

What's New?

Senior School

Fortnightly Newsletter

New Hall School, Chelmsford



Founded 1642

Issue No 155

Friday 24 September 2010

Dear Parents

Open Morning: Saturday 25 September

Please note that Saturday 25 September is a compulsory school morning for all students in Years 8, 9, 10, 12 & 13. It is also compulsory for all scholars in all year groups. If your son or daughter is a scholar, or receives a personal invitation to attend, he or she will be required to be in school from 8.15am-1.15pm on this day. Please note that all school buses will operate on this day. Students will be collected at their normal morning time but departure from school will be at 1.00pm

Papal Visit Celebrations



On 16 September, Pope Benedict XVI arrived in the UK for the first ever state visit by a Pope. On Friday morning, New Hall School students watched The Big Assembly live, where the Pope gave an address particularly aimed at students. Three New Hall students, Head Girl, Camille Hamilton-Villemur (Year 13), Daniel Mullens (Year 11) and Lucy Barratt (Year 4), attended The Big Assembly as representatives of New Hall. Camille appeared on national television after being interviewed by ITV news on the way to see the Pope at St Mary's College, Twickenham. In the spirit of celebrating this historic and special event, the school was decorated with papal bunting and balloons in the gold and yellow colours of the Vatican flag. Senior School students were given prayer cards and Preparatory School pupils took home a papal flag as a souvenir of the event. A special Italian themed lunch was also enjoyed by all to mark the occasion. Students and staff formed part of the 80,000 strong crowds at the Prayer Vigil at Hyde Park, London, on Saturday 18 September. They were delighted to spot Miss Brown on the big screens, who had been invited to be part of the choir that sang from the stage for His Holiness.

'Big Pictures at the Big Assembly' Competition

Congratulations to the group of Year 11 photographers whose photographs were selected and displayed at The Big

Assembly. The photographs were chosen by the Catholic Education Service for England and Wales who commissioned a professional design agency to make them into backdrops at the Assembly.

New Parents' Drinks Reception



We were delighted to welcome new Senior School parents to a drinks reception on 10 September. Parents had the opportunity to meet teachers and to have a tour of the school. It was wonderful to see so many parents and to have this opportunity to introduce families to each other and to staff.

OMEGA Oxbridge Preparation



The OMEGA Oxbridge preparation series started this year with a presentation from an Old Fish. Jodie Allen left New Hall after her A Levels in 2008. After completing her BA and MA in Canada, Jodie is now studying for a PhD at Trinity Hall, Cambridge. Jodie was joined by Engineering PhD student Tom Clark and together they presented an enlightening insight to life at Cambridge, including offering advice on how best to prepare for an Oxbridge interview, how the college system works in reality and the importance

of independent thought and learning. Our thanks go to Jodie and Ben for their thoughtful and helpful presentation.

Drama Scholar hits the West End



Congratulations to Year 8 St Genesius Drama Scholar, Theodore Stevenson, who recently starred at the Young Vic Theatre, London, in their production of *The Human Comedy*.

English

The English Department were honoured to host the award winning author, Steve Augarde, on 14 September. The boys and girls of Year 8 heard him talk on the process of creative writing and the nature of inspiration, giving them a real insight into the working life of an author. Steve Augarde has written *The Touchstones* trilogy and recently had published *X-Isle*, a darker tale than his previous publications. After the talk, Steve Augarde signed books and talked to budding writers about life as an author. The day was a success, and introduced students to challenging and thought provoking literature.



Students exhibiting at the Chelmsford Art Trail

New Hall Art A Level students will be exhibiting their work as part of the Chelmsford Art Trail this month at Gepp & Sons Solicitors, 58 New London Road, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 0PA. The gallery will be open between 10.00am-4.00pm Monday-Friday and 11.00am-2.00pm Saturday and Sunday. The exhibition is open from Saturday 11-Sunday 26 September. Admission is free. For more information call Gepp & Son on 01245 493 939.

Contact Details Form

This is a reminder to parents to return their contact details form as soon as possible. Failure to return this form will mean that your child will be unable to attend school trips.

Design Display



A display of work by New Hall's Product Design and Art teachers will take place for two weeks from Monday 27 September in the Newnham and Boleyn Rooms. Pictured is an item from Mr Earley's 'Seed Range' which has recently been on display at the London Design Festival.

Facebook Warning

Facebook have launched a new application called Facebook Places. When it is enabled, anyone can find out where you are when you are logged in. It gives the actual address & map location of where you are. This can be very dangerous information. This feature is enabled automatically so it is really important to disable this so that people on Facebook cannot see where you are all the time. To undo this feature:

- >Profile >Privacy >Edit your privacy settings
- > Custom >Customise settings
- >Things I Share: uncheck 'Include me in People Here now'
- >Disable 'Friends can check me in to places'.

As a rule of thumb NEVER give out personal information (address, telephone and other contact details) over the internet. A reminder also that it is illegal for children under the age of 13 to have a Facebook account.

Sport

Netball



Congratulations to Amelia Davison and Freya Pelling (Year 8), who have been selected for the Essex Netball Satellite Training Academy. After competing in rigorous trials, the

girls were selected from the best netball players across the county for this elite training squad. They will train with Essex coaches at Anglia Ruskin University every fortnight, with a hope to be selected for the U14 Essex team next year.

Riding

Any student who is involved in, or interested in, competing for the school's equestrian team or extra-curricular riding is invited to attend a riding meeting and social on Monday 27 September between 6.00pm-8.00pm in the North Room.

Dressage

New Hall will be hosting its second Dressage Show at Towerlands Park on Saturday 9 October. We hope to have a number of entries from New Hall, as this is a major event in the NSEA interschool diary. If any parent or student is interested in helping on the day, please contact Mrs O'Riley on g.oriley@newhallschool.co.uk.

Sailing



Congratulations to James Hutton-Penman (Year 10) and Kathryn Hutton-Penman (Year 8), who both competed in the Optimist National Championships over the summer holiday. These were held at the Weymouth and Portland Sailing Academy, the home of the 2012 Olympic Sailing event. James qualified to sail in the Senior Gold fleet and finished 38th. This was a good result against some of the best young sailors in the world. He finished as the 16th British sailor out of 37 of those who qualified for the Senior Gold fleet. Kathryn qualified in the Silver Junior fleet and her second 6 races were almost all top 10 finishes, including a number of top 5 finishes. She finished in 3rd place and won a prize at the main prize giving.

Tennis

Regional Knockout U15Boys v Bishop Stortford High School Results: Won 4-2

As Essex champions, the team have now progressed to the regional stage of the U15 National Schools Tennis Competition. On 22 September, they played against Bishop Stortford High School, current Hertfordshire champions. Oliver Bickley (Year 10) got off to a good start but could not maintain his form and unfortunately lost 2-6. Thomas Styles (Year 11) played faultless tennis to win 6-1. James Caddies (Year 7) played well on his first outing for the school team but lost to a strong player 1-6. George Styles (Year 9) looked effortless on his way to an impressive 6-0 victory. New Hall went on to perform exceptionally well in the doubles with all players showing good composure and shot, which

enabled them to win both games 6-3, resulting in a 4-1 victory. The team have now gone through to the round of the last 32 teams and will face the winners of either Norwich or Ipswich Schools.



Triathlon

Oliver Swallow (Year 8) travelled to Wales to compete in the National Triathlon Championships, as one of two athletes for the Eastern region team, out of the top 24 Triathletes to qualify from around the country in the Year 10 and under age group. High winds and heavy rain in Wales led the organisers to decide to turn the Swim-Bike-Run (triathlon) event into a Run-Bike-Run (Duathlon) of reduced distances. The removal of the swim did not suit many competitors, including Oliver, as swimming is one of his strengths. However, Oliver showed his true depth as a young triathlete, by positioning himself in the top 10 after the short sprint to the bikes, which replaced the 400m open water swim. All athletes were close together with Oliver completing the bike and run course battling in a group, with positions changing regularly throughout the duration of the event. Oliver finished with a strong run to gain a satisfying individual ranking of 13th in Great Britain. This puts Oliver in a good position for next year, when he will be at the top end of his age group, as he was in 2009 when he gained 2nd place.



New Hall Parents' Association (NHPA) AGM, 6 October

We hope that you have all received your invitation to the above event, which will take place on Wednesday 6 October at 7.30pm in the North Room at the Senior School. Refreshments will be available. Prior to the meeting, there will be a brief presentation on the school's developments and priorities by two Governors: Mrs Jenny Tolhurst, Vice

Chairman of Governors and past parent, and Mr Rex Smith, Chairman of the Finance & General Purposes Committee and current parent. We very much hope that you will be able to attend.

NHVS

The NHVS would like to extend a huge thank you to all parents, staff and students for their generous donations to the Children's' Holiday in July. As a result of fundraising throughout the year and donations of food, soft drinks, money and people giving up their time, twenty disadvantaged children from the local and London area enjoyed a fabulous week. Well done to all involved.

Guardianship Service

Bright World Guardianships offers a guardianship service to international students studying at UK boarding schools. They are currently recruiting host families to look after overseas students during half term and when necessary. If you are interested or would like further information, please contact Lana Foster on 01273 835745 or email lana@brightworld.co.uk, or visit www.brightworld.co.uk.

Yours sincerely



Katherine Jeffrey
PRINCIPAL

Forthcoming Events:

Date	Time	Event
Sat 25 Sep	9.30am	Open Morning
Wed 29 Sep	7.00pm	Year 10 Information Evening
Thu 30 Sep	2.40-4.30pm	Year 10 PSHE Session
Fri 1 Oct	7.00pm	Cricket Dinner
Wed 6 Oct	1.45pm	Lunchtime Concert
Wed 6 Oct	4.45-5.45pm	Meeting: Parents' Forum
Wed 6 Oct	7.30pm	NHPA AGM
Thu 7 Oct	4.45-5.30pm	Meeting: Parents and Students
		Spanish Art Trip Information
Fri 8 Oct		Foundation Day

BRAIN CHALLENGE

Brain Challenge Number 16 Solution

Why is the froth on a dark coke or beer white?


Oliver Morgan correctly deduced that the froth on a dark glass of coke or beer is white because the bubbles reflect all the colours of the light that fall on it. He has earned a drink (of coke.....).

And here is the next challenge:


Stephen Hawking is possibly the world's most famous living scientist. Which of his predecessors, also physically disabled, provided breakthroughs in science that prompted even Samuel Pepys to rush out to buy a microscope and learn about it all?

See Dr Thomas with the first correct solution to win a prize.

New Hall Music School



Music Scholars' Recital



Tuesday 19 October 2010
7.00pm, North Room

Tickets are available free of charge from
Mrs G Phillips on
01245 467 588 or by email
gphillips@newhallschool.co.uk.

NEW HALL PARENTS' ASSOCIATION
PRESENTS A

GRAND FIREWORK DISPLAY

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SATURDAY 13 NOVEMBER 2010

WALKFARES FIELD, NEW HALL SCHOOL

GATES OPEN AT 5.00pm - DISPLAY AT 6.45pm

Rides & Sideshows Licensed Bar
BURGERS * CURRY & RICE * HOT DOGS * DOUGHNUTS * TEA * COFFEE

PLEASE DO NOT BRING YOUR OWN FIREWORKS

ENTRY BY TICKET ONLY - - TICKET NON-REFUNDABLE

For Further Information
Ring Mark on 07771 768228
or contact Lucy Brignell in the
Preparatory School office