Saturday March 7th and Saturday April 4th

On the first Saturday of the month the Royal Institution opens its doors to welcome families to come and explore science together. The March Family Fun Day coincides with the National Science and Engineering Week, and will be showcasing some of the most significant experiments and discoveries of the Royal Institution that have changed the world.

For more information please visit www.ribg.org

Miss Harris, Learning Leader: Science

Reprographics Assistant
H1 £13,382 pro rata (£7.22 per hour)
30 hours per week: 8 am – 2.30 pm (negotiable)
Term time + 1 week

We require a flexible teamworker to help provide a comprehensive photocopying and reprographics service.

You need to be computer literate with good keyboard skills. Experience of photocopying and printing work and the ability to offer advice on design and layout would be an advantage, but training will be given.

You must be an excellent communicator to enable you to deal with both staff and students.

The work can be physically demanding.

Further details are available on our website at www.hemel Hempstead school.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.

Closing date: Monday 23rd March 2009

HEADTEACHER'S COMMENDATION

For Excellent Work in English:

Penny Taylor 8P, Noah Jones 9L, Melissa Cornelius 9A, Rebecca Armorgie 10A, Ben Storrie 10N, Thomas Durrant 10F, Lajor Cole-Etti 10C, Abbey Everett 10A, Bridget Philpott 10P.

For Participation in Gifted and Talented Workshop:

Joanna Toms 7A, Andrew Long 7L, Owen Lloyd 7L, Charlie Mayhew 7A, Samuel Catt 7L, Lauren Stone 7P, Iola Seabright 7N, Holly Towse 7F, Emma Johnson 7C.

For Excellent Work in History:

Amy Dowse 8C, Robyn Wheeler 8L, Penny Taylor 8P.

For Excellent Work in Dance:

Charlotte Slade 8L, Emily Crawley 8F, Grace Masters 8A, Levi Smith 8A, Olivia Church 8A, Lorenzo Bellini 8L, Torin Grey 8C, Ocean Foster 8P, Ben Kaye 8P, Scott Smith 8L.

For Participation in the County Basketball Trials:

Alice Stride 8F, Grace Kershaw 10C, Zoe Littlechild 8L, Tara Keith 8F, Georgina Bartlett 7C, Francesca Quinn 8F, Kathryn Tyne 8A, Charlotte Bartlett 8A.

For Excellent Achievement in the Hertfordshire Schools Judo Championships:

William James 7N.

For Excellent Achievement in the Dacorum Rotary Technology Tournament:

James Price 9A, Amelie Lecoeuche 9P, Cale Tilford 9C, Lois Moore 9N, James Prowse 10A, Adam Sibun 10N, Naomi Messenger 10P, Daniel Dewhurst 10C, Joshua Barnett 12L, Eloisa Murphy 12L, Michael Armorgie 12L, Katy Cave 12P.

Dacorum Rotary Technology Tournament

On Wednesday 25th February four students from Year 9, four from Year 10 and four Sixth Formers attended a Technology Challenge at Ashlyns School. This was a competition between secondary schools in Dacorum.

During the challenge, each team had to design and build a vertical launcher to launch a polystyrene ball over three metres into the air, and produce a portfolio about it. There were different specifications for the different year groups. As I am in Year 9 I did the basic challenge, where we needed a working trigger for the ball to land as close as possible to the base and for it to go over three metres. Year 10s had to have a working parachute, Sixth Formers needed to trigger it from one metre away and the teachers also needed space to launch something else, but they were doing it for fun.

Against over 27 different teams, The Hemel Hempstead School came second in all three competitions. Bridgewater came first for the basic level, Cavendish (by one point!) for intermediate level and Ashlyns for advanced level.

We had a very enjoyable day.

Amelie Lecoeuche 9P

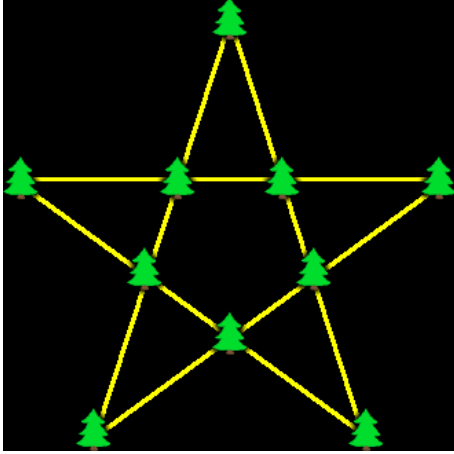
Mathematics Puzzle of the Month

Congratulations to our February winners: **Mia Scott 7P** and **Alice Vesty 7C**. Please come to the Maths office for your prizes.

The solution is:

Ten trees....

Five rows with four trees in each row



March puzzle: You have a boat and need to take a fox, a chicken and some corn across a river. The boat will only hold you and one other thing. If you leave the chicken alone with the corn, the chicken will eat the corn. If you leave the fox alone with the chicken, the chicken's in big trouble. How can you get them all across in the least amount of trips possible?

All entries should be submitted to your Maths teacher by Tuesday 31 March 2009.

Mathematics Department Stars of the Month for February

Year 7

Isabel Briggs 7F, Stephanie Antonopoulos 7L, Natasha Pleece 7C, Todd Kerr 7N, Lauren Suzmeyer-Raine 7A, Mark Whyte 7L, Eliza Dickinson 7P, Alicia Marsh 7C.

Year 8

Holly Woollatt 8P, Amber Lane 8C, George Brooks 8N, Lizzie Merrill 8L, Daisy Smith 8C, Charlotte Keene 8P.

Year 9

Cale Tilford 9C, Carina Archer 9C, Ross King 9N, Sydney Clark 9P, Rebecca Martin 9C, Holly Bishop 9F.

Year 10

James Loosely 10F, James Barnett 10N, Evangeline Baker 10F, Yana Fawcett 10P, Joe Gibbs 10A, Alex Hatt 10L, Matt Fisher 10P.

Year 11

Lucy Hughes 11P, Andy King 11F, Saddaf Tariq 11L, Azeem Khan 11N.



Dates for Your Diary

Gold Week

9th-13th Mar National Science Week

9th Mar Year 11 French Seminar

Year 12 Biology talk

Year 7 Science Event (selected students)

10th Mar Year 13 BTEC Variety Performance

11th Mar Year 11 Revision Evening, 7.30 pm

12th Mar Watford Palace Theatre touring production of

'Lysistrata'

House Science 3.45 pm

Blue Week

16th Mar Years 12/13 Maths in Action Enrichment Day

17th Mar Years 12/13 trip to English National Opera

House Drama 7 pm

19th Mar Year 12 Government and Politics visit to Houses of Parliament

20th Mar Year 9 History visit to the Somme

21st Mar HHS A Jumble Sale

YEAR 7 PARENT CONSULTATION EVENING

The revised date for the Year 7 Parent Consultation Evening is Tuesday 24th March 2009.

PTA News

Fundraising

Please will you help us to raise some money through easyfundraising.org.uk?

All you have to do is log on to their website, register your details, and choose Hemel Hempstead School Association as the charity / organisation you wish to support. Once you have registered successfully, make the site a 'favourite'.

Every time you buy something online – through Amazon.co.uk for example – you just log on to easyfundraising.org.uk, find Amazon.co.uk, and make your purchase as normal. In this way it costs you nothing extra, but we get 2.5% of what you spend.

If you're not sure how or what to do, log on to easyfundraising.org.uk and read 'How it works', 'Using this site' or 'FAQ'. You'll soon get the hang of it.

So far just eight of our members have joined, and we have received a cheque for nearly £30 – for doing nothing!

Additionally, instead of using a search engine such as 'Google' please consider using easysearch.org.uk. Don't forget to register Hemel Hempstead School Association as the charity / organisation you wish to support, then make the site a 'favourite'. You can also make **easysearch** appear in the little box in the top right hand corner of your Internet Explorer or Mozilla Firefox. Just ask if you have any problems.

Jumble Sale

We desperately need jumble for the Jumble Sale – Saturday 21 March. Please bring contributions to Student Services at school, or telephone Judith on the mobile number below.

Next HHS A meeting: Monday 9 March 7pm in the Library

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



SPORT

FIXTURES

Sat 7th March

Football v St Columba's College 9 – 11 am

Yr 7 A + B (H)

Yr 8 (H)

Yr 9 (A)

Yr 10 (A)

Mon 9th March

Yr 7 Basketball v JFK (H) 3.30 – 5.30 pm

Tues 10th March

Yr 8 Girls Basketball @ Tring School 3.30 – 5.30 pm

Weds 11th March

Yr 7 Girls Football Mini League @ Cavendish 3.30 – 5.30 pm

Thurs 12th March

U19 Basketball v Beaumont (H) 3.30 – 5.30 pm

RESULTS

Yr 7 County Cup Soccer semi-final v Mount Grace won 3-2 aet

U13 Basketball v Sandringham won 59-38

SPORTS NEWS

Congratulations to the following girls who were selected to attend County Basketball trials on Sunday: Alice Stride, Grace Kershaw, Georgina Bartlett, Kathryn Tyne, Tara Keith, Charlotte Bartlett, Francesca Quinn, Zoe Littlechild.

Over 60 girls attended County Trials on Sunday at Francis Bacon School in St Albans. All the girls involved performed extremely well; they have only been playing Basketball since September. The praise they received is all thoroughly deserved.

Particular congratulations must go to the following four girls who were selected to return to train with the County squad: Francesca Quinn 8F, Charlotte Bartlett 8A, Kathryn Tyne 8A, Georgina Bartlett 7C.

Congratulations also should go to Will James 7N who competed in this year's Hertfordshire Schools Judo Championships. Will won a silver medal in his age category. Well done!

Miss E Bevan, Learning Leader: PE

Gold Letters issued recently:

Letter 142 Year 9 Triple Science Course

Letter 143 Year 10 German Exchange

Letter 144 Year 11 GCSE Revision Evening

Letter 146 Years 11/12/13 Drama/BTEC Watford Palace Theatre 'Lysistrata' Production

Letter 148 Year 12 Higher Education Information Evening

Letter 149 Year 7 Parent Consultation Evening

Letter 151 GCSE Examinations Summer 2009-03-05

*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.

S J Samwell

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.