

# What's New This Week?

Preparatory School

New Hall School, Chelmsford



Founded, 1642

Weekly Newsletter

Issue No 168

Friday 11 March 2011

Dear Parents

## Ash Wednesday Service

This Wednesday marked the beginning of the season of Lent and we welcomed Father Frank into school to lead our reconciliation service. On Ash Wednesday, Christians receive a cross of ashes on their foreheads as a sign of sorrow for offending God. During the service, staff and pupils reflected on how they could become closer to God during the 40 days of Lent through living more simply, fasting, almsgiving and spending more time with God. Each child in the school was given a Lenten Calendar to help them with this which we hope you will find useful. Thank you to Miss Hunter and all our readers, actors and musicians who helped make the service so beautiful.

## Link with Africa - Sr Moira's visit to assembly

Sr Moira joined us for our assembly on Monday morning to discuss the exciting venture of twinning New Hall Preparatory School with a school in the Democratic Republic of Congo. The DR of Congo is a very deprived area that has sadly been at war for over 10 years. Sr Moira often visits the school there, which costs parents around 70p a week to send their children to and which has up to 80 children per class. The children were excited about the prospect of becoming 'pen pals' with children living in the Congo and sharing information about their lives in the UK.

## 11+/Senior School Results

Congratulations to all our Year 6 pupils who have gained a place at New Hall Senior School or a grammar school this year. 35 places were gained at the Senior School with 1 pupil being awarded the Hawley Academic Scholarship and 1 pupil being awarded a Sports Award. Out of the 17 pupils who took the 11+ Examination, 11 places have been gained at the following schools:

- 1 pupil to Chelmsford County High School
- 4 pupils to Westcliff High School
- 4 pupils to Colchester Royal Grammar School
- 2 pupils to Southend High School

## Staff Announcements

We are delighted to announce that Mrs Pope is expecting her first baby, which is due at the beginning of August. Congratulations to her and her husband!

Mr McIntosh will be returning to school on Monday 14 March and will be resuming his position as 3M's class teacher and Head of Key Stage 2. Simultaneously, Mrs Kightley will be resuming her full time position as Deputy Head.

## Coffee and Cupcake Morning

Thank you to those families who came to the Coffee and Cupcake Morning last Saturday. It was lovely to welcome

you all to the Pre-Reception department and I hope that you enjoyed the wonderful cupcakes!



## Pre-Reception children are named as runners-up!

At the end of last year, the children in Pre-Reception entered The National School Fire Safety Week Competition, organised by The Fire Fighter's Charity. The children were asked to produce a piece of work and also to write a poem about the dangers of fire and keeping safe. The children had great fun coming up with rhyming words for their poem but also learnt some valuable facts concerning fire safety. We have recently been informed that Pre-Reception were runners up in the competition which is an amazing result as the competition was open to all national primary aged children. The children have all received prizes of backpacks containing fire engine t-shirts and stationary. Their winning collage and poem will be displayed in the entrance to Pre-Reception.



## Reception Trip to Marsh Farm

On Friday 4 March Reception visited Marsh Farm in South Woodham Ferrers. The children looked at a number of farm animals including pigs, sheep and cows. All the children enjoyed a tractor ride and seeing Daisy the cow

being milked. Reception had a fantastic day and learnt a lot about farm animals.



'I liked the tractor ride, it was fast!' Sebastian Loots (RU)  
 'I stroked a cow!' Jasmine Grimes (RU)  
 'I enjoyed the tractor ride, it was really bumpy!' Coco Wilkins (RG)  
 'I liked it when the man showed us how to milk a cow'. Toby Brown (RG)

### Pre-Reception Buddy Scheme



As some of you will be aware, this year we have introduced a new 'buddy' scheme which involves the oldest students in the school (age 18) working alongside the youngest pupils in the school (age 3). Interested Sixth Form students were invited to meet with the Head of Pre-Reception Mrs Hedditch-Grey to have a mini interview and to discuss the expectation of the role, including taking part in differing types of activities with the children. The response was fantastic, so much so that at least 24 applied, too many for Pre-Reception, and so some now support other pupils in the Preparatory School with their reading. Pre-Reception now have 16 students visiting weekly who do various activities with the children including storytelling, baking, painting and garden play. The students were also invited to devise/plan their own activities, if they wanted to, which might correspond to their own interests and study. For example, one student who is studying Science plans to carry out an experiment with the children, looking at the growth of beans into plants which will involve helping them to watch, tend for and talk about their own plant. It has been a great opportunity for the Pre-Reception children to form relationships and for both schools to work in partnership together.

### 3M Class Assembly

The school hall rocked on Thursday as Class 3H exploded onto the stage! A volcanic performance ensued, steam rose, boulders flew and Vulcan the legend lived again. The class re-told the term's fun in a performance packed with interesting information which they had learned. Thank you to 3H and Mrs Ho You for such an educational and entertaining assembly!



### Golden Book Awards

Congratulations to the following children who were entered into the Golden Book this week:

6A	Callum Bain Charlotte Brooke-Walder Benjamin Clark Scott Taylor	6S	James Fraser Honor Johnson Georgina Mead Natasha Skeens
5F	Jessica Bates Ellena Collett Cameron Meechan Benjamin Notley Layla Sammour Sophia Turnbull	5T	Chloe Elsom Isabella King Cameron Lee Ellie Macarthur Thomas Spilsbury
4D	Katherine Barber Ethan Doyle Annabelle Harle Elizabeth Murphy	4R	William Banks Ralph Carroll Holly Notley Charlotte Underwood
3H	Amelia August Molly Brignell Helen Burnett Ina-Margaret Fisher	3M	Angus Jones Isabella Warren Poppy Yates
2H	Ana Cristina Mead Akshadha Nikam Joshua Notley Danielle Sirett	2P	Oriana Farrell Maria Lynch Alexia Panayiotou Szara Shahril-Rauz
2R	India Gwyn-Williams Erin Heffernan Ellen Thompson	1G	Alexandra Gibbon Isabelle Maze Francesca Minnis Arthur Owens
1M	Jaydhan Prabhakar Tyler Tombs	RG	Jack Burrows Ochenehi Daudu Ella Downes Zoe Neal
RU	Ralph Courtney-Cook Anna Dunk Sebastian Loots Louisa Napper	PR	Thalia Adams James Coxon Katie-Ana Drew Harry McLaren Annabelle Minnis Oluwatosin Jonathan Osaba Poppy Wharton

## Sport

### Netball

#### *IAPS Regional Netball Tournaments*

On Thursday 3 and Friday 4 March, the Preparatory School hosted the U11, U12 and U13 IAPS Regional Netball Tournaments. It was the first time this event had been held at New Hall and we welcomed 51 school teams over the two day period. New Hall was only able to enter one team in the U11 category as the competition is only open to Preparatory Schools. Unfortunately, our team did not qualify for the final stages of the tournament but played well and enjoyed the opportunity to compete at such a high level. The tournament allowed teams in schools from the counties of Essex, Hertfordshire, Norfolk and Suffolk to progress through to the national finals. Congratulations go to Gresham's School, Norfolk, South Lee School, Suffolk and Stormont School and Edge Grove School in Hertfordshire for securing a place in the U11 national final. Congratulations also to Felsted Preparatory School and St Faith's School, Cambridge who qualified for the U12 national final and to Bishop's Stortford School, Orwell Park School, Suffolk and Gresham's School who qualified for the U13 national finals. Overall it was a fantastic day and we were pleased that the visiting schools enjoyed the facilities and organisation provided by New Hall. Thank you to Mrs Shiner and Mrs O'Riley for organising the event and to the NHPA for helping with refreshments.



*The New Hall U11 Team*

### Rugby

#### *U10 v Brentwood School, lost 5-32*

The U11 team started off slowly in the first half, which allowed the Brentwood side to score 2 tries. The Brentwood players tried to pass the ball down their back line, but good tackles in the centre by Harry Phelps and Scott Taylor prevented any further advances. As the game progressed, with an increase in support and a few changes in positions, New Hall began to compete in the contact situations. Some strong drives gave Callum Bain a scoring opportunity in the first half, but the Brentwood players managed to hold the ball up over the line. Into the second half, Connal Hornett made an immediate impact as scrum half, with some good tackles and excellent distribution of the ball. The forwards including Kieran Drew, Benjamin Clark and Aaron Phipps ensured that it was an evenly contested battle at the rucks. A scrum in the Brentwood 22 gave Connal a chance to show his strength as he battled his way to the line beating several opposing players in the

process. Despite great effort from the boys, Brentwood School finished as victors with the score of 32-5.

#### *U10 v Brentwood School, lost 10-30*

The U10 team demonstrated good possession of the ball. Edward Lerwill and Jamie Norman capitalised on some good driving play from the forwards and scored tries either side of half time. The game was much more evenly contested than the end score of 30-10 suggested, and New Hall's excellent team play, including some effective rucking, was commented on by both teams' coaches after the game.

### Swimming

#### *New Hall v Bishop's Stortford College*

Well done to all of the children who swam against the strong Bishop's Stortford team. Congratulations to William Banks, John Barber, Luke Harding, Aaron Stone and Toby Warren (Year 4) who all won their races and to Lucy Greenwood and Jonathan Murphy (Year 6) who won their freestyle and butterfly races. Well done to the U9 girls comprising Darcy Courtney-Cook, Sarah Coxon, Elizabeth Murphy and Eden Waite who demonstrated their excellent swimming skills and to Joseph August, Jessica Bates, Megan Cotton and Cameron Meechan who worked hard with the Year 4 pupils to maintain their points.

### Clubs

#### *Year 5 and 6 Netball Squad Training*

Please note that the Year 5 and 6 netball squad training on a Wednesday morning has now finished.

### Gymnastics

Please be advised that gymnastics club due to take place on Friday 18 March, before school, has been cancelled.

### Forthcoming Events

#### *Lenten Lecture from Archbishop Vincent Nichols*

The Archbishop of Westminster, the Most Reverend Vincent Nichols, will be giving a Lenten Lecture in Brentwood Cathedral at 7:30pm on Wednesday 16 March. The title of his talk is "Living Our Catholic Faith in a Secular Age". Entry is free of charge and all are welcome. Light refreshments will be served in the Cathedral Hall afterwards

#### *Class 4R Assembly*

Please note that Class 4R's assembly, which was due to take place on Thursday 17 March, has been re-scheduled to a later date.

#### *Exhibition of the work of Sr Mary Stephen CRSS*

The Canonesses of the Holy Sepulchre invite you to join them at an exhibition of the art work of Sr Mary Stephen CRSS at New Hall Preparatory School on Sunday 20 March. The exhibition will be held in the school hall and is open to the public on Sunday 20 March from 12noon until 5.00pm. In addition, parents are warmly invited to visit the exhibition, with or without their children, on Friday 18 March from 3.00pm or on Monday 21 March from 3.00-4.00pm. Members of the religious community will also be leading our Monday morning assembly on this day and,

again, parents are welcome to attend. Postcards and original artwork will be available to purchase.

### Notices

*Sainsburys' Active Kids and Tesco For Schools Vouchers 2011*  
Once again, we will be collecting the Sainsburys' Active Kids and Tesco's For Schools vouchers. The collection boxes are located in the Preparatory School Reception area.

### Menu

Please note that next week we will be operating 'Week 1'.

### Lost Property

The following pupils have lost various named pieces of property:

- Joseph Beddoe (5F) – named school coat
- Cameron Meechan (5F) – tracksuit top

Could all parents please check names on uniform items. If any of these items are found, please hand in to the School Office.

Yours sincerely

*Sarah Conrad*

Mrs S H Conrad  
**HEADTEACHER**

*What's New This Week?* Is issued every Friday during the school term. If you have any news which you would like published in an edition of *What's New This Week?*, please email [c.taylor@newhallschool.co.uk](mailto:c.taylor@newhallschool.co.uk).

## BRAIN CHALLENGE

### Brain Challenge Number 18 Solution

If a doctor gives you 11 pills and tells you to take one every half an hour, how long would it be before all the pills are taken? *5 hours (the first pill is taken at time zero so 10 more pills in 5 hours)*

Congratulations to the following pupils who answered correctly: Tobias McBurney (1G), James McBurney (2R), Molly Reynolds (3H), Sarah Coxon and Annabelle Harle (4D), Lara Clarke and Rebecca Jeffrey (4R) and Lucy Greenwood (6S).

### And the next challenge:

In the year 1201 a woman was 35 years old and in the year 1206 the same woman was 30 years old.

*How is this possible?*

Answers on a piece of paper (with your name and class teacher) to Mr Shah in the Science Lab. Parents please refrain from participating! First pupil to submit the correct answer wins a prize.

### Forthcoming Events

Date	Time	Event
Mon 14 Mar		Science Week
Tue 15 Mar	11.30am-3.30pm	5F Europa Centre Visit
Wed 16 Mar	9.00-10.00am	Parents' Forum Meeting
Fri 18 Mar	3.00-4.00pm	U10/U11 Boys Rugby v Elm Green Preparatory School
	3.00-4.00pm	U10/U11 Girls Hockey v Elm Green Preparatory School
Sat 19 Mar	9.00am-2.00pm	Trinity Recorder Examinations
	10.15am-2.00pm	U8 Boys TAG Rugby Tournament at Holmwood House
	11.30am-1.30pm	Year 3 Netball Tournament v Holmwood House School
Tue 22 Mar	4.30-6.30pm	Year 3 & 4 Swimming Gala v Holmwood House
Wed 23 Mar	4.45-5.45pm	Parents' Forum: Gifted and Talented Provision
	4.00-6.00pm	Reception Drop In (Intake 2011)
Thu 24 Mar	8.50am	2R Class Assembly

### Prayer Corner

*This week we pray for:*

*Dwight Page, the uncle of Erin and Fionnuala Heffernan*

As we begin this season of Lent we ask you to remind us of what is important and what is not;

Of where we are wandering away and what we need to change;

So that by Easter, we will be renewed and strengthened for your service in the world.

Amen

