

What's New?

Senior School

Fortnightly Newsletter

New Hall School, Chelmsford



Founded 1642

Issue No 165

Friday 25 March 2011

Dear Parents

Top 500 European Growth Companies Award

We were delighted to be nominated as one of the top 500 growth companies of 2010, which was celebrated at the European Growth Summit at the European Parliament in Brussels last month. New Hall School Trust received a certificate in recognition of its achievements as 'a growing organisation that has contributed to the creation of new employment and prosperity in Europe'.

Gifted & Talented Parents' Forum



A Parents' Forum focussing on the Gifted & Talented (G&T) provision at New Hall took place on 23 March. Attended by current and prospective parents it was an opportunity to hear about the G&T programme that is available for every student in the school from Year 4 to Year 13. In a presentation by Mr Shah, the G&T Co-ordinator, parents heard about the *Scholarly Habits* which are taught throughout the school and how they can get students out of *Learning Pits*. Mrs Jeffrey talked about the relevance of Critical Thinking in the New Hall curriculum and the Director of Co-Curriculum, Mr Walker, explained how the co-curriculum and extra-curricular activities can support academic studies. Information about ideas for independent learning during the school holidays was distributed, as well as information about the Philosophy and Delta Clubs that take place twice weekly which encourage students to develop their learning skills. An open forum then allowed parents to ask questions regarding G&T. Feedback forms showed that parents had found the session extremely valuable and interesting. Parents who were unable to attend the meeting can contact Mrs O'Riley on g.oriley@newhallschool.co.uk for a copy of the handouts. Parents' Forums take place each half term, the next meeting which will look at the subject of nutrition, will take place on Wednesday 18 May at 4.45pm.

Music

Organ Competition Success

Congratulations to Peggy Hu (Year 13), who won the Intermediate Essex Organists Association Competition, which was held at New Hall last weekend. The adjudicator Dr Michael Nicholas, a previous organist at Norwich Cathedral, awarded Peggy the highest score in the Under 25 age category. Well done to Catherine Leighton (Year 11) who took part in the beginners' class.



Peggy Hu with the award from the Essex Organists Association

Antique Essex-made Clarinet donated to New Hall Music School



We are delighted to have been presented an antique Essex-made clarinet by Daphne Hilliar, one of New Hall's Visiting Music Teachers and organist at St Andrew's Church, Boreham. The boxwood and ivory clarinet in C was made by Ambrose Snazel, a dealer at Culver Street, Colchester circa 1832. The clarinet was bought in 1835 by Mr James Young, who was Sexton of St Andrew's Church, Boreham for 38 years. The clarinet was bought by Reverend William Smith in 1970, when he was Vicar of St Andrew's Church. Daphne subsequently became joint trustee of the instrument. Upon Reverend Smith's death, the instrument was formally given to Daphne by the Vicar of St Andrew's.

Daphne has kindly awarded the clarinet to New Hall where it can be played and seen by many people. The Clarinet is displayed in Walkfares, New Hall's performing arts centre, where we hope it will provide inspiration to all our musicians.

Lenten Art Exhibition

We were delighted to welcome members of the Religious Community to the Preparatory School from 18-21 March. Students from across both schools were able to visit the art exhibition in the hall which displayed beautiful paintings and works of art by Sr Mary Stephen CRSS. Thank you to the Community for organising the event and to the parents who attended the assembly and art exhibition.



Science

Studying Particles in Class

Year 7 students have been learning about the science of particles in Chemistry this half term. Gifted & Talented students were treated to an in depth study of temperature and its effects on particle behaviour by looking at liquid nitrogen. Students had the opportunity to experience temperatures as low as -200°C ! Activities including producing solid carbon dioxide, boiling in cold conditions and freezing bananas helped students to re-assess their understanding of key scientific terms. Very few schools in the country are able to provide this hands-on experience for their students.



Particle Physics Masterclass

On 16 March, a group of Year 13 physicists attended the Particle Physics Masterclass held at the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory (RAL) in Didcot. The RAL has a global reputation for excellence and is one of the foremost

laboratories of its kind; every year approximately 10,000 scientists and engineers use the laboratory facilities. The Masterclass is a one day event for Sixth Form students, which is run by particle physics researchers. The day began with two introductory lectures and the students then split into groups of 8 which enabled them to ask the top scientists their individual questions. The students also had the opportunity to see a variety of international experiments being carried out and were struck by the size of the facility and the range of experiments which are carried out there. The Masterclass gave the students access to some of the most important scientists in the field of particle physics.

Religious Studies



On 17 March, Camilla Carr held a workshop with Sixth Form students during their General RE lesson. Camilla and Jon James, now her husband, were in Chechnya to set up a rehabilitation centre for children traumatised by war. Two months later, they were kidnapped in the night by masked and armed Chechen rebels. Despite being held in captivity for 14 months, they survived. They now hold workshops at schools, which aim to explore internal and external conflict and the concept of forgiveness. For the Sixth Form students, Camilla's talk shed light on a world that many had never considered - and what astounded them more was the forgiveness and compassion Camilla showed towards her kidnappers.

English

Times Spelling Bee Competition

Unfortunately the Times Spelling Bee Competition has been cancelled, yet any keen spellers in Year 7 should not be disheartened. Mrs Kelly will be running a Year 7 Spelling Bee Competition on Wednesday 6 April from 1.15-1.45pm in E5. This competition will test students' spelling prowess but also their ability to respond quickly and confidently when put on the spot. Mrs McGlynn is kindly donating a first prize; while there will be other prizes for runners up. Year 7 students should collect a list of words from their English teachers to help them prepare. The results of this competition will also go towards house points.

Modern Languages

French Masterclass

Last weekend French linguists in Years 11, 12 and 13 commenced their Masterclass with a meal in true Gallic fashion and conversed in French with the language assistants and several native speakers who were present. After their meal, students had the opportunity to watch the

film *Le fils de l'épicier* which is set in the bucolic beauty of the south of France. The following morning the students concentrated hard in a session which aimed to improve their grammatical and comprehension skills. With the Foreign Language Assistant's help, they perfected their oral and pronunciation skills in preparation for their mock examinations. Un grand merci à Madame Walding, Malika et Maude et à l'année prochaine!



Theatre Company Visit

Year 8 Spanish students enjoyed a performance by the Dream Park Theatre Company entirely in Spanish. The students followed the adventures of Maria looking for her friend's missing Dog 'Delmar' which lead her to Barcelona where they were eventually reunited. Students were invited to participate in certain scenes which gave Theodore Stevenson the opportunity to brave the knife-throwing skills of the partially sighted circus performer!



House News

Cookery Competition

Sixth Form students participated in a cookery competition for which they had to make a Chinese meal for two. The quality and variation of meals was to a high standard and enjoyed by the judges, Mrs Helliar and Mr Bickersteth. The results were close but Pole's House won, with Owen's House taking 2nd place and Fisher's and Southwell's Houses finishing in joint 3rd place.

Music Competition

The Eaton Theatre was buzzing with excitement for the inaugural unplugged music event which entailed no amps and no microphones. Each house had a maximum of 12 minutes to present 3 items which were performed by groups

of students in Years 7-9, Years 10-13 and an optional grouping with only one piece being a solo. George Philips, one of the country's leading young saxophonists, judged and praised to all students who participated. Nathan Lambert (Year 9) was the star of the show receiving the highest marks by playing his guitar and singing *Imagine* by John Lennon. Special mention was also given to the Fisher Jazz Choir, led by Kayleigh McEvoy, for their performance of Bob Chilcott's *Agnus Dei*. Congratulations to Southwell's House who won the competition. Well done to Fisher's House who came in 2nd place, Pole's who came in 3rd place and Owen's who came in 4th place.

Senior School Uniform for Trinity Term

We have received a number of requests for girls to wear socks instead of tights in hot weather. I am therefore pleased to confirm that girls in Years 7-11 are permitted to wear white ankle socks if they wish instead of tights, for the Trinity Term only. Please note that sports style trainer liners/socks are not permitted. Girls may alternatively wear flesh coloured tights (if in the old navy uniform) or black tights which are a minimum of 20 denier (if in the new uniform).

Reminder of change of academic dates for the Lent Term

Friday 29 April 2011 has been declared a national bank holiday for the royal wedding and, as you will be aware from a previous mailing, New Hall will honour this bank holiday for day students and day staff. As previously explained, in order that there is no reduction in timetabled lessons, the Lent Term 2011 will be extended by one day. Therefore instead of the last day of term being Thursday 7 April 2011, it is now Friday 8 April 2011. We appreciate that a number of parents of boarders may have already booked flights home for boarders on the evening of Thursday 7 April or morning of Friday 8 April. Of course, permission for absence on Friday 8 April will be given in these circumstances. If parents or guardians of boarders have not already booked return flights home for the end of the Lent Term, or if it is possible to change travel arrangements, we would be grateful if flights are booked so that boarders depart from school after the end of term i.e. 4.30pm on Friday 8 April 2010.

Charity

NHVS Fashion Show



Thank you to all those who supported the NHVS Fashion Show. The evening was a great success, raising over £3,000 for the NHVS Children's Holiday. Congratulations to Holly

Layzell (Year 2) and William Baird (Year 7) who were the winners of the Design a T-Shirt Competition. Thank you to the Year 13 students who were superb models and to Mrs Ashfield for organising the event.

Cake Sale

Lydia Allen (Year 7) sold cakes last week to raise money for Rwanda. Congratulations to Lydia who raised over £134.



Bear Competition

Well done to Megan Sherlock (Year 7) who ran a 'Guess the birthday of the bear' competition which raised £35.35 for the Rwanda appeal.



Earthome Furniture Auction

As part of our Lent fundraising for Rwanda, we are delighted to announce for auction a unique piece of furniture, produced by Mr Earley, Head of Design & Technology. Mr Earley is also Design & Marketing Director of *Earthome*, an ethically driven small family business. We would like to offer parents the opportunity to bid for the package of a pair of elegant solid oak tables and a luxurious foot stool which fits neatly underneath the two tables, which is covered in beautiful natural 100% pure wool Camira fabric. Table dimensions are H44 x W60 x D40cm and the foot stool dimensions are H35 x W60 x D45cm. The retail price of this package is £800. Parents will have the opportunity to bid for the items until Wednesday 6 April. The successful bid will be announced on Thursday 7 April. All money raised from the auction will be split between two charities; one that supports women and children in Rwanda affected by the Genocide and another education project which is run by the Community. To place a bid, please visit www.newhallschool.co.uk/news. The highest bid will be

updated daily on the website, so please do check back regularly to avoid disappointment.



Student is awarded a Jack Petchey Award

Congratulations to Nathan Croft (Year 7), who has been awarded a Jack Petchey award for his contribution to Scouts. On 30 March, Nathan will attend a civil ceremony at the Civic Theatre in Chelmsford, which will also be attended by local dignitaries, where he will formally receive his medal.

Sport

See website for full match reports.

Triple win for New Hall!



New Hall has become the Central Essex District champions for netball and hockey in the U12 age group, as well as gaining a third victory, in the U13 netball tournament. The U13 netball team retained the trophy from last year, beating Sandon by 5 goals to 1, Great Baddow Sports College 11-3, and William De Ferrers 15-5, in the first stage of the competition. They then went on to beat Chelmer Valley High School in the semi-final before meeting Chelmsford County High School in the final. The U12 New Hall netball team also came away with the winner's trophy, beating Great Baddow Sports College 9-8, Sandon 10-2, William De Ferrers School 6-4, and Boswells 8-8 (won on goal difference), before progressing to beat St John Payne School in the semi-final. The New Hall team then went on to beat Great Baddow Sports College, coming away with a convincing victory in the second half. Two weeks ago, the U12 New Hall team also won the Central Essex District hockey. This triple win for netball and hockey shows that girls' sport at New Hall going from strength to strength. We

are very proud of all our sportswomen who have trained hard over recent months.

Cricket

There will be a girl's training session for students in Years 7-10 taking place on Six Acres at lunchtime on Monday 28 March for those students who would like to play cricket competitively. A squad will be selected from the students who attend this session, who will then train every Monday lunch time. The side have been entered into the Essex Cup Competition and will also take part in friendly matches throughout the summer term.

Hockey

Year 7 team win U12VII CESSA Hockey Tournament

Our apologies go to Rachel Sims and her family for the omission of Rachel's name in the previous newsletter regarding the Year 7 team's win. Rachel was part of the team who won the CESSA tournament on 3 March. We congratulate Rachel on her achievement.

'Mad About Hockey' Coaching Week provided by Super Camps

A hockey coaching week will be taking place at New Hall from 11-15 April for children aged 8-14. The coaching week will provide an opportunity for hockey enthusiasts to develop their skill and technical aspects of the game. The week is priced at £139 and coaching hours are from 9.20am-4.30pm. For further details, or to book a place for your child, please visit www.madaboutsports.co.uk or call 01235 832 222.

Netball

U14 CESSA Tournament, 3rd place

Players of the Match: Emily Holloway and Lucy Salter
Despite losing their first game against William De Ferrers School 5-9, the girls played extremely well and won the following 3 games to qualify for the semi-final against Chelmer Valley High School in the runners-up competition. The final score was 9-6 to Chelmer Valley High School.

U13A v St Edmunds School, Hertfordshire, won 19-11

Player of the Match: Rosie Oxlade

U13B v St Edmunds School, Hertfordshire, won 32-3

Player of the Match: Amy Murphy

U13A Tournament at Felsted School, 5th place

The results of the first round were as follows:

v Brentwood School	lost 1-5
v Haileybury School, Hertford	won 5-1
v Barnardiston Hall School, Suffolk	won 9-2
v Finborough School, Suffolk	drew 6-6
v St John's School, Billericay	drew 4-4

The team beat Holmwood House School, Colchester, 9-5 in the second round and then played for 5th position against Brandeston Hall School, Suffolk, which they won 4-1.

U12/U13 v The Leys School, Cambridge Results

U12A won 17-5

U13B won 11-10, Players of the Match: Kirsten Moore and Esme Clarke

U13C won 22-5, Player of the Match: Eloise Clackson

U15A v St Mary's School, Colchester, won 17-3

U15 Charity Tournament at Brentwood School

On 17 March, Year 10 girls played in a charity tournament at Brentwood School against Bancroft's School, Brentwood School, Brentwood Ursuline School, Chigwell School and Felsted School. Thank you to all participants.

U15 A/B v Woodbridge School, Suffolk Results

U15A v Woodbridge A team won 20-19

U15A v Woodbridge B team won 17-10

U14/U16/ U18 v Royal Hospital School, Ipswich, Results

U14A won 18-17, Player of the Match: Annabel Gardiner

U14B lost 15-9, Player of the Match: Emma Marler

U14C lost 10-6, Player of the Match: Isabel Miller de Vega

U16A won 30-21, Player of the Match: Laura Johnson

U16B lost 15-9, Player of the match: Abbey Dixon

U18A lost 33-19, Player of the Match: Catherine Crawley

Riding

Last Sunday, the New Hall Equestrian Team competed at the Woodbridge School One Day Event. The team entered for the Mini class did not achieve a placing but it was a good experience for them since it was the first major event for two of the team members. The team entered for the Novice class finished in 2nd place out of the 22 teams. Gabriella Oxlade (Year 10) also finished 2nd individually, Sophie Nixon (Year 9) finished 4th and Catherine Gilbert (Year 9) finished in 6th place overall. New Hall entered two individual riders in the Open class, Camilla Loomes (Year 12) and Anna Giles (Year 13). Anna finished in 2nd place whilst Camilla narrowly missed a placing. Well done to all of the riders who competed over the weekend; it was a great start to this year's season.

Rugby

U15 Team win Essex Schools Sevens

Player of the Tournament: George Perkins



Last Tuesday, the U15 team became winners of the Essex Schools Sevens. In the first round, the team beat Brentwood School 31-0 in a convincing victory. A further win in the last pool game by 57-0 against The Jo Richardson School, Dagenham, secured a place in the semi-finals where the team went on to beat The Champion School, Upminster, 29-22. In the final, the team played against The Robert Clack School, Dagenham, who they will face again in the 15-aside county final on 3 April. The team played superbly and won 24-5. The team will now represent the Essex Schools Union

in the English Schools National Sevens next season. This Sunday, the team will be attending the Wimbledon College Invitational Sevens Tournament at which they will be competing against Wallington County Grammar School, Surrey, Portsmouth Grammar School, Royal Grammar School, Guildford and Millfield School, Somerset.

U15 Team reach Essex Schools Cup Final again!

The U15 team have reached their 3rd consecutive Essex Schools Cup Final after an excellent display against the National Daily Mail Vase finalists, Saffron Walden High School. The final score was a 24-7 win for the team. The boys' coach, Mr Eyres, would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the team and commend them for training relentlessly. We wish the boys every success in the final against Robert Clack School, Dagenham, on Sunday 3 April at the May and Baker Rugby Club in Writtle.

Inter-House Competition



Clear blue skies and a touch of spring welcomed many parents to the inter-house rugby on Saturday 19 March. The boys were full of enthusiasm and came prepared for some hard fought matches. Congratulations to Owen's House who won the competition. Well done to Pole's who came 2nd, Fisher's who came 3rd and Southwell's who came 4th.

Tennis

Senior Mixed Doubles Team National Finals



Congratulations to the Senior Mixed Doubles Team comprising Thomas Styles (Year 11), Nicholas Carscadden, Ella Dziejwulski and Clara Spicer (Year 12), who competed in the National Senior Schools Finals which were held in Bolton Arena last weekend. The arena hosted the top 8 remaining schools in the competition. The team played

some impressive tennis and were unfortunate to lose their opening 2 matches against Ellesmere College, Shropshire, 1-3 and Strathallan School, Scotland, 0-4. However, in their final match, the players won against Wyggeston and Queen Elizabeth I College, Leicestershire, 3-1. New Hall finished in joint 5th position, which is a fantastic achievement.

U18 v Felsted School, Glanvill Cup Competition - won 6-0

The U18 team won all of their matches against Felsted School in the second round of the Glanvill Cup Competition. Oliver Bickley won 6-0, 6-3, Thomas Styles won 6-0, 6-0, James Caddies won 6-2, 6-4 and Nicholas Carscadden won 6-0, 6-0. The team then continued to win both doubles matches which resulted in a winning match result of 6-0 to New Hall. The boys will now play The Bishop's Stortford High School on 27 April in the Regional Quarter Finals.

Essex Chronicle's Sports Awards

Congratulations to the U15 Boys Tennis Team who were voted in 3rd place in the category of Young Sports Team of the Year in the Essex Chronicle's Sports Awards. The boys attended the Awards Evening where they were privileged to be in the company of great sportsmen and sportswomen from the county.

Forthcoming Events

Springfield Parish Council Annual Parish Assembly

Springfield Parish Council has asked us to publicise their Parish Assembly on Wednesday 18 May 2011 at 7.30pm. The meeting will take place at Chelmer Village Hall, Village Square, Chelmer Village, CM2 6RF. There will be guest speakers from Neighbourhood Watch and the Rural Community Council of Essex, as well as display stands showing the work carried out by local youth groups within the community. Information will also be available about the Parish Council and their activities. Residents of Springfield Parish are welcome to attend. Please contact Mrs Mary Martin, Deputy Clerk to Council, on 01245 466313 or via clerk@springfieldpc.org.uk if you would like to attend.

Travel Information

Car Share

A parent of Year 7 student, who will be joining the school in September 2011, is looking for a car-share from the Benfleet/Southend area. If you are able to help with this, please contact Mrs G Phillips as soon as possible on gphillips@newhallschool.co.uk.

School Coaches and Minibus Services on Open Day

This is a reminder that school coaches and minibus services will operate on Open Day, Monday 2 May 2011 at the normal morning times but with an early departure from school in the afternoon at 4.30pm.

Generals Lane

Further concern has been expressed that traffic coming down Generals Lane from the direction of New Hall's exit, is often travelling quickly. As I am sure you are aware, the oncoming traffic has right of way. In light of this, please drive sensibly and at an appropriate speed. Your co-operation would be much appreciated to ensure the safety of all users of Generals Lane.

Forthcoming Events

UNi4U Event at Anglia Ruskin University, Chelmsford

On Saturday 2 April, students in Years 9 and 10 are invited to visit Anglia Ruskin University to experience a taste of university life. The students will be able to get involved in a range of fun activities which will run from 10.00am until 3.00pm. Visitors will also have the chance to take home their very own graduation photograph. Parents will be able to discover more about higher education and future career opportunities for their children through a series of talks and Q&A sessions. For more information or to book your place please visit www.anglia.ac.uk.

Examination Invigilators needed

Mrs Newton, Examinations Officer, is currently seeking additional External Invigilators to join the invigilation pool, to work on an ad hoc casual basis during the examination periods. Invigilators will be paid for this service on an hourly basis. If you are interested, please contact the school on 01245 467 588 or email examoffice@newhallschool.co.uk.

Yours sincerely

Katherine Jeffrey
PRINCIPAL

Forthcoming Events:

Date	Time	Event
Mon 28 Mar	6.00-8.30pm	UCAS Introductory Session for parents and students
Tue 29 Mar	7.00-8.00pm	UAE Cricket Tour debrief evening
Thu 31 Mar	5.00-7.00pm	Years 7 & 8 Interpretation of Text Competition
Fri 1 Apr	7.00-9.00pm	Spring Concert
Mon 4 Apr	7.00-10.30pm	Senior School Production performance
Tue 5 Apr	7.00-10.30pm	
Wed 6 Apr	2.00-4.30pm	
	7.00-10.30pm	
Fri 8 Apr	4.30pm	Term ends
Wed 27 Apr	8.15am	Term begins

BRAIN CHALLENGE

Brain Challenge Number 25 Solution

If a student uses half of her remaining ink in her pen every day, how much ink does she have left after three days?

One eighth of the original amount

Congratulations to Tom Boon and Pavel Kohout who answered correctly.

And the next challenge is:

In this health conscious and hygiene obsessed age, why when we eat do we always eat over at least a cm of dirt? See Dr Thomas with the first correct solution to win a prize.



DIOCESE OF BRENTWOOD
The Departments for Liturgical Music & Adult Religious Education

A day with

CHRISTOPHER WALKER

SATURDAY 30 APRIL 2011

10.00AM - 4.00PM

AT NEW HALL SCHOOL, CHELMSFORD

**FOR PARISH MUSICIANS, CATECHISTS,
SINGERS AND INSTRUMENTALISTS.**

**EXPLORE NEW RESOURCES & MUSIC
WITH A FOCUS ON THE NEW
MASS TEXTS.**

COST £10 PER PERSON

FOR BOOKING & FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

01277 265 255 OR 01277 265 288

arefm@dioceseofbrentwood.org or music@dioceseofbrentwood.org

BOOKING ESSENTIAL FOR THIS WORKSHOP

Christopher Walker is an internationally known lecturer, composer and conductor whose works encompass music for Children's Liturgy of the Word plus a wealth of material for all liturgical celebrations. Born and educated in England, Christopher is presently residing in Los Angeles, where he is combining the roles of music lecturer and director of music and worship. He is also a member of the North American Forum on the Catechumenate.



New Hall Drama Presents



**bluff your way in
theatre
(darling)**

**Monday 4, Tuesday 5 & Wednesday 6 April
at 7.00pm in the Eaton Theatre,
New Hall School.**

**Tickets, suggested donation of £5 for Rwanda, available from
Mrs Phillips on 01245 467 588 or g.phillips@newhallschool.co.uk**

Founded 1912



New Hall Music School



SPRING CONCERT

FRIDAY 1 APRIL 2011

7.00PM, EATON THEATRE

Including:

STAINER'S THE CRUCIFIXION
& MUSIC FROM THE MOVIES

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