



Message from Kevin McKellar

Parents – Hendon School Needs You!

Dear Parent/Carer,

Thank you to those parents who have expressed an interest in becoming more involved in our school in relation to joining the 'Parent Leadership Group'. There will be a planning meeting about this and I will be writing to parents in due course. Please note that the vision behind this is to ensure that we raise the profile of Parent Voice and that we improve parental participation in all aspects of school life.

Interestingly, I had a look at the Kirkland Rowell Survey which is the largest provider of school stakeholder surveys in the UK. This is a database of parental responses gathered from 758 secondary schools over the past 5 years. Parents' chief concerns are the quality of teaching and school discipline. Pupils, meanwhile, report that the teaching quality is an important issue for them, but they tend to rank school facilities as their primary concern (they all want swimming pools!). We aim to be outstanding in our work with parents. Setting up a Parent Leadership Team will help us to formulate our vision and we sincerely hope that we can work together to get the best results for our students.

We are wholly aware that we have many talented parents out there and that we really want all parents to feel listened to. We understand that giving up so much time to the school may be difficult for some parents/carers, but if we have a group leading on this then we can hopefully set up a system which doesn't involve too much effort or commitment.

Our students want their parents to be more involved in the school. It is not just a case of improving parent power - it's about improving all aspects of our partnership working. Parents make a difference. They can positively influence their children's learning by providing:-

- A secure and stable environment
- Intellectual stimulation through play and curiosity
- Parent-child discussions
- Good models of social and educational values
- High aspirations relating to good citizenship and personal fulfilment

There is compelling evidence that parental aspirations, realistic expectations and involvement play a major part in children's attainment. Parents also have an impact where they have contact with schools to share information, and where they participate in school events and work on aspects of school improvement. At Hendon, we have a common core of building trust with parents, establishing a dialogue about their children's learning and by providing information on what they can expect from school.

Please remember that you all signed the Home-School Agreement. This is our basic contract to ensure that parents work alongside us. The efforts that we are making to draw parents in are currently quite considerable, but the prize will be great if we have more and more evidence of the impact of parental participation across the school. We want you all to feel welcome. This is your school to and I actively encourage you to participate in the life of the school as much as you possibly can. If you are interested in this new exciting project then please contact Jane Theobald (theobaldj@hendonschool.co.uk 0208 202 9004 Ext 286) as a matter of urgency.

Diary Dates

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| ❖ Wednesday 13 th February (9 am-10 am) | Coffee Morning |
| ❖ Thursday 14 th February - Monday 18 th February | Spain Trip |
| ❖ Friday 15 th February - Friday 22 nd February | USA Trip |
| ❖ Monday 18 th February - Friday 22 nd February | Half Term |
| ❖ Monday 25 th February | Staff Development Day |
| ❖ Wednesday 27 th February | Non Uniform Day |
| ❖ Wednesday 27 th February (7 pm - 8pm) | PTA Meeting |
| ❖ Thursday 28 th February (5 pm -6.30 pm) | GCE Music Performance Evening (Hall) |
| ❖ Monday 4 th March - Friday 8 th March | Music Week |

Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers

For any parents that shop at Sainsbury's could you please collect the Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers and send them in with your child to school. They can be handed in to reception or the PE department. Last time these vouchers enabled the PE department to order lots of new sports equipment including new basketballs, footballs, bibs, table tennis bats and badminton rackets. This new equipment has helped to improve the quality of PE lessons and extra-curricular clubs. Thank you in advance.

Mr Bower



CitySafe wins again!

Four members of the Year 11 Team (Tulsi Behl, Timbo Cole, Akosua Davis and Chamudi Kodithuwakku) have won another award from B-live and Bedfordshire Fire Service. The students entered a competition 'Speak up for Society.' They wrote about the CitySafe campaign and how they would use the money to make a DVD to educate local young people about the CitySafe Scheme. The team scored 89/100, 43 points ahead of the team in second place. The judges commented: "The outright winner for me is Hendon School, with a very solid project that has already started being implemented. A lot of work went into this entry! Very well done, an excellent effort. Your project is a testament to your ability to make a project real, and to get 'buy in' from key stakeholders like local MP's, local Police, community role models and the media. You have thought carefully how a little extra money can go a long way in enhancing your project and making it sustainable. Well done."

Over the next half-term, Year 8 and 9 students will be taught about the campaign and be encouraged to get involved. One of the main factors of the campaign is young people working with members of the community to make their area safer. Watch out for more information about our 'Hands up for Barnet' campaign and our week of celebrations in July. For more information look at the website and also lookout for our monthly updates in the newsletter, if you would like to get involved or have ideas contact the team on Citysafe@hendonschool.co.uk

Miss Doona

Dance News!

This term our dancers have been busy out and about representing Hendon at several different dance platforms across London.

Step into Battle

In the final week of last term our new B-boy (and B-girl) Dance Crew NW4orce went into Battle with 10 other schools from across London. The event was hosted at a school in Camden and all crews have been a part of the Jack Petchey 'Step into Dance' Programme. Many of these crews have been dancing together for some time and, despite being one of the newest and youngest to enter, after a difficult 3 way semi final, they came 3rd over all, with Gabriel and Ben from Year 10 winning the two-on-two battle event. Those who came to the Christmas Concert were lucky enough to see a repeat of their battle performance. They meet on a Tuesday after school up in F7 for anyone who might be interested in getting involved and there are more battles coming up later in the year.



Curtain Raiser



Our year 10 GCSE Group spent a week in January on a residency at Sadlers Wells, working with professional dancers and students from Phoenix High School. They rehearsed daily to create a 5 minute dance piece based on the idea of dreams. They then performed this to a sold out audience of 1500 before Matthew Bourne's Company performed their 25th Anniversary production of Sleeping Beauty. Their parents, staff and fellow students all went to see them perform on the evening and the feedback from the organisers on their professionalism and enthusiasm throughout the week was great to hear and hopefully means this is an opportunity we can offer to more GCSE groups in the future.

Mr Cole

Congratulations to Chloe Goodson in Year 10 who finished 25th out of 57 runners in the recent Middlesex Cross Country Champs, which took place at Harrow School. She competed against older girls as she raced in the intermediate U17 girls category, and so she did really well.

GCSE and AS Photography Trip

On Wednesday 23rd of January the Year 10 GCSE and AS Photography classes went to visit Central London to study Portraiture and Location. First we went to Trafalgar Square, where we took 'self-portraits' and bumped into the famous Michael Underwood who was happy enough to take part of the Year 10's self-portrait project.



After eating, we stopped over at The National Portrait Gallery where we studied and analysed other photographers' portraiture work. Then we proceeded to take advantage of our surroundings and started to explore Covent Garden, Soho and the famous Chinatown. At 'The Photographers' Gallery' we took part in a workshop on collages and the Still Life photographer Laura Letinsky. The day was full of a lot of walking and 'selfies' and it was a great



experience for photo-taking and inspiration.

You are all welcome to see the Year 10 Still Life PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION in our school library on Tuesday 26th February 2013 from 4-6.30pm. This will be the opening celebration and we will provide refreshments for all our guests. The exhibition will continue to be on display in the library until Friday 1st March 2013.

Lydia Chutpinyacoub 10.6



Student Voice

It's time to take out the trash!

Student Voice Council addresses pupil's top ten things to do, achieve and change before leaving Hendon.

Changes

- Get the toilets redone
- Get the memorial garden at the end of the field looked at
- Lockers for all of equipment PE kits
- Sleep in the library

Achieve

- Give homeless people food
- University trips

Do

- A* Club
- Set up a successful newspaper
- Get grades higher than my fisher target
- Try to break a world record

The Student Voice Council are a very motivated group of talented young leaders who have been nominated into their roles and are now acting as representatives for their fellow classmates. Through dedication and high levels of maturity the student voice council have ensured that they are now in a great position to push through student's ideas and really have their opinions heard and respected.

Last year the Student Voice Council found out the 10 top things that students at Hendon wanted to do, achieve or change before they left the school. Using these ideas as a point of reference, the Student Voice council will now start to work closely with the Wellbeing Team to get these ideas implemented.

Already this year the Student Voice Council have become involved with the current litter problem and are starting to develop some really imaginative ideas which they will soon be presenting to the Senior Leadership Team.

We really want parents to get involved in helping the students, watch out for how you can help next month.

Mr Hobbs

We are looking for well-qualified, enthusiastic and committed trainee teachers with a passion for their subject to complete a School Direct training programme at Hendon School from September 2013. The subjects we are offering places in are: Maths, Computing, Physics, French, History and English. For more information, please see our website or contact Emma Peto by telephone: 0208 2029004 Ext 234 or by email: petoe@hendonschool.co.uk

Messages from ECM

Would parents please ensure that the school has their current home, work and mobile numbers. We are experiencing huge difficulties in contacting parents and carers when students are ill or injured. It would be helpful if the students know where their parents work (many do not). We always suggest students keep the relevant numbers stored discreetly in their planners for such emergencies.

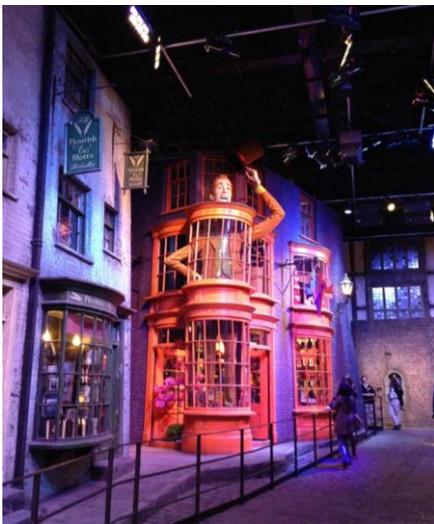
The ECM department always wants to ensure that students arrive at school and home safely. In cases of emergency we are very happy for students to access the phones in ECM to call parents. However there seems to be a growing expectation where parents expect their children to be able to use the phones on a daily basis. We would appreciate it if parents would ensure their children are aware of any arrangements for the end of school before they leave home.

Can I remind parents and carers it is a **legal requirement** that if they need their son or daughter to have the ECM staff dispense medication to them during the school day, they must send in a note giving **written permission** with the medication. It should state when the medication should be given and the correct dosage.

Mrs Fella

Magical Tour Of Studio Leaves Students Aghast

'Warner Bros. Studio [Harry Potter] Tour London' what more can you say than that? It's known to be the biggest Studio tour in Europe. On arriving at the studio, it was better than we had ever imagined; even the starting tour guides were a laugh to hang out with. The tour was magical and very entertaining throughout. We were seated and taught how to storyboard using the real Harry Potter storyboard as an example; which was fabulous and very consistent to each scene of the film.



What made the tour even better, was that we got to ride on a 'magic broomstick' which was very fun to be on, because we got to see ourselves on screen in actual film scenery. We also got to walk through the wizard's shopping area 'Diagon Alley' it was if we were following Harry's footsteps in the film. One thing that really caught my eye was the large scale model of 'Hogwarts School of Magic' as every piece was so precise and accurate to how we would have seen it in the film.

We then finally ended up at the gift shop which was very cool because the toys there were very unique and some were things you would have seen in the film. The only one major flaw about this trip was the price tag of things, but to be honest with you 'It was worth every penny!' *By Sean Hatami*



Having had to take the decision to postpone this trip due to severe weather, we finally headed off to the Warner Bros Studio Tour in Watford on Wednesday 23rd January with Media Studies students from years 10, 11, 12 and 13.

We all had a fantastic time and all students had the opportunity to participate in a one-hour workshop which really helped to not only embed the knowledge they have accumulated through their Media Studies lessons, but also it showed them how things are really done, on a grand scale, within the media industry.

Student behaviour was exemplary and the children were an

absolute credit to the school. They all had the opportunity to drive the magic car to 'Hogwarts School' ahead of the 'Hogwart's Express' as well as riding their own broomsticks over water and land. The afternoon was a truly magical experience.

Highlights of the trip for me had to be Erin Walton and Natasha Ferreira -Stein (both year 13 students) opening the 'Grand Hall' doors the wrong way and their sheer excitement and enthusiasm in doing so.

Warner Bros were extremely accommodating and we came back to school with free storyboards and cardboard models. The visit is an absolute must-see and I urge anybody who hasn't been to go and see for yourselves. My only regret is that I missed Tom Cruise who was apparently filming in another part of the building ☺

Mrs Worboys-McArdle



Science News

London Science And Technology Challenge Final - 17th January 2013



In the summer our team came first in the Barnet Science and Technology Challenge day at Middlesex University and as a result of that we were then entered into the London Science and Technology Challenge Final. The day was both very nerve-wracking and thrilling. The competition took place at King's College.



Once we were informed on what we had to do, we got right down to it, willing ourselves to win. The main task was to create a Lego robot that followed a set of instructions that

we had to program ourselves. We also had to give a presentation about how awesome our robot was and how it differed from the other 8 teams. Our robot "Barney" had to contain a light, touch and sound sensor. The hardest part was the programming. With a lot of trial and error we were able to



make the robot follow a straight line, turn around once hitting a wall and stop on our command.

The criteria the judges were expecting us to fulfil was extremely high and overall we came second. Nevertheless, we were both proud to represent Barnet and our school and encourage anyone in the younger years to go one better and come first next year!



Lydia Chutpinyacoub and Adil Ahmed (Year 10)

Refurbishment of the Science Laboratories

The Science Laboratories at Hendon School are gradually being transformed as part of our Big Refurbishment Project. The first new lab, opposite School Reception will be up and running this month and already looks fantastic. This is the first of seven laboratories to be refurbished with the project due for completion in Summer 2013.

The refurbishment work has been made possible by an award of £300,000 from a Government Fund, and is a result of a successful bid that was submitted by the school Business Manager Nick White. Since then we have worked with an architect to design the new laboratories and staff areas. The layout of the labs have been carefully planned to facilitate practical work. Desks are moveable to encourage interactive and collaborative working in the classroom, and the rooms will be bright, breezy and modern. We will undoubtedly feel some nostalgia for the old fixed wooden benches but we know that these labs will be fit for the 21st Century.



Student Voice representatives are helping us design displays for the new labs and we plan to run a Science photography and art competition. The winners work will be displayed in the new rooms.

In the meantime, the students, teachers and technicians are coping admirably well with the disruption caused by the building work. Some Science classes are being taught in English rooms, but we are doing our best to ensure that the learning of students is not affected and that students still have the opportunity to complete practical activities.

We see our new laboratories as a big step for Hendon School. We hope that the new facilities will help raise the profile of science at Hendon and encourage more students to stay on into the Sixth Form to study Science subjects.

Francis Joseph - Head of Science

Sixth Form Matters

A Visit to Auschwitz

Last term myself and another Sixth Form student had the opportunity to visit Auschwitz through the Holocaust Educational Trust.

Heading into Auschwitz I, what we expect to find and what we are in fact greeted with, is completely shocking. When a person thinks of Auschwitz, they think of darkness, terrifying buildings and death. Yet, on a crisp, bright day like ours, the first thought in everyone's mind is how normal it appears. The only hint of its true nature lies in the surrounding electric fences wrapped with barbed wire. This sense of false normality is destroyed as we delve deeper into the dark memories of such a place, as we walk into the buildings which would have housed thousands of human beings. We notice the way in which the stairs dip and crack, as though they have been walked on by a million footsteps: footsteps of Jews, Romanies, homosexuals, disabled, Soviets and anyone that did not belong to the 'Aryan Race'. As we continue the tour, we enter rooms filled with thousands of pairs of shoes, suitcases, utensils, empty canisters that in the past contained hydrogen cyanide and two tonnes of human hair. As we visit the gas chambers, we are met with dark, tight rooms with bare white walls and crematoria.



You feel as though this is the worst of it, but Auschwitz I was only considered the base camp, or distribution camp until prisoners would either be sent to the labour camp or Auschwitz Birkenau. This is where our trip takes us next: to Birkenau, where 1.3 million people were killed; only here can you truly gain some perspective on the magnitude of the Holocaust. The size of Birkenau stretches further than the eye can see and into the forest. The large barracks that would have held hundreds of thousands of prisoners are pitch black inside by this point and freezing; to imagine only having rags to compensate for the cold is impossible. We walk through Birkenau following the train track that brought so many prisoners to their death until we enter the forest where we find gas chambers, each one large enough to have killed up to 2,500 people at a time. Yet after all the upsetting things we had learnt that day, we were able to stand in the middle of Birkenau, listening to stories and poetry of hope, we had the privilege of listening to a Rabbi say a prayer for all the lives lost and we each got to light a candle in memory of these people. After visiting a place like Auschwitz it is important to understand why people do so, to educate and learn about the outrages of our past so that we never allow them to happen again. It is to feel hope that though so many lives were lost they will always be remembered and remind us to appreciate the similarities and difference of ourselves and others. For this experience we would like to thank the **Holocaust Educational Trust**, for allowing us to in some way, to truly understand and learn the lessons of the Holocaust.

Katie Smith Year 13

Sixth Form Independent Learning Manager

At Hendon School we are dedicated and passionate about the development of our students. The independence and autonomy of our students is really important to us and we encourage them to take responsibility for their own learning, time management and organisation. To be able to effectively develop those skills we are modelling, scaffolding and introducing strategies and techniques that will help our students to fulfil their full potential. Therefore our school has pleasure in informing you that we have recently appointed Kat Jurek as our Independent Learning Manager.

Kat says: "I remember as a student feeling anxious and quite often overwhelmed or frustrated with the amount of work I had to do throughout my A level years. However, things changed when I joined university, where I felt that every conversation was inspirational, motivational and educational. Therefore, we are introducing strategies and

programmes used by universities to ensure that students are encouraged to: explore, develop, create, seek for clarification and create discussion.

Along with the team, I have introduced a study layout with two 'Quiet' study rooms and one 'Silent' study room. In those rooms students are able to escape from the hectic school environment and focus on revision or research. Students are encouraged to see mentors. Time management and organisational skills are developing and feelings of achievement and responsibility for learning are used as motivational tools. We encourage A-level students to deliver presentations and talks as part of their own revision.

Our students recently filled in a questionnaire regarding self-confidence as an Independent Learner. In the sections where participants were asked what they enjoyed the most about school over 80% of those students replied 'learning new things'. Building on this positive attitude to learning, we encourage students to use techniques that would add the feeling of achievement of their own goals. We encourage students to create and collect evidence of their own learning. This helps students to have a visual representation of the hard work and hours they have put into their own education. To effectively monitor their own learning we motivate students to plan their own study time, to take responsibility for time management. My sessions with individual students are on a weekly basis. Available hours are displayed for students. Often we encourage students to teach each other, as our subject leaders and A level students are encouraged to become subject mentors for students in KS4. This 'vertical co-operation' enables students to create a positive, vibrant, academic and productive atmosphere in Hendon School.



I feel extremely proud and excited to be a part of Hendon Sixth Form and have the privilege to work in such a wonderful environment with such amazing young minds.”

News from Mrs Weatherhead



As many parents know, I have been working in the school for many years, mostly as director of learning in Key Stage 3, but also in safeguarding children.

I am really excited to be ready for a new challenge as Acting Deputy Headteacher. I will be working with the Sixth Form team alongside, Mr Asquith, Mr Heath and Mr Hall working on the Ofsted action points to make the Sixth Form outstanding.

The team are working to raise student achievement, with a mantra of: “No U’s/No Blues” working on developing Key Stage 5 teaching and developing the Sixth Form students as independent learners. With only a short time to go before the first examinations, this is a key time for our students. With the raising of the school participation age (RPA) we are also working on suitable courses, and links with colleges so all our students have a suitable placement for the next academic year. We are also thinking ahead to all students who are currently in Year 10, who will have to stay in education, apprenticeships or training until they are 18 and making the Sixth Form Provision a centre which provides the highest quality education for our students. If you have any suggestions about the development of the Sixth Form, I would be very pleased to hear from you, my email address is weather@hendonschool.co.uk.

My second main responsibility is in the area of marking and assessment. This is also an Ofsted action point. I shall be working with faculties on marking strategies to ensure that students get the feedback needed to learn effectively. Again, I would be pleased to hear from parents regarding marking, and any ideas you might have for making marking more meaningful, and particularly for parents to be able to help with assessment.

Mrs Weatherhead

www.hendonschool.co.uk