

What's New?

Senior School

Fortnightly Newsletter

New Hall School, Chelmsford



Founded 1642

Issue No 158

Friday 12 November 2010

Dear Parents

ISI Inspection

ISI inspectors were in school from Monday to Wednesday this week and provided us with initial verbal feedback on Wednesday afternoon. This was very positive, with particular commendation of the school's ethos, pastoral care, extra-curricular provision and boarding. However, we will have to wait for approximately a month for the formal written report. Thank you to all parents who responded via the ISI questionnaires.

Boarding Inspection

We were notified on Monday morning that Ofsted would also be coming to New Hall that afternoon to conduct a 3-day boarding inspection. Excellent feedback was received from inspectors on Wednesday afternoon, with a written report following in 28 days.

Classics



Legion XIII's visit to New Hall was eagerly awaited by all of the Year 8 students; they had been promised an exciting day with the Romans and they were not disappointed! The morning was devoted to learning about daily life as a Roman with many opportunities to ask questions and handle artefacts, which brought Rome alive in the Eaton Theatre. In the afternoon, students were drilled as soldiers in the mighty Roman Army and took part in demonstrations of pilum or javelin throwing. The students learnt a multitude of fascinating facts; such as the reason why Roman soldiers put salt in their porridge and the reason why the Romans came back to Britain for the second time.

Staffing

As part of our school development plan for girls' sport, we will shortly be advertising for a new additional post of Teacher of Girls' PE & Games, from September 2011. We are seeking a specialist in hockey and netball, with this extra role enabling us to increase our PE team.

English

An Evening with Harold Pinter

On 8 November, Year 12 and 13 English Literature students had a rare opportunity to see *The Lover* and *A Slight Ache* by Harold Pinter at the Mercury Theatre, Colchester. Although not the easiest of playwrights, Pinter's mastery of the natural and bizarre in human communication proved a challenging contrast to the National Theatre's *Hamlet*, viewed in the week before half term. All those wishing to go on the trip to The Young Vic to see *The Glass Menagerie* should contact either Mrs Harris or Miss Byrne immediately.

Picking a winner

For those students who would prefer to make their own judgement of the *Man Booker* shortlisted novels, why not borrow one of the 6 from the English Department's display in the Atrium? The current favourite is *The Long Song* by Andrea Levy, closely followed by Damon Galgut's *In a Strange Room*. Those students from Year 10 and Year 12 yet to cast their votes are urged to finish reading and report back to the English Department.

Spanish and Art Trip



On 29 October, 21 students in Years 11, 12 and 13 embarked on a Spanish and Art trip to Spain. In Seville, the students visited the Royal Alcazar (the largest cathedral in Europe) and climbed all the way to the top of the bell tower there. They visited the Museum of Fine Art – where they were able to see the works of *Murillo* – and finally the Plaza de España. On Sunday, the students travelled to Granada where they walked up to the Albaicin to see the stunning views of the Alhambra. Later, the Spanish students were enthralled by their visit to Federico Garcia Lorca's summer house, to see the room where many of his famous works were composed. The Art students were delighted to be able to view the *José Guerrero* art collection. The group also had the opportunity to watch a Flamenco show in the caves of the Sacromonte

area and to take part in Mass at the cathedral. All students participated in 6 hours of beginner, intermediate and advanced level Spanish lessons at the *Escuela de Lenguas*, which were enjoyed by all. On the final day, the group took the coach to Malaga, but before the journey home they visited the Picasso museum to see a collection of the artist's work. The students were enthusiastic about the large variety of art they saw on the trip, from abstract expressionism to Spanish realism. The trip proved to be a culturally enriching experience for all. ¡Muchas gracias a todos!

Selection for the Lord Mayors' Parade Guard of Honour

Eleanor Shipley (Year 11) has been selected to take part in the Lord Mayor's Parade Guard of Honour on Saturday 13 November. This will be a fantastic experience for the Air Cadets; it is the first time that they have been chosen to take part. The Guard of Honour will be televised on BBC1 from 10.50am this Saturday.

Student invited to the Houses of Parliament

Laura Olsen (Year 11) and her colleagues from the teen section of the *RSPCA Magazine*, along with the editor and photographer of *Animal Life Magazine*, were invited to go to the Houses of Parliament during the half term break. The group were given a tour before meeting with 3 MPs in the debating room of the House of Commons to discuss current animal welfare issues. The report of this meeting will be in the next issue of the RSPCA magazine.

Music

Pop for the Planet



On 10 November, the annual *Pop for the Planet* event took place in the Eaton Theatre. Opening the show were Davita Lamai and Frankie Talbot (Year 10) with *Forever* by The Veronicas. Strong performances followed from Jennifer McNeillie and Amy-Beth Ellice (Year 8) and then Anna Maria Acevedo (Year 9) was joined by Harry White (Year 11) on acoustic guitar for a rendition of *Naive*. Laura Olsen (Year 11) took to the stage and accompanied herself beautifully on guitar for a self-penned piece called *Own Song*. The final act, which brought the house down, was *My Italian Shoes* comprising Harry White on guitar, John Seddon (Year 10) on bass, Nathan Lambert (Year 9) on guitar and vocals and Ben Hosek (GAP Assistant) on drums. Their set included classics such as *You Really Got Me* and *Sweet Home Alabama*, with the real showstopper being Harry's guitar solos which were very impressive. It was an excellent evening of music and congratulations go to Harry White for

organising the concert and to Mr Corby and Mr Curtis for their support.

Charity

Fundraising for Breakthrough Breast Cancer

During the half term break, Georgia Mee and Marni Gaskin (Year 8) spent the morning making and decorating cakes and cookies which they then sold in Manor Farm Shop, Upminster. Congratulations to the girls who raised £120 for the charity *Breakthrough Breast Cancer*.

NHVS Christmas Hamper Appeal

It is that time of year again when we appeal for items to make up Christmas hampers for our elderly guests who attend the lunch time groups. Tutors have been given a list of the specific items required from each year group and will have discussed this with their tutees. We would be grateful to receive any gifts by Monday 29 November 2010. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact the NHVS Secretary, Mrs Williams, on 01245 236 112 or by email to e.williams@newhallschool.co.uk. Thank you for your continuing generous support of the NHVS.

Sport

Cross Country

During half term, Aaron Rae (Year 10) and Oliver Swallow (Year 8) competed in two cross country events which took place at Highlands Park, Chelmsford, and The Discovery Centre, Braintree, respectively. These events were open to all athletics and running clubs throughout Essex with age groups ranging from U11 to U17. Aaron Rae achieved two 3rd places and Oliver gained 1st place in both races in the U17 heat. We wish the boys every success with their next race in Harwich on 12 December.

Hockey Results

Mon 18 Oct	U14XI v The Coopers' Company and Coborn School	lost 8-0
Tue 19 Oct	1 st XI v Brentwood School	lost 1-0
Wed 20 Oct	U12A VII v Holmwood House	won 9-1
	U13A VII v Holmwood House	won 8-6
	U13B VII v Holmwood House	lost 3-0

U16XI CESSA Tournament Results - 3rd place

v Chelmsford County High	lost 3-0
v Brentwood School	drew 0-0
v William de Ferrers	won 2-0

U14 v Royal Hospital School Results - lost 1-3

On 8 November, the U14 girls' team played a well fought match against The Royal Hospital School. There were some outstanding attacks on goal and great persistence from the player of the match, Matilda Robb (Year 9), and the other forwards, which led to Pippa O'Riley (Year 9) scoring an impressive deflection in the first half. Francesca Bazley (Year 9) had a spectacular game in goal, and kept the oppositions' forwards capitalising on multiple shots on goal.

Riding

Congratulations to Amelia Bradford (Year 7), who got off to a successful start in the U18 East Anglian Indoor Driving Trials, achieving a placing of 5th in the East Anglian Regional Indoors Competition.

Rugby

Senior Rugby Tour to Belgium

The combined U15/U16 team toured the school's country of origin, Belgium, during the half term break. The team played against the Belgium National U17 team, and despite a committed performance lost 8pts to 61pts. Despite the loss, this was a fantastic opportunity for the team to play open running rugby against a Flemish select team, for which they were evenly matched achieving a final score of 27pts to 27pts. All players were a credit to the school and are already looking forward to the return trip next season.



U13 & U 14 Rugby Tour to Wales

The teams were based in the picturesque town of Brecon, Wales, for their half term tour, where they were superbly looked after by the staff at Christ College, including former New Hall staff members, Mr and Mrs Curran. On the first day, they attended a light training session at Christ College in preparation for the upcoming matches. They were then treated to a fun filled session at the local bowling alley, which allowed the teams to bond together as a squad, which they all thoroughly enjoyed. This was followed by the first matches of the tour. Both teams achieved excellent results. The U13 team won against Christ College 46-0, Captain and Man of the Match, Richard Barber (Year 8), helped his team immensely in their victory. The U14 team had an excellent victory against Brecon High School achieving a 64-0 win, with Christopher Maude (Year 9) playing a vital role to pull the boys through. After the successes on the field, the boys enjoyed a trip to the cinema. Day 2 of the tour consisted of a visit to Cardiff and the highlight of the day was the visit to the impressive Millennium Stadium. On the final day, the boys travelled back to Christ College and were split up into two teams of mixed age groups to play the final match of the tour against each other. After a closely contested game, and an excellent lunch put on by Christ College, the boys were back on the bus ready to make the trip back to New Hall. The tour was great fun and, most importantly, the boys had a wonderful time and embraced the opportunity.

Year 7 Rugby Tour to Bath: Results:

U12A v Kingswood School	won 34-5
U12B v Kingswood School	won 17-7
U12A v Prior Park College	won 45-0
U12B v Monkton Prep School	won 10-7

For many of the students, this was their first tour experience and, judging by the excitement and enthusiasm they showed throughout, they thoroughly enjoyed the tour. The

boys enjoyed watching a Bath rugby match, having seen a closed training session the previous day; they saw how their training is mirrored in the matches. On the rugby pitches both sides played well against traditionally strong rugby schools, with both teams coming away with wins. This was an excellent effort on their first tour. Well done boys!

Sailing

School Sailing Team

We are always striving to improve the facilities and opportunities for our students; with regards to this we are aware that we have a number of students who sail regularly. The school has recently been in discussion with both the Independent Association of Preparatory Schools (IAPS) and our regional RYA Onboard Co-ordinator to explore opportunities available for inter-school sailing in this region. As a result of this, we are delighted to be entering our first ever U11 Sailing team for the IAPS National Sailing Regatta in May next year, and we hope to be able to offer similar opportunities to senior students in the future. If your child sails competently (there will be minimum capability requirements) and would be interested in sailing on behalf of the school at inter-school events in the future, please contact Mrs O'Riley: g.oriley@newhallschool.co.uk. Once we have received further information from our RYA Onboard Co-ordinator, those who have expressed an interest will be contacted with further details.

RYA Great Britain Junior National Squad

Congratulations to James Hutton-Penman (Year 10), who has been selected for the RYA Great Britain Junior National Squad program for this winter. This essentially means that James' performances this summer have been of a standard which has ranked him within the top 20 in his class. It is also a key step towards gaining a place on the Great Britain Olympic Development squad. This is a fantastic opportunity for James and we wish him every success.

Yours sincerely

Katherine Jeffrey
PRINCIPAL

Forthcoming Events:

Date	Time	Event
Fri 12 Nov	4.45-7.00pm	Year 12 Parents' Evening
Sat 13 Nov	5.00-9.00pm	NHPA Fireworks
Tue 16 Nov	7.00pm	St Cecilia's Concert
Wed 17 Nov	4.45-5.45pm	Meeting: Parents' Forum
Thu 18 Nov	4.45-6.30pm	E-Safety Parents' Talk
Fri 19 Nov	7.00-10.00pm	NHVS Quiz Night
Tue 14 Dec	2.00-6.00pm	NHPA Christmas Fayre

BRAIN CHALLENGE

Brain Challenge Number 19

A man builds a house rectangular in shape. All sides have face south. A big bear walks by, what colour is the bear and why? See Dr Thomas with the first correct solution to win a prize.

NEW HALL PARENTS' ASSOCIATION
PRESENTS A

GRAND FIREWORK DISPLAY

ADULTS £6 CHILDREN £3

SATURDAY 13 NOVEMBER 2010

WALKFARES FIELD, NEW HALL SCHOOL

GATES OPEN AT 5.00pm - DISPLAY AT 7.00pm

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*

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St Cecilia's Concert

Tuesday 16 November 2010
7.00pm, Eaton Theatre

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

New Hall Music School

Founded 1642



A Night at the Opera

Friday 26 &
Saturday 27 November 2010
7.00pm, Eaton Theatre
New Hall School

New Hall Music School and Chelmsford Opera Group
present a spectacular evening of opera, including music from
**CARMEN, THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO,
DIDO & AENEAS & THE MAGIC FLUTE**



Tickets: £5. Available from
Chelmsford Opera Group on
01376 513 416 or
Mrs G Phillips on 01245 467 588
or by email gphillips@newhallschool.co.uk.

www.newhallschool.co.uk

CHELMSFORD OPERA

NHPA Christmas Fayre

Tuesday 14th December

Visit Santa in his Grotto

*Games galore - "Score
Against Santa", "Splat the
Malteser", "Play your
Cards Right", "Treasure
Hunt" and many more*

*Gift stalls - jewellery,
designer make-up, hair
accessories, stocking
fillers, books, home
gifts, cakes*



2pm to 6pm
Preparatory School Hall

Entrance: Adults - £3 to include mince pie & drink
Children - Free

Please come along to have fun and support the NHPA