



Message from Kevin McKellar

Mrs Hendon is Retiring!

Jill Hickman, is, unquestionably, my favourite teacher. She has devoted 37 years of her life to Hendon School. We will be hosting a fabulous party to celebrate her time here at Hendon. I will be writing to you all in greater detail about Jill and her achievements in the Jill Hickman Hendon News edition next month. In the meantime, if you would like to be involved in helping to organise the party for Jill then can you please contact Jacqui Jack, our Parent Voice coordinator by email: jackj@hendonschool.co.uk.



The Power of Practice and Working Hard

We had our annual Governors Away Day on Thursday 6th March where Professor Gordon Stobart joined us. His book 'The Expert Learner - challenging the myth of ability' has really inspired me. It has a very simple but powerful message: hard work and determination always pays off. He challenges the widely held belief that excellence is the result of innate ability. He shows how 'ability' is developed through applied learning and persistent practice.

He asks many searching questions: How do we motivate the unmotivated? How do we stretch our higher achieving students? Are we helping learners to think for themselves and to make sense of what they are learning? I will be inviting Gordon Stobart in to talk to staff and students. I will, of course, keep you all in the loop.

I had a very interesting discussion with our sixth form students last week. A member of the student leadership team made the following statement - "I do think that hard work and effort is very important, but we also need inspirational teachers to help us on the journey." Brilliant point. Effective teachers have the highest of expectations. Great teachers should lead beyond expectations. The key is the students' perception that teachers have credibility in enhancing their learning. I am wholly aware that students are very perceptive about knowing which teacher can make a difference to their learning. And the teachers who command this credibility are most likely to make the difference. An important point to note is that the percentage of outstanding teaching at our school is going up all of the time. We are continually sharing good practice, reminding ourselves that we are here to give out students the best possible service.

Here are some of our developments.

- ❖ We have managed to secure funding to have a brand new cashless system. We will also have a state of the art school kitchen, fit for 21st century learners. We have also secured funding for a natural juice bar - excellent for the brain and general well-being. This will add the 'wow factor' to our lovely canteen.
- ❖ We have secured funding to add to our links with Zimbabwe and South Africa. This is our dynamic connecting classrooms project led by our Year 8 students. Year 9, 10, 11 and 12 students will be able to travel to South Africa next year.

And finally.....

- ❖ The DFE has just issued new guidelines for schools on behaviour sanctions - these include a member of community focused punishments like cleaning up playgrounds and lunchrooms, but also included more traditional sanctions, like writing lines.
- ❖ EBACC Success? 72,000 more young people are now entering the EBACC - an increase of almost 60% on last year. Our EBACC figures continues to go from strength to strength
 - English - top 1% in the country
 - Humanities - top 1% in the country
 - Languages - top 4% in the country
 - Science - top 3% in the country
 - Maths - top 3% in the country

Intercambio español - ¡Hola



For another year, our Japanese exchange has just taken place. I was lucky enough to be able to go on the Japanese Exchange in Year 10 and benefitted greatly from the experience of being immersed in the language and culture of another country, developing my interpersonal and communication skills. Now, as an A Level Spanish student I am looking forward to welcoming twelve students and two teachers from Santa Teresa de Jesús, a school in the centre of Madrid, to Hendon School on the 20th March.



It will be the first ever Spanish exchange at Hendon School. Nine Hendon school pupils will be going to Madrid from the 2nd April - 8th April. This is a fantastic opportunity to build links with a Spanish school and, as we have done with our connection with Konan High School in Japan, we are hoping to establish this in the future.

Ellie Kettleton (Year 13)

Diary Dates

- ❖ Monday 31 March
- ❖ Thursday 3 April
- ❖ Friday 4 April
- ❖ Tuesday 22 April
- ❖ Wednesday 23 April

Non Uniform Day
Year 8 Parents' Evening (4-7 pm)
End of Spring Term (Students finish at 12.45 pm)
Start of Summer Term - Staff Development Day
Academic Review Day

Work Experience

On the 23rd June, over 150 year 12 students will go out on work experience, most for the first time. In this current climate, it is very difficult to convince employers to provide placements for young people. This means that we're often reliant on families and friends alongside the employers that we currently have a relationship with. If any parent/carer is in a position to help a sixth former by offering a one or two week placement then I'd love to hear from you. Our students are interested in a wide range of occupations and any support would be greatly appreciated. If you would like to discuss further then please do get in touch with me.

Thanks

Mr Egan IAG Coordinator

Email eganj@hendonschool.co.uk 020 8020 9004 ext 251

Jack Petchey Achievement Award Winners

The Jack Petchey Achievement Award winners this term are;

Student	Reason
Avishka Attanayake 9.1	Fantastic contributions to the form and so much beyond. Avishka is involved in charity work and shows real leadership and organisation. She is a deeply caring young person. Avishka works tirelessly to help raise money for charity and is an inspiring role model for her peers. She has shown great dedication and is such a spirit in Hendon.
Robin Medina 12.1	He is a great role model to our younger students and his peers. He regularly leads younger students at sports club and is always very organised and prepared. He is widely acknowledged as having a good manner, he is cheerful and polite and comes across as a responsible young leader.
Jade Gregory 8.9	She has been, and continues to be, a fantastic, intuitive peer supporter for Charlie Elman and several of the other students in HARP. She was at nursery with Charlie and has a fantastic understanding of Autism in general and Charlie in particular,

These students have been recognised for their outstanding contributions to the school and to their community. They all have been granted £200 each, to spend within the school on any item they feel will benefit the school.

The Student Voice Council will keep you informed of what the money will be spent on.

Mr Hobbs

Messages from Student Support

Lost Property

Could the Student Support Department remind parents and students that we have limited space to keep lost property. We already have a large amount accumulated in the office and students very rarely come and check to see if their lost items are in the department. We would happily return lost property to students if it was marked with the students names; but again none of the items we have can be identified in this way. We would ask parents to remind their children to check lost property and also remind them about being more responsible for their possessions around school.



PLEASE NOTE - ALL LOST PROPERTY WILL BE DISPOSED OF AT THE END OF TERM.

Medication

Can I remind parents and carers it is a legal requirement that if they need their son or daughter to have the Student Support Department 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.

After School Arrangements

Would parents please ensure that they have confirmed their arrangements with their children re collection after school. A small minority of parents think it is their children's right to use the office phone on a regular basis. Please note that access to our phone is for emergency use. We will always ensure your child arrives home safely but would ask for your cooperation in helping us by ensuring the children know where they have to go and when.

Medical appointments during school hours

If your child has to attend a medical or dental appointment during the school day, please ensure that you send your child into school with a letter signed by the parent or the medical card which shows their name and the date of the appointment. Again we are having the problem of some students coming into the office stating that they have an appointment and requesting that we ring their parent to confirm this.

Thank you for your help with these issues.

Mrs Fella - Student Support.

Oxford University Trip

Firstly, I would like to say that I thought myself very privileged to be able to go to Oxford University, given that it is apparently one of the best (if not the best) universities in the country. But when I am choosing a university to go to (if indeed I go to one), the reputation of the site will not interest me as much as the courses they have to offer, or what the university 'feels' like. So I took the trip to Oxford as a taster session; to penetrate the almost divine aura that surrounds Oxford, Cambridge and the like (and as our group were constantly being reminded, 13 out of the 26 Prime Ministers that were educated at Oxford were from Christ Church: the college we went to).

As we stepped off the minibus, I could see the picturesque landscape surrounding Christ Church: the water, enclosed by fields of green 'keep off the grass' grass. The Christ Church buildings themselves did appeal to me; they had the colour of a lion's mane, and I could tell that they were quite old buildings (they had the medieval style of windows mostly), for which I sport a preference.



Once we were inside, we were given a talk about Christ's College and Oxford as a whole: how the students lived; where they ate, and what extra-curricular activities were on offer. Of these there were many, and the variety was astounding to me: for example, there was a club solely concerning the Lord Of The Rings trilogy and its related works (where people had learnt entire languages that would be useless in applying for jobs). There were also numerous film societies and media related clubs, chess clubs, boat clubs; the list really does go on. Then an important point was raised: that you could apply for all of these clubs and societies if you so wished, but then all of your learning was down to you; it is entirely up to you regarding going to lectures or to the library to study. University is completely independent study. Of course, I knew this, but to hear it so clear-cut made it a slight eye-opener for me. Concerning Oxford, the lecturer told us that Oxford is unique in that it has a 2:1 student-teacher ratio; meaning more time and attention is given to the pupils; therefore they can learn more, and potentially faster.

So I can only guess that it is because of Oxford's seemingly advanced learning system that there is an apparent party culture there. Our student guide did indeed tell us of a 'work hard, play hard' attitude that some of the students had adopted, and it was not the first I had heard of Oxford's social merrymaking atmosphere. The aforementioned party culture would be a bad side of going to Oxford; solely for the fact that it could serve as a distraction from learning. Don't get me wrong, I enjoy fun, but when it comes to a certain point such that it would hinder my experience, it becomes a problem. Although, I am not sure whether this culture is found in other universities as well as Oxford.

Overall, I enjoyed going to Oxford. I liked the architecture, and how that contributes to a better learning atmosphere (for me anyway). I also understand that the low teacher-student ratio can be highly beneficial for learning at Oxford. On the other hand, I do not like the slight arrogance of the Oxford aura; if you go there, you are automatically higher up in life (such is the idea that I take from seeing the little I have of Oxford and its pupils). I also dislike how expensive living in Oxford would be (considering if I could not get accommodation on campus); being further away from home, and possibly everyone that I know would be difficult. But university, as they say, is about new starts and new friendships; ones that 'last for life'. So Oxford gave me the impression of a smart, clean place with a dedicated learning atmosphere, but also with a relaxing, recreational side to it.

So to conclude, I would certainly consider going to Oxford if I could, and I almost certainly want to go to a university. So come to any decision as to which, I would have to look at the offered courses and of course, my own results.

Aman Sair 10.5

Students of Hendon, your Music department wants you!

We are currently recruiting for Music Leaders to help out with the logistics of the department as well as have first-hand input and experience regarding managing events within the school.

If you are interested, all you need do is Log-On to FROG - School Departments - Music - Forum - Music Leaders.



Sports Day - Wednesday 11th June - 12:30 to 5:30 pm



Sports Day will take place this year on Wednesday 11th June at Allianz Park (formerly known as Cophall Stadium). Due to the popularity of the venue, we have been given the slightly unusual time slot of 12:30 to 5:30pm.

The organisation of the day will be different from our previous Sports Days. Students will start school on that day at 12:30pm. They will be required to make their own way to Allianz Park. Lunch and registration will be at 12:30pm. Students on free school meals will be provided for. The sporting events will start at 13:30, with presentations taking place from 5pm. Any student that arrives later than 12:30pm will be marked in as late. The students will be free to leave Allianz Park at 5:30pm.

I understand that these time arrangements may present some difficulties for students with after-school commitments but I hope that by giving this much notice alternative arrangements can be made. It is expected that all students will attend Sports Day. If you foresee any issues that cannot be overcome please contact me directly via email: welche@hendonschool.co.uk

I will be giving out information on how to get to Allianz Park nearer the time. There are a limited number of spaces available for students to travel to the stadium from school. To book these places students must sign up in the PE department.

Sports Day has always been a highlight of the school year and we look forward to another fantastic event.

Mr Welch Acting Head of PE

Science News

National Institute for Medical Research Visit Hendon



On the 25th and 26th February 2014 Mrs Strom, Danielle Carmignac and Alex Brown from The National Institute for Medical Research came in to demonstrate a PCR experiment. The experiment involves multiplying small amounts of DNA and then analysing this to work out who the DNA belongs to by using a process called gel electrophoresis. It was a very interactive and hands on way to learn about forensic science. We also got to try out a technique that is rarely available until university-level education.



Havana Barnes said, "The PCR lessons were a very enjoyable experience for me, especially being able to carry out the experiment."

We were also able to analyse rat brain slices which had gene markers added to them making them fluoresce when ultraviolet light is shone on them. We analysed them using high power microscopes. This also allowed us to see areas of the brain that we had read about in our text books. Everyone really enjoyed the experience especially being able to see the practical uses of biology in the modern world.

Kush Patel (Year 13 Biologist)



Open day at National Institute for Medical Research

On the 6th March our Year 13 students visited the National Institute for Medical Research at Mill Hill.

The students attended 3 lectures;

Lecture one: They learnt how cells communicate with one another to build a frog embryo which could lead on to how this is done in human embryos.

Lecture two: How stem cells work through studies done on neurones in the brain.

Lecture three: The use of Genetically engineered animals in understanding disease and advancing medical research.

Following that the students were involved in a number of interactive workshops.

To mention a few:

One looked at how a drug is developed and the clinical trials it goes through before going on the market. Another looked at visual markers in fruit flies to determine whether they contain mutations of interest. The research of zebra fish with its properties of heart regeneration which may have implications for medicine in the future was of great interest to the students.

The visit allowed the students to link their own studies to that of working scientists and also gave them the opportunity of seeing how they themselves could be research Scientists.

Ms Mclaughlin



**‘The change starts within each one of us and ends only when all children are free to be children’
Craig Kielburger (Co-founder of WE Day)**

In 1995, when he was 12 years old, Craig saw a headline in the Toronto Star newspaper that read ‘Battled child labour, boy, 12, murdered.’ The accompanying story was about a young Pakistani boy named Iqbal Masih who was forced into bonded labour in a carpet factory at the age of four, became an international figurehead for the fight against child labour by 12 years old, and was murdered in 1995. Craig felt he had to act, he and 11 of his friends started Free the Children - a charity ‘children helping other children.’



2013 saw the movement arrive in the UK. Over the last 5 months, 40 Year 9 and 10 students have been working on gaining a ticket at the first ever WE Day in the UK. We couldn’t buy tickets the students had to earn them through service. 30 Year 9 students have collected food for a local food bank, sold ‘We are love’ badges, packed sweets for the Little Shop of Horrors and made key rings to raise money to help build a school in Haiti. All this in the hope that they would earn a ticket to the first ever WE Day concert at Wembley. On the 7th March the lucky 28 attended the concert, with Ms Cameron, Mr Gadatara and Miss Doona. The students are now launching their own Year of Action, over the next year they will be working on a number of projects and they will be reflecting on their WE Day experience in the next Hendon News including the famous people they were lucky enough to meet and which teachers stepped out on the red carpet!



In addition Year 12 and a few lucky Year 11 students volunteered to work at the concert as Crowd-pumpers, guest seating and sellers. Here are their reflections on the day. Armed with a bag of goodies and ready for a concert full of motivational speakers and musicians, it was a moment none of us in the arena would forget.

‘My highlight was the atmosphere. The atmosphere throughout the day was amazing especially when Malala was speaking. I never saw so many people stand up and cheer as one (without anyone telling them too). At that moment you realise how many people are as passionate as you about making the world a better place. It is at that moment that you learn the true meaning of being together as a community.’



‘We Day showed that everyone was human as all the celebrities had something to share about their past life that wasn’t ‘perfect’ which did shock me. Even the actress who we thought would have been Miss Popularity at school had been bullied and I learned that we should stand up for what is right.’



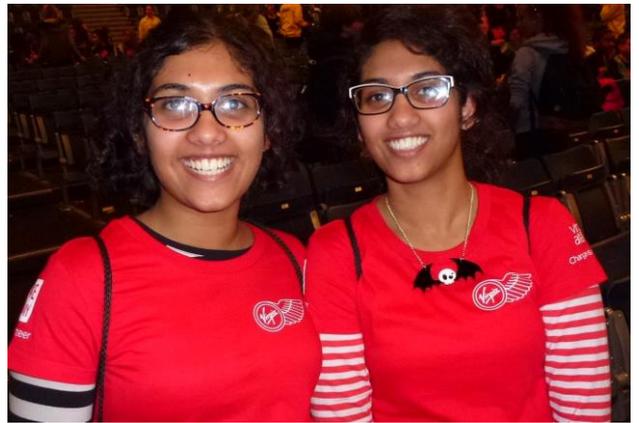
‘I felt honoured to have taken part in such an amazing experience.’

‘I had the chance to meet Spencer West. He is the most amazing person to meet. He spoke fondly about his disability not being a liability



and in fact makes him a stronger and inspiring person. Spencer was inspirational despite having no legs; he climbed Mount Kilimanjaro in his wheelchair. He told us to climb our own mountains and ‘redefine possible.’

'We Day was the most inspirational and mind opening event I have had the pleasure to be a part of. I volunteered to be a CROWD PUMPER. I would love to have the opportunity to volunteer again next year as the event gave me an insight on how small things and make a big difference. Personally, for me, I loved the speech from Malala Yousafzai. She spoke passionately about fear should be something small and courage should be the key to change. I would love to relive this experience as this was the best and meaningful moments I had the privilege to experience.'



'I feel that Spencer West was an inspirational person because he was a true fighter and he never gave up. A quote that he said which was inspirational to me was "I stand here before you as proof that we can redefine possible."' This quote was inspirational because it shows that we can do any and everything is possible... I will definitely be volunteering as cheer crew next year.'

What did we learn during the day:-



Inspired by the day the students and staff are keen to continue the work that has just started. The food bank collection continues, discussions are taking place about the next campaign, 'We are Silent.' Some of the students are attending a leadership youth summit and others are applying for the volunteer trip of a life time to build a school in India.

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has. Margaret Mead Over the next few months watch our students change the world around them as they inspire others to make a change.

Miss Doona

Parent Voice Meeting

The next meeting is on Monday 31st March at 11.30am, in the library and repeated at 6pm in the canteen.

Next meeting focus - FROG and the use of e-portal to support your child. As well as an open forum, it is your chance to ask questions about anything to do with school. All parents and carers welcome.

Jacqui Jack Parental Voice Coordinator and Noelle Doona Assistant Headteacher

Parental Conduct at Sporting Fixtures

The Physical Education department has always welcomed all our parents to attend sporting fixtures to encourage our young players to play or perform well. As part of this, we actively encourage parents to set an example to the students with regard to sporting etiquette, and fair play. Spectators should conduct themselves with dignity in their interactions with other people, and actively encourage skill and good play from both teams. The judgement of the referee should be respected fully, and match officials should always be regarded with respect.

Any form of abusive behaviour will not be tolerated at sporting fixtures, and parents are reminded to model the highest possible standards. If there are occasions where the conduct of the spectators falls behind the high standards expected by the school, then the school will reserve the right to ask the spectator concerned to leave, and subsequently not to attend any further fixtures.

Thank you

PE Department

Following the recent Parent Governor election, Renu Barton-Hanson has been elected as Parent Governor on the Governing Body for a term of four years to 6 February 2018. Thank you to all who participated.

Shirley Paul Clerk to Governors