

# What's New?

Senior School

Fortnightly Newsletter

New Hall School, Chelmsford



Founded 1642

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Dear Parents

At the start of this new academic year I would like to extend a warm welcome back to all students. In particular, I hope all the students and staff new to the school quickly settle in and are made to feel at home at New Hall. Amongst the new staff I would especially like to welcome two new Deputy Heads; Mrs Jo Storey (Curriculum) and Mr Andrew Wilson (Pastoral) and I look forward to working closely with them both. As you can see, this edition of *What's New* is packed with events and activities that occurred towards the end of the Trinity Term and, indeed, during the holiday. In future we will be publishing this weekly to make sure you are kept up to date with the many events that take place throughout the week and the wonderful achievements of our students.

## Charity

### *Relay for Life*

New Hall was delighted to host the Cancer Research UK Relay for Life on the Bank Holiday weekend in August. Over 400 people took part in the 24 hour event where at least one member of the team had to be walking round the track at all times. The current total for the event is now over £80,000. Old Fish, Oliver Huke, walked for the entire 24 hours and 4 participants completed marathons as part of the event.

### *A Thank You from Mid Essex Charities Foundation*

We have received a letter of thanks from Yvonne Carter of Mid Essex Charities Foundation, thanking New Hall for our recent donation of £477.75 to the Cancer Care Unit at Broomfield Hospital. The money was raised from the Staff v Pupils hockey match which took place last term. The money raised will go towards helping nursing staff fund additional equipment and amenities to enhance the care they can provide to patients. Thank you to everyone who donated.

### *RDA (Riding for the Disabled) Caribbean Ball*

The RDA Ball will take place on Friday 23 September 2011 at Pontlands Park, West Hanningfield Road, Great Baddow. The cost is £50 per head to include a 3-course meal, wine, live music, raffle and auction. RDA is run by students from New Hall, with adult volunteers. All money raised goes directly to fund the rides for the disabled which are provided at cost by Rawreth Equestrian Centre. This is the RDA's main fund raising event of the year. Please help us to provide over 1,200 rides for disabled children and adults. Tables can be 8-12 people. We are very happy to accept part tables and single tickets. It will be a great night - don't miss out. For further information and tickets contact Donna Barber or Kim Baird on 07720 850047/07736 061473 or by email on [donna.e.barber@btinternet.com](mailto:donna.e.barber@btinternet.com) or [kim@graysinnnews.com](mailto:kim@graysinnnews.com).

## *Lourdes Trip*

13 Sixth Form students accompanied by Miss Brown and many Old Fishes once again took part in the Ampleforth Pilgrimage to Lourdes in July. As helpers, students work as part of a team to support the 75 sick pilgrims who are also on the pilgrimage. It is incredibly hard work and emotionally tiring but it is also great fun, very rewarding and spiritually uplifting. All of the students worked very hard and also had the opportunity to relax in the evening with other pilgrims from all over the world. Activities included taking part in the processions in Lourdes, mass at the Grotto, a trip to Cenacolo; a lay Catholic community for young adults recovering from addiction problems and a ward party where many of our students got up to entertain all 400 pilgrims! They were all wonderful ambassadors for New Hall and we received many compliments about their positive attitude and contribution to the week.



## Dance

### *Trip to Disneyland Paris*



46 students from New Hall Dance School travelled to Disneyland Paris on 19 August to perform at the world famous park. On Saturday a Disney representative took

them to the theatre where the 'Lion King' is staged. After a quick break for lunch they were back at the theatre getting ready for our performance. The families that travelled with them had seats in the front row and the 2000 seated auditorium was almost full. The theatre manager announced "Performing from the United Kingdom, please put your hands together for the students of New Hall School". The students went out and performed with a professional and confident approach. The performance finished with a finale which had everyone dancing in their seats. At the end of the show the Disney technical team said it was the best show that they had seen from a visiting dance school. The next 2 days were spent enjoying the park and meeting some of the Disney characters. This was a once in a life time trip and all those that attended will remember the experience for a long time. Thank you to all those that took part.

#### Dance and Theatre Workshop



During the summer holidays the dance department held a 3 day dance and theatre workshop. This year's course had the theme of *Over the Rainbow*; this combined scenes from *The Wiz*, *The Wizard of Oz* and *Wicked*. Various age groups took part in the course and there were a total of 60 children from different schools. On the last day the course culminated with a show in the Eaton Theatre and everyone dressed up as the characters from the show. It was great fun and all children were a pleasure to teach. Miss Molina would like to thank Hannah Jones (Year 12), Lucy Ashfield (Year 10), Stephanie Freestone (Year 11) and Old Fishes Charlotte Henderson, Lucy Talbot and Sandra Bennet-Gazza for helping during the 3 days.



Dates for next year will be booked soon, so anyone interested in signing up for this course should email [s.molina@newhallschool.co.uk](mailto:s.molina@newhallschool.co.uk) for more information.

#### Sophia Gains Place at Dance East Academy

Sophia Moore (Year 7) has been offered a place at the Dance East Academy in Ipswich, starting in September. The Dance East Academy is a Centre for Advanced Training (CAT) in dance and offers young people, with exceptional potential and talent, the opportunity to access high quality dance training. This is an excellent achievement for Sophia and a fabulous opportunity.

#### Saturday Dance Classes

Saturday Dance Classes will begin again on Saturday 10 September 2011 in Walkfares Performing Arts Centre.

#### English

The English Department is now selling copies of *English Through and Through*, the new anthology of student writing. A treasure trove of eclectic styles and genres, including poetry, prose, letters and reviews, it provides a fascinating cross-section of the tasks and activities which English students have tackled over the last two years. The cost of a copy, which can be put on the bill, is £9.99; all profits from sales go to NHVS.



#### Gliding Course

Eleanor Shipley (Year 12) attended a Gliding Scholarship Course with the Air Cadets in August. This was an excellent week-long course and an exciting experience.



## Music

Congratulations to the below students who achieved the following in their ABRSM & Trinity music examinations:

Lucy Greenwood	Grade 4	Recorder	Distinction
Yee Ting Chan	Grade 2	Guitar	Merit
Pavel Kahout	Grade 7	Guitar	Merit
Joe Mcquillan	Grade 4	Guitar	Merit
Hannah Rothmann	Grade 4	Flute	Pass
Molly Conrad	Grade 5	Flute	Distinction
Sorcha Hornett	Grade 3	Violin	Pass
Hiu-Ching Mok	Grade 7	Piano	Pass
Coralie Smart	Grade 8	Oboe	Merit
Shalom Olurotimi	Grade 2	Piano	Merit
Darragh Moore	Grade 1	Piano	Pass
Katherine Streatfeild	Grade 1	Piano	Pass
Rachael Sims	Grade 1	Piano	Merit
Felix Fardell	Grade 5	Trombone	Distinction
James Hutton-Penman	Grade 2	Guitar	Merit
Andrew Court	Grade 1	Guitar	Merit
Connor Whetstone	Grade 1	Guitar	Distinction
Chloe Norman	Grade 4	Singing	Pass
Rebecca Kimberlin	Grade 3	Clarinet	Distinction
Dominic Reynolds	Grade 4	Alto Sax	Merit
Thomas Denham	Grade 4	Clarinet	Pass
Lucy Cracknell	Grade 5	Clarinet	Pass
Amelia Davidson	Grade 3	Clarinet	Pass
Bryony Harding	Grade 1	Singing	Pass
Lucy Greenwood	Grade 1	Singing	Distinction
Alice Talbut	Grade 1	Singing	Distinction
Alexandra Burnham	Grade 4	Singing	Merit
Ellen Whelan-Smith	Grade 5	Singing	Pass
Thomas Bellis	Grade 3	Singing	Merit
Lara-Jayne Ellice	Grade 5	Piano	Pass
Anna-Maria Acevedo	Grade 3	Piano	Pass
Emma Russell	Grade 6	Piano	Pass
Sindhu Kugan	Grade 2	Piano	Pass
Alice Fox	Grade 3	Piano	Pass
Carrie Leader	Grade 4	Theory	Distinction
Benjamin Treloar	Grade 1	Theory	Distinction
Yi-Lam Wong	Grade 8	Theory	Pass
Alice Fox	Grade 5	Theory	Merit
Harriett Bartram-Baird	Grade 5	Theory	Pass
James Summers	Grade 5	Theory	Distinction

### *Diploma for Old Fish*

Crystal Ying, who left New Hall in 2010, has been awarded a diploma in piano performance. She is now able to put the letters DipABRSM (Performer) after her name. Congratulations to Crystal and to her piano teacher Miss Hilliar.

## Science

### *Operation Wallacea Trip to Honduras*

8 students from Years 12 and 13 undertook a trip to Honduras with Operation Wallacea in August. Operation Wallacea is a series of biological and conservation management research programmes that operate in remote locations across the world. The program in Honduras is based at a site in the Cusuco National Park and islands off the coast in the Caribbean in the Marine Protection Zone. Students spent one night in a hotel in the capital San Pedro Sula before being picked up by bus in the morning.

Students were transferred to the back of pick-up trucks for a 2 hour trip up mountain roads to base camp in the Cusuco National Park.



The National Park is neo-tropical rainforest and base camp was at an altitude of about 5000ft. Whilst at base camp, students took part in small mammal trapping, invertebrate sorting, bat surveys (including catching a vampire bat) herpetology (amphibians and reptiles) surveys, bird mist netting and surveys of the forest itself on sites up mountainous transects. Some students also undertook a canopy access course enabling them to ascend by ropes 40m into the canopy. After 3 nights at base camp the students trekked to a satellite camp at Guanales which was much more basic. Students spent the days doing more surveys including a climb to the most difficult survey site in the park. After a final night at base camp, the students travelled back down the mountain and visited a troop of Howler monkeys at the base of the mountain. They then stayed a night in the village of Rio Esteban, where students stayed in pairs with families in local houses. Here, students were treated to a traditional meal and entertained with local dancing. The following morning we got boats off the beach at dawn for our transfer to the island of Cayos Cocinos a research station in the Caribbean. While 2 students had chosen to scuba dive, the rest of the students completed 5 open water

dives (2 a day) to a depth of 18m around the coral reefs, with all completing the PADI open water course successfully. Whilst on the island students also attended a series of lectures on reef ecology and conservation, and coral, invertebrate and fish identification. The Operation Wallacea Honduran Project Manager was hugely complimentary of all the New Hall students for their enthusiasm throughout this extraordinary trip.



## Sport

Full write-ups are on the school website:

[www.newhallschool.co.uk](http://www.newhallschool.co.uk)

### Cricket



The New Hall cricket season came to an exciting finish on the last day of the summer term. The U12 team, having already beaten Chigwell, Felsted and Holmwood House, were having a fantastic run in the County Cup Tournament. After beating local rivals Brentwood by 8 wickets in the quarter final, the U12 team went on to have a comprehensive victory against Bancrofts School. In the final against King Edward VI Grammar School (KEGS) it was all to play for; the winners were not only to become County Champions but also would go through to the David English U13 National Competition the following year. New Hall started very strongly by only conceding 63 from 20 overs, with Joshua Turner, Joshua Chapman and Gregory Spires being the pick of the bowlers. KEGS would not give up easily, but with just 64 runs required for New Hall victory they were quickly put in their place as they were reduced to 5 for 2 in the second over. Some outstanding batting from Julian Whetstone and Gregory Spires along with vital contributions from the lower order meant that New Hall got over the line 8 down and were named for the first time as County Champions for Essex. This is a fantastic result for the team. The national draw is completed this term and everyone at New Hall is very excited to see what this outstanding group of players can go on and accomplish.

### Fencing

There will be a fencing taster session taking place on Monday 12 September between 12.40pm – 1.20pm. Anyone is welcome to attend, whether you have done fencing before or would like to start, come along!

### Football

Uplands Rangers YFC is an FA Chartered Standard Football Club, established in 1984 and based at Beaulieu Park, Springfield. They currently have 12 teams ranging from 5 and 6 year olds through to U16 teams, including 2 girls' teams at U11 and U14. They are still recruiting for their U11 girls' team and are also looking for a manager for the team ready for the coming season. If anyone would like more information regarding this, please contact Bob, Club Secretary, via email on [bob@nightstar-radio.com](mailto:bob@nightstar-radio.com).

### Golf

#### New Hall Golf Camp

This first New Hall Golf Camp took place this summer. 3 golf professionals provided their expertise over the 3 day course to 18 students from both New Hall and other schools. Students had the opportunity to have full swing coaching, take part in pitching, chipping & putting skills challenges and take part in a competition at the end of the course to demonstrate their new skills. Awards and gifts were given to all the students, after a very successful 3 days. Following the success of New Hall Golf Camp, there will be another 3 day event taking place on Wednesday 26 – Friday 28 October. For more information please contact Kevin Searle, Head of Golf, on [k.searle@newhallschool.co.uk](mailto:k.searle@newhallschool.co.uk).

#### New Hall Golf Masterclass

A day of golf will take place on Monday 31 October 2011. There will be professional golf tutors on hand to help develop your golf skills, breakfast and a 2 course meal included in the price of £40.00 for students and £55.00 for adults. All this will take place on the 18 hole Channels golf course. The event will be open to families of both the Senior and Preparatory schools. For more information about this fantastic day contact Kevin Searle, Head of Golf, on [k.searle@newhallschool.co.uk](mailto:k.searle@newhallschool.co.uk) or [david.march@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:david.march@hotmail.co.uk).

### Tennis



Over the summer, many of New Hall's tennis players have been competing in LTA sanctioned events. Congratulations go to all those who have been competing. Special mention goes to the following students who have improved their LTA rankings; Richard Barber (Year 9), Nicole Benfield (Year 8), Jack Blackwell (Year 8), James Caddies (Year 8), Daniel Cotton (Year 10), Jacob Ducksbury (Year 8), Harry Hylton (Year 7), Jessica Martin (Year 11) and Thomas Styles (Year 12). In the climax to the summer tennis series many of the New Hall players competed in the Essex County Tennis Championships which saw Thomas Styles (Year 12) making it to the semi finals of both the U16 and U18 event. In addition, Oliver Bickley (Year 11) made it through to the final of the U16 event, James Caddies made it through to the semi finals of the U14 event and Harry Hylton made it through to the final of the U12's where he was narrowly defeated 7-5, 6-4. In addition to these great achievements Thomas Styles was voted outstanding player of the week and Harry Hylton won the award for best 11 year old in the championships. Oliver Bickley and his partner won the U16 doubles in a close final where he defeated Thomas

Styles and his partner. We now wish the U13 and U15 boys and girls team every success in the next round of the National Schools Tennis competition which takes place at the end of the month.



#### *Triathlon*

Jemima Walker (Year 8) had an extraordinary summer of triathlon events. Jemima became Eastern Region Champion at Tristar 2 level, winning the Upminster Triathlon, as well as competing in the Southend Triathlon for charity and raising £200 for Bosom Pals and winning her category. Jemima was also selected to represent the Eastern Region at the Inter-Regional Championships Triathlon, where she finished 15<sup>th</sup> and the Eastern Region placed 4<sup>th</sup> overall.

#### *Rugby*

Congratulations to Charly Inwood (Year 11) who has gained a place for the fourth consecutive year at Essex School of Rugby. Charly is one of only 3 boys to have been selected for the School of Rugby for the full 4 years and is classed as an elite player within the scrum half position, in which he has represented the county on numerous occasions for both 15 aside and 12 aside rugby.

#### *Riding*

##### *Exceptional Results for Madeleine*

Madeleine Taylor (Year 11) had a fantastic summer competing on her 3 ponies, including representing Great Britain in the Pony European Eventing Championships.



Madeleine was placed 10<sup>th</sup> at the Badminton Grass Roots BE100 Championship and 1<sup>st</sup> at the Gosling Cup (however was awarded 3<sup>rd</sup> due to steward presentation time penalties being awarded to Madeleine's team) with her pony Dakota. At the Pony European Championships, in Jaszkowo,

Poland, Madeleine was placed 9<sup>th</sup> individually with Bandalera and achieved Team Bronze for Great Britain. With her pony, Biscuit, Madeleine rode a clear round at The Hurstpierpoint College National Schools and Pony Club Jumping Championships and will be completing their first novice event at Puston on 15 September, ahead of a 3 day event at Weston Park in October.

#### *Riding Social*

The annual Riding Social will take place on Monday 19 September, from 6.00-8.00pm, in either the Newnham Room or North Room, subject to numbers. Anyone currently involved or interested in competing on behalf of the school (if they have access to their own pony) or extra-curricular lessons at Runningwell Equestrian Centre are very welcome. Michael Paveley, Director of Riding, Katie Hamilton, Head of Equestrian and Ruth Dowie, Proprietor of Runningwell Equestrian Centre will be attending to meet with parents and students/pupils and the new Riding Captain and Vice Captain will be announced. Drinks and nibbles will be provided. Please confirm your place as soon as possible by contacting Gill O'Riley on [g.oriley@newhallschool.co.uk](mailto:g.oriley@newhallschool.co.uk).

#### **New Hall School at the Archant Good Schools Show 2011**

This month New Hall will be attending the Archant Good Schools Show at Olympia. There is the opportunity to nominate New Hall for a selection of awards to be given at the show on Saturday 17 September. If you would like to nominate New Hall for awards such as Best Boarding School or if you think a teacher deserves some recognition, then visit [www.thearchantgss.questionpro.com](http://www.thearchantgss.questionpro.com) to complete the survey.

#### **Student Absence Requests**

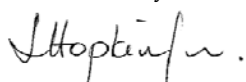
Please note that as of September 2011, student absence requests will be considered by me (Mrs Hopkinson, Senior School Headteacher). Therefore any requests for absence via email should be sent to my PA, Mrs Williams via [E.Williams@newhallschool.co.uk](mailto:E.Williams@newhallschool.co.uk). The school publishes term dates well in advance in order to assist parents with holiday planning. New Hall has long holidays therefore it is not considered appropriate for students to take additional time off from school during term time for family holidays. Student absences affect not just the individual but may affect the whole teaching group and the teachers' programmes of work and their marking. Permission for absence is not normally granted for holidays and any absences of this kind will be marked as unauthorised on the student record.

Parents or guardians of overseas boarding students should ensure that all flights to and from school are booked well in advance. This is because many flights become full quickly and it is not acceptable for students to depart from school early or return late for this reason. If there are no places on appropriate flights then boarders will have to stay with their UK guardians or parents will have to make alternative arrangements.

We do understand that there may be an occasion whereby you do need to request absence for your son or daughter from school during term time e.g. for a medical procedure

for which you have no control over the date or a close family member's wedding or funeral. On some occasions, in these unavoidable circumstances, permission for absence will be granted if a letter or email is received from parents, in advance, requesting absence from school. In our view, it is not in a student's best interests to miss out on required lessons. Repeated absence is likely to be detrimental to a student's education. It goes without saying that it is important to us that the school and parents work together to ensure a high quality of education provision.

Yours sincerely



Joy Hopkinson  
SENIOR SCHOOL HEADTEACHER

*What's New?* 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?*, please email [e.powell@newhallschool.co.uk](mailto:e.powell@newhallschool.co.uk).

## BRAIN CHALLENGE

### Brain Challenge Number 32 Solution

There were traces of 'traces' 4 anagrams in all - (crates, caster, reacts, caters).

#### The next challenge is:

"It is usually best in sport to have the wind behind you, but there is at least one exception." What is it and why?

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

#### Forthcoming Events:

Date	Time	Event
Sat 10 Sep - Sun 11 Sep	All Day	Community Weekend
Sat 10 Sep	07.30 - 10.30pm	Cricket Dinner

# NEW HALL R.D.A. CARIBBEAN BALL

FRIDAY, 23<sup>RD</sup> SEPTEMBER 2011  
7PM - 12:30AM  
BLACK TIE

**TICKET PRICE £50**, to include: welcome cocktail, three course meal & table wine, with live music and entertainment.



TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM  
DONNA BARBER  
07720850047  
[donna.e.barber@btinternet.com](mailto:donna.e.barber@btinternet.com)

PONTLANDS PARK  
WEST HANNINGFIELD RD  
GREAT BADDOW, CHELMSFORD  
CM2 8HR

KIM BAIRD  
07736061473  
[kim@graysinnnews.com](mailto:kim@graysinnnews.com)

Proceeds to go to Riding for the Disabled Association, run by students from New Hall, with volunteer adults. All money raised goes directly to fund the rides for the disabled which are provided "at cost" by Rawreth Equestrian Centre.

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## New Hall School

# Golf Camp



**Wednesday 26 - Friday 28 October**  
**Regiments Way Golf Club**

New Hall Golf Camp is a 3 day course which offers boys and girls in Year 3-11 a chance to develop their skills under the guidance of experienced golf coaches at a first class Golf course. The course is a real opportunity for skills to be honed whilst having fun.

Wednesday 26 - Thursday 27 October 1.00pm - 4.00pm and Friday 9.00am - 4.00pm.  
The course fee for the 3 day Golf Camp is £100 and includes all training, prizes and lunch provided by the Golf Club.

**For further information please contact**  
**Mr Kevin Searle, Games Coach on**  
**[k.searle@newhallschool.co.uk](mailto:k.searle@newhallschool.co.uk)**

A minimum number of participants is required to make this event viable. Places will be confirmed as soon as possible but please book early to avoid disappointment.