

What's New?

Senior School

Fortnightly Newsletter

New Hall School, Chelmsford

Founded 1642

Dear Parents

Issue No 119
Friday, 3 October 2008

Open Day

We were delighted to welcome over 190 families to the Senior School on Saturday for Open Day. We received excellent feedback from visitors about their tours of the school and the conduct of the students.

English Department

Creative writing published

The Creative Writing Club has had its entries published in the *Talkin' Bout' My Generation* Young Writers' annual poetry competition publication. The successful poets were: Eleanor Kibblewhite (Year 8), Sophie Thompson-Hyland (Year 8), Jacob Collins (Year 9), Daniel Mullens (Year 9), Sophia Miller de Vega (Year 10),; Abigail Odell (Year 10) and Lauren Sudders (Year 10). *Talkin' Bout' My Generation* is available to read in the English Department. If any other students are interested in entering creative writing competitions, or simply would like their writing to be read and discussed, please come and see Mrs Kelly.

Looking for something to read?

Please ask the English Department for recommended reading books which will challenge and inspire readers. The department have a wide selection of books suitable for all students which will provide a welcome opportunity for broadening their imagination and experience of literature.

Children's Book Week, 6-12 October

There will be a sale of new fiction on Friday 10 October in the Library. The books have been selected by the English Department and the Librarian and represent some of the new and exciting material available for children and young adults. There is a limited selection of adult fiction, which we hope will appeal to the Sixth Form and members of staff. Purchases can be paid for in cash or alternatively charged to the termly school fees account.

European Day of Languages

On 26 September, students celebrated The European Day of Languages. Activities included European-themed quizzes and a 'Mandarin Challenge', providing our keen linguists with an opportunity to try out a non-European language. The refectory also took part in this European-wide initiative by adding a continental flavour to lunch. Options included Catalan lamb and vegetable risotto with gorgonzola- ¡Qué rico!

Latin & Classics

On the 26 September, Legion XIII visited New Hall to entertain Year 8 students. In the comfortable location of the Eaton Theatre, Marcus and Caius, two 'Roman' soldiers, drilled some of our students with commands in Latin and then demonstrated Roman weapons on the playing field.

In the afternoon, students were entertained by a professor, who gave a fascinating insight into Roman daily life and showed them Celtic weapons from his extensive collection. The whole day was very entertaining for students and teachers alike and also consolidated the work currently being studied in Year 8 Latin.

Silver Duke of Edinburgh Expedition

On 12-15 September, seven Year 13 students took part in their qualifying Silver Expedition in the Peak District National Park. Congratulations to Eleanor McCrea, Danielle Argent, Phoebe Lane, Fiona Smithyes, Florence Oliver, Antonia Fenwicke-Clennell and Daniel Kohout on successfully completing this part of the Award.



Author's World Tour Comes to New Hall



On 25 September, we welcomed Meg Cabot, author of *The Princess Diaries* and many other bestselling children's novels to New Hall. Meg spoke to girls in Years 6, 7 & 8 about her journey as an author and her latest books. Students took the opportunity to ask some excellent questions and purchase signed copies of her books.

Year 7 Mersea Trip



The new Year 7 students spent a fantastic day at the Mersea Island Activity Centre last week. The team-building games included a high-wire, assault-course and climbing wall. The day finished with a game of *It's a Knock-Out!* Thank you to all the students for making the day such a success.

Music

Gamelan Residency



New Hall School was delighted to host the London Symphony Orchestra's Balinese Gamelan for a 4-day residency last week. The Gamelan is a particularly beautiful and colourful instrument made up of many parts. Each Gamelan is a unique handmade group of instruments, and consists of metallophones, gongs, drums and cymbals, many of which are hand carved with intricate traditional designs. It is sacred to Balinese culture and is believed to have supernatural powers. The residency offered students, staff, and visitors the opportunity to learn the traditions and rituals associated with the Gamelan as well as learning to play the various individual instruments. Traditionally the Gamelan is played on occasions such as ritual ceremonies, community celebrations, dances and court and for the Royal Family. It was a wonderful opportunity for students to play this very rare instrument, which is one of only a few Gamelans in the UK, and to develop musical and cultural awareness.

Lunchtime Concert

The second lunchtime concert of the term featured fantastic performances from Nathan Lambert (Year 7) who performed his own composition, *Cry over Me*, and Coralie Smart (Year 11) who played 2 movements from Handel's *Oboe*

Concerto. Voces, the male broken voice group, entertained with *George Jones* and a Czech pastoral folksong and Fred Tan (Year 13) ended the concert with a sublime performance of Debussy's *Clair de Lune*. The next concert will take place on Wednesday 15 October.

Organ Lecture

On behalf of the Chelmsford & District Organists' Association (CDOA), we are delighted to welcome the internationally acclaimed organist Jennifer Bate to New Hall. Jennifer will be presenting an illustrated talk titled: *Messiaen: The Man & his Music*. The talk will take place on Saturday 11 October at 2.30pm in the North Room & the Chapel. Admission is £5 and further information is available from Steve Knight, CDOA Publicity Officer, on 01245 609 294.

Examination Success

Congratulations to Harriet Fenton, Year 11, who has recently passed her Grade VI Violin.

Forthcoming Music Events

Please note that the St Cecilia's Day Concert, which this year will be featuring *Last Night of the Proms Favourites*, will now be taking place on Thursday 20 November at 7.00pm in the Eaton Theatre. Tickets are available free of charge from Mrs G Phillips on gphillips@newhallschool.co.uk or on the school number.

Sport

Athletics: Olympic hopes



Over the summer, Jessica Tappin, Year 13, competed all over the country, representing Essex in Athletics. In August, Jessica was selected to represent Essex U20s, winning the high jump with 1.70m which ranks Jessica as tied 33rd in the country for ladies, and 14th in the country for U20s. Jessica also came 2nd in the hurdles. Later that month, Jessica was chosen to represent the South of England U20s against the North and the Midlands. Jessica won the high jump with 1.68 m. Last week, after winning the Essex Schools U20 Heptathlon, Jessica took part in the England Schools U20s at Birmingham. 32 of the top heptathletes in the country were taking part and Jessica was in 2nd place after the first day, winning the high jump with 1.69 m. Jessica finished in 6th position at the end of day 2.

Jessica is now ranked in the top 10 in country and is in the elite squad. She will receive specialist coaching in the hope of competing in the 2012 Olympics in either the heptathlon or the high jump event. Congratulations to Jessica.

Hockey

Congratulations to Grace Donnelly, Courtney Mee (Year 8) and Sophie Summers (Year 9) who have been chosen to train in the U14 Essex Hockey Development squad after attending four assessment days, two with the Essex County squad, over a period of 6 months. This is a fantastic achievement, as the standard is extremely high. They are required to attend other Essex training sessions in the year. Well done also to Sarah Dickinson, Evangelina Fisher, Alexandra Marler, and Nadia Wheadon (Year 9). Alexandra has been chosen to play in the Essex County Squad at U15 level and Sarah, Evangelina and Nadia have all been included in the U15 Essex Development squad to train in the ESSEX Hockey academy.



Open Day Hockey Fixture Results

U14 New Hall v Bancrofts 1-1

Player of the Match: Anna Sansalvador, Year 9

New Hall played against a strong, powerful Bancrofts side. Both teams started well and were keen to take advantage of any weaknesses in their opponents' defensive area. New Hall made some good breaks down the wings but it was Bancrofts who scored first after the New Hall girls were put under repeated pressure at 16-yard hits. Some good saves by Madeleine Leathley kept New Hall in the running before half time. After the break, New Hall fought back with determination. A defensive clearance to Alexandra Marler resulted in a fantastic break and some excellent dodges past their defenders to give New Hall the goal they desired. Both teams were unlucky not to score again at the end, with Sophie Lampshire receiving a good through ball in the D and Madeleine Leathley keeping out the ball in the last minute of the game.

Horse-Riding

Saint Felix School Triathlon: Sunday 28 September

Teams from both the Senior and Preparatory Schools competed at the Saint Felix School Triathlon last Sunday. Dependent on age, each team member was required to swim for either 2 or 3 minutes, jump a 1'6" or 2'6" cross country course and run 1000 or 1500 metres. The Senior School team, comprising Pippa O'Riley (Year 7), Gabriella Oxlade and Madeleine Taylor (Year 8), did extremely well, being placed 2nd overall; they were the highest placed school team and girls' team. Individually, the girls were also placed 2nd (Pippa), 4th (Madeleine) and 6th (Gabriella). This was an excellent result for the school and congratulations go to all participants.

Ice Skating

Congratulations to Sarah May Coward (Year 11), and her partner Michael, who have been selected to skate for Team GB in the final leg of the Junior Grand Prix Series taking place in Sheffield in October. Sarah and Michael are the only British team to be selected for this international event and they will compete against couples from 60 other countries. Sarah will also be the youngest member of the Team GB 2008-9 squad, aged only 15. We wish them every success and look forward to hearing the results.



Netball

Congratulations to Harriet Fenton (Year 11), who captained the Chelmsford Netball Club A Team in the Pontin's National Netball Tournament. Her team won the Plate event out of a total entry of 32 teams.

Middle School Boys' Ski Trip, March 2009

The first boys' ski trip to Tonale in Italy is fast approaching. At the time of going to print there is currently one space left. Any student wishing to go should see Mr Winsor. Numbers have to be finalised by the middle of next week.

Swimming



On Sunday 21 September, Eliza Duffy (Year 7), Evangelina Fisher (Year 9) and Darcie Imbert (Year 8) attended the English Schools' Swimming Championships in Ipswich. The best swimmers in the Eastern Region took part in this event. The qualifying times to enter were national standard times and incredibly hard to gain. Eliza Duffy swam very well producing two personal best times and finishing 3rd overall in the 100m backstroke. Evangelina Fisher also produced good swims in the 200m individual medley and 50m frontcrawl. Darcie Imbert swam a determined race in the 50m frontcrawl.

Triumph in Brentwood Swimming Gala

On 23 September, New Hall swam against Brentwood County High School. New Hall came 1st in 38 out of 42 races. We also won all relays in the competition. New Hall gained full points in the Year 7 and 8 girls. Overall, New Hall won every age group and the whole gala. This is a great start to the year, and shows that the dedication to team training is paying off.

Winning start for New Hall U18 Tennis

After gaining promotion last year, the New Hall U18 girls' team now play in the Essex U18 Division 1. The girls got off to a great start beating Woodford Wells, a well established tennis club, 5-1. The girls' team was made up of Regina Bortoni (Year 9), Ella Dziewulski (Year 10), Clara Spicer (Year 10) and Georgina Carscadden (Year 13).

The U18 boys' team also gained promotion last year and now play in the Essex U18 Division 2. The team played away to Palmers, who proved to be very strong opposition. Although the boys performed well, they could not quite overpower Palmers, and the match finished as a draw at 3-3. The New Hall team consisted of Richard Barber (Year 6), Michael Hodson (Year 12), James Pinkerton (Year 12) and Edmund Radley (Year 12).

Triathlon

Congratulations to all the New Hall students who took part in the second New Hall Triathlon, which took place on Sunday 21 September. It was wonderful to see so many young people from all over the South of England taking part in this challenging event. Full results are available on the website.



New Hall Parents' Association (NHPA) Barn Dance

The NHPA are holding a Barn Dance on Saturday 11 October in the Preparatory School Hall, from 7.00pm-11.00pm. Come along and dance to the live band *Bushes and Briars*. Tickets are priced at £12 for adults and £6 for children. This includes a ploughman's supper. If you would like to book tickets, or donate a raffle prize, please contact Lucy Brignell on 07754 735249/01245 251 472 or at lucybrignell@hotmail.com.

European Computer Driving Licence (ECDL)

The ECDL lessons, advertised in last week's edition of *What's New?*, will now take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5.00pm-7.00pm. To register your interest, please contact Mrs Fletcher, Head of ICT, on the school number or at l.fletcher@newhallschool.co.uk.

Travel

We are looking into the possibility of a new coach service, for students in Year 3 upwards, from Burnham-on-Crouch, via Latchingdon, Cold Norton, Cock Clarks & Danbury. Anyone interested in this service should contact Mrs G Phillips, Travel Secretary, as soon as possible on the school number or at gphillips@newhallschool.co.uk

Yours sincerely

Katherine Jeffrey

Katherine Jeffrey

PRINCIPAL

The next edition of *What's New?* will be issued in two weeks. If you have any news which you would like published in an edition of *What's New?*, please email a.brown@newhallschool.co.uk.

Forthcoming Events:

Date	Time	Event
Sat 4 Oct	6.45pm	Literary Dinner
Wed 8 Oct	All Day	FOUNDATION DAY
Wed 8 Oct	6.30pm	Official Opening of the Chaplaincy
Thu 9 Oct	11.00am	School Panoramic Photograph
Sat 11 Oct	2.30pm	Jennifer Bate, Organ Talk
Sat 11 Oct	Evening	NHPA Barn Dance
Sat 11 Oct	7.00pm	Campion & Earle House Disco
Mon 13 - Fri 16 Oct	All Week	Sixth Form Experience Week
Tue 14 Oct	7.00pm	Year 11 Celebration Evening
Wed 15 Oct	12.35pm	Future Chef Competition
Wed 15 Oct	1.45pm	Lunchtime Concert
Thu 16 Oct	7.00pm	Sixth Form Admissions Evening
Fri 17 Oct	TBC	Yr 9-11 French Exchange Departs
Fri 17 Oct	4.35pm	Half Term begins
Sat 18 Oct	All Day	Chess Tournament
Sun 19 Oct	TBC	Art Trip to Barcelona departs
Mon 20 Oct	All Day	Rugby & Hockey Camps begin

BRAIN CHALLENGE

Congratulations to all students who successfully completed Brain Challenge Number 1. The first correct entry out of the hat was Sophie Leader (Year 10), who wins a collection of experiments to try at home. Here is the answer to the last puzzle you have all been keenly waiting for: *Turn ON switch 1. Wait a few minutes. Turn OFF switch 1 and turn ON switch 2. Go through to the second room. The lamp that is ON is connected to switch 2. The lamp this is OFF and WARM is connected to switch 1 and the lamp that is OFF and COLD is connected to switch 3.*

This week's challenge is below. Don't forget that prizes are on offer so, if you fancy the opportunity to win, write your answer to this week's challenge on a slip of paper, including your name and tutor group, and pass it to Mr Fradley on or before Friday 10 October.

Brain Challenge Number 2

The shape shown is made from brass. If the shape is heated evenly all over (without melting!), will the hole in the shape get bigger, smaller or stay the same size?

