

# What's New?

Senior School

Fortnightly Newsletter

New Hall School, Chelmsford

Founded 1642

Issue No 121

Friday 14 November 2008

Dear Parents

## Armistice Day



This week we acknowledged those who have served and died for our countries. Two special Chapel assemblies were given about the Armistice and Poppy Appeal; representatives from the Royal British Legion were present, the last post was played and red petals were scattered from above. The whole school stopped in silent remembrance for 2 minutes at 11.00am on the eleventh day of the eleventh month.

## WWI & II Poetry Evening



Sixth Form English Students also marked Armistice Day with a WWI & II poetry evening. Each student was invited to choose their favourite war poem and to share it with the group. It was a fitting end to this important day.

## Barcelona Art Trip

GCSE Art & Design students enjoyed a busy and stimulating few days in Barcelona at half term. They stayed in a central hotel which was decorated in the 'Modernista' style, so they were able to see at close hand examples of the artwork for which Barcelona is famous. Visits included the Miro and Picasso museums and of course to the works of Gaudi at Park Guell and Sagrada Familia. The trip also included a coach trip to Figueres where students visited the Dali

Museum, and to Empuries, the site of Greek and Roman settlements. Throughout the trip, students worked on a sketchbook, under the guidance of Mrs Karen Fardell who, as an architect, was able to give plenty of knowledgeable information about the architecture. The students were, as usual, impeccably behaved and delightful company throughout the trip. They worked with great enthusiasm and participated fully and positively in the visits.



## French Exchange - October 2008



During half term, Madame Smart and Madame Moreno took sixteen students, from Years 8-10, to Toulouse on a French exchange. They had the opportunity to visit the medieval city of Carcassone and Albi, with its magnificent cathedral, and the museum of Toulouse-Lautrec. They also visited the 'aérospatiale' factory, home of Concord, to see the latest in aviation technology. With their exchange families, they had the opportunity to experience French culture and try the local gastronomy, as well as to improve their spoken French! On the last evening, the French school organised a fantastic party where most of the students, French and English, gave a performance (singing or dancing). We hope that students who were not able to take part in the French Exchange this time will be able to attend next year as this was a most exciting and rewarding trip. Students will be able to see

more photographs from the exchange in the Languages corridor very soon. À bientôt!

### Taste of France



Preparatory School students from all over Essex have also had an insight into French lifestyle thanks to the Senior School French Department. The Taste of France day, held just before half term, introduced younger students to French language, food and art!

### Poetry Day



On Saturday 8 November, the English Department hosted Preparatory School students for our first Poetry Day. Students had the opportunity to learn about techniques in writing poetry and also about influential poets. The day ended with a wonderful poetry recital to parents in the Eaton Theatre.

### Physics Olympiad Successes

A number of Year 13 students recently took part in the British Physics Olympiad. Both Fred Tan and Colleen Huang gained a Merit Certificate in this very challenging competition. Fred also gained a score high enough to be entered for Round 2. Congratulations to all those who took part and we wish Fred all the best in the second round, for which the results will be announced in January.

### World Challenge

The next World Challenge expedition is now being launched. It is open to all in Years 10, 11 and 12. The month-long expedition will be to Southern Peru in the summer of 2010. An information evening for parents will take place on Friday 21 November at 7.00pm. Any student interested in finding out more please see Mrs Schwier.

### Charity Work

#### NHVS Quiz Night

The NHVS Quiz Night takes place on Friday 21 November. Tickets are still available. Come along and try to beat the staff teams! Contact Reception for more information.

#### NHPA Christmas Fayre – Date change

Due to an unforeseen clash, the date has been changed and the Christmas Fayre will now take place on Friday 5 December 2008. Come along with your friends, socialise and shop for your Christmas gifts. The doors will open at 2.15pm, with the Children's Fayre opening at 3.00pm.

#### NHVS Christmas Appeal

The NHVS Christmas Appeal 2008 is for items for our Christmas hampers for the elderly. Each Year Group will be asked to bring in a particular item before 28 November. We would like the students to bring in the following:

Year 7 girls	-	Small boxes of chocolates
Year 7 boys	-	Jars of marmalade or jam
Year 8 girls	-	Savoury biscuits
Year 8 boys	-	Small boxes of teabags
Year 9 girls	-	Small jars of pickles/relish
Year 9 boys	-	Small jars of coffee
Year 10 girls	-	Boxes of 6 mince pies
Year 11 girls	-	Small Christmas puddings
Year 12	-	Rolls of Christmas wrapping paper
Year 13	-	Christmas paper-plates & serviettes

All items may be left in Reception. Many thanks for your continued support.

### Dance - Poppins '08 DVD

Mr Smith has not produced the DVD of Poppins '08 yet as he needs more orders in order to cover his costs of production. If anyone is still waiting to order a copy of the DVD, please could they make a cheque payable to A J Smith for fifteen pounds and pass it to Mrs Maamri as soon as possible.

### Travel

We are currently exploring the possibility of a coach service from the Braintree area. Please can any parents interested in finding out more contact the Travel Secretary, Mrs Ginette Phillips, on the school number or by email on:  
[gphillips@newhallschool.co.uk](mailto:gphillips@newhallschool.co.uk)

### Whole School Photograph – On Sale Now!



A reminder that the whole-school photograph, and both the Year 11 formal and fun photographs, can be viewed in the

Senior School Reception. The order forms should be completed and returned as soon as possible to the Reception Office on Aloysius Corridor.

## Music

### *Chelmsford Competitive Festival of Music & Drama*

On Friday 7 November, the Chamber Choir and the Year 7 Girls' Choir competed in the Chelmsford Competitive Festival of Music & Drama. Both groups gave very engaging and excellent performances but missed out on first place by just one mark each. Congratulations to all involved.

### *Lunchtime Concert*

Thank you to Liam Merrigan, Year 9, who gave a rousing rendition of *Old Joe's Boogie*, at the lunchtime concert on Wednesday. Please see Mr Fardell if you would like to perform an item in the next concert on Wednesday 26 November.

### *Singing for Charity*



The Chamber Choir were invited to perform at the launch of the Cards for Good Causes appeal at Chelmsford Central Library on 5 November. The choir sang carols to the gathered crowd at the opening of this important project. Cards for Good Causes has over 300 outlets throughout the country; the Chelmsford branch raised £55,000 last year, with 79p per pound going to various charities. We would encourage you to visit Chelmsford Library to support this excellent venture.

### *Forthcoming Music Events*

The St Cecilia's Day Concert, which this year will be featuring Last Night of the Proms favourites, will take place on Thursday 20 November at 7.00pm in the Eaton Theatre. The Senior School Choir & Orchestra, Year 7 Girls' Choir, Voces, the Saxtet, Piano Quartet and soloists will all be performing so please do book your tickets early to avoid disappointment. Tickets are available free of charge from Mrs G Phillips on [gphillips@newhallschool.co.uk](mailto:gphillips@newhallschool.co.uk) or on the school number.

### *Pop for the Planet*

Auditions for Pop for the Planet will take place after school on Friday 28 November. Please see Mr Fardell or Mr Corby for more information. Pop for the Planet is taking place in the Eaton Theatre on Saturday 13 December.

## Sport

Full match reports for Hockey, Rugby, Swimming and Tennis matches can be found on the website.

### *England U18 Hockey Success*

Kate Maxey, Year 12, has just received information that she has made it the final stage of selection for the England U18 Hockey Team. She has competed through Essex, East of England and is now in the last 28 girls in the country selected to compete for a place in the England Team. Only 18 girls will get through to the team. Currently aged only 16, this makes Kate a year young for this highly competitive team. We wish her every success.

### *Essex U16 and U17 Hockey Success*

Congratulations also go to two more of our elite hockey players in Year 11: Katie Roberts, who has been selected for Essex U17 and the East U16 Team (now called Saxon Tigers), and Jennifer Spindler, who has been selected for the Essex U17 team. We are very proud of the achievements of all of our young athletes and encourage all students to aim for success in county and national teams.

### *U13 A VII Hockey v St Mary's School*

Result: New Hall won 5-1

### *U13B VII Hockey v St Mary's School*

Result: New Hall won 4-0

### *U15 v Chigwell*

Result: New Hall lost 2-1

### *U18 XI National Schools' Tournament 2008*

On 5 November, New Hall 1st XI travelled to Redbridge Sports Centre to play in the Essex Round of the National Schools Hockey Tournament. Of the ten teams who entered, New Hall played Chelmsford County High, The Forest School, Coopers' Coborn and Bancrofts B in their group matches.

### *Group Match Results:*

New Hall v Coopers' Coborn: New Hall won 4-0

*Molly Tappin 2, Kate Maxey 2*

New Hall v Forest: New Hall won 3-0

*Georgina Bojarski 2, Kate Maxey 1*

New Hall v Bancrofts B: New Hall won 4-0

*Natalie Davis 1, Georgina Bojarski 1, Alice Rowe 1, Kate Maxey 1*

New Hall v CCHS: New Hall drew 1-1

*Georgina Bojarski 1, Kate Maxey 1*

### *U16 XI CESSA Hockey Tournament, 6 November*

This tournament was held at William de Ferrers, with 5 teams from the Chelmsford area. New Hall finished Runners-Up.

### *Horse-Riding*

Congratulations to Madeleine Taylor, Year 8, who came 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Pre-Lim qualifier and 4<sup>th</sup> in the Novice Championship at Sandhurst Farm, Kent on Saturday. Madeleine needed 10 points to qualify and her combined score was 14 points, which has qualified her for the Crestala National Schools' Dressage Championship on 11 April 2009.

### *Rugby*

*St Faith's Preparatory School, Cambridge*

New Hall Junior 1<sup>st</sup> XV won 18-12

New Hall Junior 2<sup>nd</sup> XV won 63-0

### *St Columba's College, St Albans*

The U14 team tried hard against strong opposition, but lost their match. The Junior 2<sup>nd</sup> XV also found the size of their

opponents difficult to deal with, but the 1<sup>st</sup> XV managed to overcome the size difference to win by 16-5.

#### Rugby League Champions

The above win keeps the 1<sup>st</sup> XV at the top of the National League on [www.schoolsrugby.co.uk](http://www.schoolsrugby.co.uk). The U14 team is a creditable 41<sup>st</sup> out of 120 teams and the 2<sup>nd</sup> XV squad is in 4<sup>th</sup> place. The U14 and U13 teams are both currently undefeated in their Essex Cup matches this term and are both at the top of their leagues.

#### RFU Grand Draw

Tickets are currently on sale for the annual RFU Grand Draw from Mr Sweeney and many parents in Years 7, 8 and 9. The 47 prizes on offer are excellent, with a top prize of £10,000. Tickets cost £1 each or £5 for a book. For each £1 ticket sold, the school rugby club receives 90p, so this is an excellent way to support our investment in New Hall rugby. To order tickets, please contact Mr Sweeney at [rugby@newhallschool.co.uk](mailto:rugby@newhallschool.co.uk).

#### Night at the Races

There will be a Night at the Races on Friday 28 November. Tickets are on sale for all parents (boys and girls). These cost £5, which will cover entry and food. Please contact Mr Sweeney to reserve tickets. Anyone interested in being a race sponsor, or in buying horses or jockeys, should also contact Mr Sweeney. Race sponsorship costs £100; you will be able to give your race a name e.g. The Earle House Derby. If you buy a horse or the jockey, you give your horse a name for the cost of £10; if your horse wins, you win £30. Similarly, you can be the jockey of a horse for £10; if your horse wins, you win £30.

#### Rugby Dinner – Date for your Diary

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Rugby Club Dinner will be held on Saturday 21 March 2009.

#### Swimming

##### Year 7 and 8 Boys' Inter House Swimming

On 12 November, the first Middle School boys' Inter-House Swimming Gala was held. The overall winners were Owen House with 45 points. Full results can be found on the website.

#### Tennis

##### Senior Students' Tennis Competition

Senior Girls v Woodbridge: New Hall won 5-1  
 Senior Boys v Colchester 6th Form: New Hall Won 4-3  
 Senior Boys v KEGS: New Hall lost 4-2

#### Essex U18 Tennis League

Senior Girls v Thorpe Bay 2: New Hall Won 6-0  
 The win resulted in New Hall moving into second position in Division 1 of the Essex League.

#### Team GB: International Ice Skating Success

Sarah Coward, Year 11, together with her partner Michael, were chosen to skate for Team GB in the Junior Grand Prix Series. They skated against the best junior ice dance couples in the world and finished in a credible 15<sup>th</sup> place.

Sarah and Michael were also invited to attend the Essex Sports awards 2008 event, which took place on 6 November at the Waterfront place in Chelmsford. It was a great event, with several Olympic medallists present. Sarah and Michael

were voted "runners up, most highly commended" in the Young Sports Personality of the Year Award category. Congratulations to both on this excellent achievement.



Yours sincerely

*Katherine Jeffrey*

Katherine Jeffrey  
**PRINCIPAL**

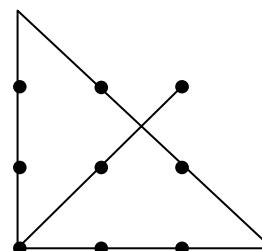
The next edition of *What's New?* will be issued in two weeks. If you have any news which you would like published in an edition of *What's New?*, please email [a.brown@newhallschool.co.uk](mailto:a.brown@newhallschool.co.uk).

#### Forthcoming Events:

Date	Time	Event
Sat 15 Nov	All Day	Hogwarts Weekend
Tue 18 Nov	7.00pm	Year 12 Presentation Eve & Mass
Wed 19 Nov	6.30pm	Parents' Forum
Thu 20 Nov	7.00pm	St Cecilia's Day Concert
Fri 21 Nov	TBC	Rugby Tour Departs
Fri 21 Nov	7.30pm	NHVS Quiz Night
Sun 23 Nov	All Day	Ballet Examinations
Fri 28 Nov	7.00pm	Rugby Club Race Night

#### BRAIN CHALLENGE

A number of students achieved the correct answer in the last challenge, including Thomas Boon in Year 8, who is this week's winner. The solution is given below, showing it is always useful to think outside the box!



This week's challenge is below. Don't forget, 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 (Physics Department) on or before Friday 21 November.

#### Brain Challenge Number 4

What are the next ten letters in the series?

**W W H S H R J H E E**