



Message from Kevin McKellar

Good Behaviour Saves the Day

We are really grateful to all of the parents and carers who have worked with us to improve behaviour around the school. Punctuality to school has improved quite considerably since we have worked on the new punctuality strategy. There has been a 40% reduction in the number of lates to school every morning. This is an incredible achievement.

Behaviour around the school continues to improve. For example, we have a number of activities at lunchtime and a large number of students are enjoying all that we have to offer. For example, our autism unit is 'jam-packed' with students from Year 7 to 13 working alongside our autistic students and our animal therapy pets. I am also particularly proud of the students who make great use of the library every day. We now have students delivering interesting talks on chosen subjects and Mr John Harris, our dedicated librarian, is currently organising the great educational debate.



Our 6th Form leadership team have also been incredibly proactive in organising inspirational student activities. Eleanor Kettleton, our Head Girl, and Elsadiq Ahmed, our Head Boy, have really impressed me with their vision for active student participation. They are currently involved in organising our Community Awards, helping us to celebrate the importance of citizenship and community cohesion. We have so much to tell you about all of this:

- Students are fundraising to help partner schools in Zimbabwe and South Africa.
- Our PE sports leaders are fund raising to organise a netball tournament in Spain
- Our Year 11 Duke of Edinburgh leaders have passed their silver award with flying colours.
- Our CitySafe team continue to inspire the police and residents with the safer neighbourhood campaign. We have also received phone calls from local shopkeepers praising them for their 'safe haven' campaign.
- Our Year 8, 9 and 12 students are currently raising funds to help with the situation in the Philippines.
- Henry Lee, one of our Year 11 students, has won a Jack Petchey award for his amazing commitment and dedication to extra-curricular activities at Hendon. He was the first student to commit to 50 hours of volunteering and has helped to organise the community sports leader programme.
- Tasuku Azuma has helped to organise the litter campaign throughout the school. Teachers and students have really listened to his ideas about keeping the school tidy. We have also been inspired by his talk about Japan and how the education in Japan is totally different from British education.
- Sean Goodwin in Year 8 also won a Jack Petchey award for running an anime club on Tuesday lunchtimes. Students are also working on an exciting anime project which the whole school will benefit from.
- We also have the students who have been involved in our very successful animation project. Students from across all year groups have worked tirelessly on this beautiful project. We will be entering it for the national film awards and we will be screening the film in the New Year. It is a touching story about an old man and a young boy who pretends that he is an alien. We will tell you more about this in the next edition of the Hendon News.
- 50 of our Year 12 students are currently mentoring 50 Year 10 students. This is a very successful mentoring programme which has been set up by Mr Janvrin. Feedback from the students is incredibly positive.

I cannot begin to thank you enough for your ideas on how we can improve our practice. For example, I had a meeting with Year 12 parents who talked to me about how we can improve parent consultation evenings for A Level students. We will now be going back to an appointment system in the 6th Form because parents feel that they want more time to talk about independent learning etc.

Our school continues to go from strength to strength. Owen Hobbs, our Student Voice Coordinator has worked with the school council to develop strategies for tackling bullying. Our peer support programme also goes from strength to strength with a greater number of students being involved.

PARENT VOICE NEEDS YOU!

We still want to involve parents as much as possible. We would like parent voice to be as loud and as audible as our student voice. Whilst we have some amazing examples of parental involvement, we would like to organise a proper parent forum to really get to the heart of some of the issues at Hendon. Jacqui Jack will be organising this. If you would like to contact Jacqui, then please email her jackj@hendonschool.co.uk.

And finally.....

We can all be leaders in different ways. Here is a poem to remind us all of the importance of leadership today:-

*When leaders make a mistake, they say, 'I was wrong.'
When followers make mistakes, they say, 'it wasn't my fault'*

*A leader works harder than a follower and has more time;
a follower is always 'too busy' to do what is necessary.*

*A leader goes through a problem;
a follower goes around it and never gets past it.*

*A leader says 'I'm good, but not as good as I ought to be'
a follower says, 'I'm not as bad as a lot of other people,'*

*Leaders listen;
followers just wait until it's their turn to talk.*

*Leaders respect those who are 'superior' to them and tries to learn something from them;
followers resent those who are 'superior' to them and try to find chinks in their armour.*

*Leaders feel responsible for more than their job;
followers say, 'I only work her.'*

*A leader says 'There ought to be a better way to do this'
followers say, 'That's the way it's always been done here.'*

PiXL Club Award Ceremony



On Thursday 3rd October Adeebah Idrusi and Eda Arslan in Year 12 attended the PiXL Club award ceremony at the Central Hall Westminster. They were both chosen alongside other pupils from all over the country for their achievements at GCSE and the fact they have both overcome difficulties in their journey to personal success.

The ceremony was an exciting formal affair with choirs, dance and solo performances. The awards were handed out by Denise Lewis and both pupils were beaming with pride when asked up onto the stage to receive their awards.

Mr Keller

Inspiring. Prodigious. Fantastic. If I had to choose only three words they would be my choice to describe the PiXL Award event. It was such an honour to be chosen to be part of such a magical event. Not only was it a fun evening packed with extremely talented performances, but the magic and inspiration

that was floating in the air throughout the whole evening was unbelievable. Coming together with many other students from across the country and sharing our success with people we never thought we would come across was a tremendous experience. Hearing other peoples' stories and the things they had to go through during their journey to success was emotional but this event is a great way to show that those people are not alone and that no matter what, success should be appreciated.

In modern society, the government is constantly arguing that education is too easy, they are striving to make things harder when in reality they do not take in account the things the young generation might have to go through during the extremely stressful exam periods; one student in particular had to deal with a loss of a very close relative and cancer. This event made us realise how important it is to appreciate our achievements, no matter what the grades say, if the student themselves know they have put in their all into achieving to the best of their ability then they need to know that they have succeeded.

Luckily, we also had the privilege of receiving our awards from the inspiring Olympic gold medallist Denise Lewis. The motivating speech she gave really encouraged us to try harder and never give up and most importantly realise that this is only the beginning of our journey to success. It was the highlight of my year and such a beautiful experience to be a part of, I will never forget it for the rest of my life and I thank Hendon School, not only for voting for this award but also for helping me along my journey to achieving the best I could during the difficult periods.

Eda Arslan 12.4



Year 10 Trip to Japan

Mrs Yvonne Weatherhead and Mr David Watson took a group of twenty Year 10 students on the annual trip to Hamamatsu in Japan. All students benefited hugely from the experience, making the most of their chances to speak Japanese in a real life setting with their host families and other Japanese students at Konan High School.

The first full day saw the group visit Tokyo Disneyland where everyone had fun going on rides (although the teachers didn't go on as many as the students) and doing some shopping. Mrs Weatherhead proved to be a fine model for some of the Disney characters as she tried on various types of headwear!

After a weekend of sightseeing in Tokyo, the group was warmly received by their host families in Hamamatsu and a welcome ceremony the following day in school. The ceremony included renditions by a fantastic brass band playing well-known tunes. These were followed by short speeches by all Hendon students and several Japanese teachers and students.

The Konan students showed a great example to our own by turning out in immaculate uniform every day and exhibiting wonderful behaviour at all times. Most of the Hendon students responded in kind with their positive attitudes to activities and Japanese culture. A special programme of lessons was put on for Hendon students and everyone enjoyed participating in Japanese cultural activities such as calligraphy, judo, tea ceremony, kendo and card games.

The school also had two foreign language assistants (one from England and one from the USA) who greatly appreciated having Hendon students in their lessons so that they were able to use the living language with them.



Japanese teacher of maths gives Hendon students a slice of Pi



REI -Manners being taught the correct way to bow!

On Thursday we had the pleasure of dressing in yukatas and we all enjoyed posing for the local press photographer while trying to look as Japanese as possible. Georgie Turner was quoted in the local press as saying the highlight of the trip for her had been taking part in the tea ceremony.

The Friday included a visit to a local nursery school and Hendon students enthusiastically interacted with Japanese tiny tots, demonstrating some of the skills they had learnt in arts such as origami and drawing.

The final weekend allowed everyone to do sightseeing with their host families in and around Hamamatsu. Some highlights were seeing Hamamatsu castle (once inhabited by Ieyasu Tokugawa) and seeing a cave full of stalactites and stalagmites, also inhabited by small bats!

All in all, the entire trip was unforgettable and left everyone with lots of fond memories and new friendships formed. Many of the group vowed to return to Japan and build on the links already forged.

Mr Watson

The vibrant, colourful atmosphere of Tokyo and the caring, warm air of Hamamatsu and the Konan High School is very difficult to speak about, never mind to write in words! I'll try my best... here goes!

After a 'gruelling' almost 12 hour flight, we landed in Tokyo, where we were met by the kind hearted Mr. Iwai. As soon as we arrived we boarded a bus set for a whistle-stop tour of Tokyo..... from the first sighting of Disneyland to the picture postcard scenes of the downtown city. We also stopped at the Odaiba, which is the home of the largest television company in Japan, which you'd expect from such a futuristic building!



The next day we headed off for a full day excursion to Tokyo Disneyland, which the collective group were terribly excited about! We met many characters, had a whale of a time on the rides and laughed at Mrs Weatherhead wearing all our hats! On Sunday, it was time for a tour of Tokyo with some students from a nearby school.

They showed us the main sights in the city such as Meiji shrine, Harajuku and Asakusa as well as giving us a perfect opportunity to practise speaking some Japanese to natives! All of us really enjoyed our trip around Tokyo and were very grateful to the students who had given up their time to take us. It was hard saying goodbye!





Hendon students and teachers proudly wear their yukatas for the local press shoot

The next day we felt a mixture of emotions. First of all, we couldn't believe that 4 days had flown by in Tokyo but many of us were very excited about meeting our host families, yet a little apprehensive! A five hour bus trip lay ahead of us but we loved the view, the mountains were an unmissable sight! When we reached the Konan High School, we were escorted to the meeting room, not before changing our shoes though! Here we caught the eye of our host students as well as having to introduce ourselves to our families in Japanese!

Once we'd been paired up, our host students took us back to our respective homes. We were so warmly welcomed, given delicious traditional suppers and state of the art lunchboxes! At weekends, we were taken out with our students to many unimaginable places, "Onsen" which are volcanic hotsprings; traditional castles and futuristic shopping centres with the most amazing mix of Japanese goodies! Another highlight was "purikura" which are Japanese photobooths, which take your picture

and then allow you to subsequently edit and write on the pictures. It was so culturally different but we were surprised the idea hadn't caught on in Britain!

Whilst we were at the Konan High School, we experienced lessons different to the subjects we study in Britain. A few notable examples of these are Kendo, a traditional Japanese martial art; Shōdō, which we call calligraphy and Judo, another traditional Japanese martial art. These lessons gave us a cultural insight into the life of students at the Konan High School. A different experience we had was meeting nursery students in a Hamamatsu nursery. As well as the little children "KAWAII" (cute) we found looking after the youngsters rewarding as they spoke what English they could to us and vice versa for us.



Hendon students being instructed in basic judo moves



The whole experience was insightful and inspiring for all of us who went, as well as a fantastic trip for everyone and everyone will take different memories away with them. The humbleness and determined attitude has certainly rubbed off on me and the vibrancy and colour of Japanese society has left everlasting ripples on my memory.

Georgie Turner 10.8

Little Shop of Horrors

Blood, guts, teeth and leaves - Little Shop of Horrors is this year's Hendon School Production.

A story of a mean, green, man-eating plant from outer space that arrives in an unsuspecting Florist who is fed by the hapless Seymour. The show features great soul and rock n roll music, big production numbers, lots of crazy characters and even some opportunity for puppetry.

We have had lots of enthusiastic actors, singers and dancers at the rehearsals so far. The shows will be on the 13th, 14th and 15th of February next year - mark those dates in your diary!

Mr Humphrey



Diary Dates

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|-------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| ❖ Wednesday 18 December | Christmas Concert |
| ❖ Thursday 19 December | End of Autumn Term |
| ❖ Monday 6 January | Start Of Spring Term/Academic Review Day |
| ❖ Monday 20 January | PSHEE Day |
| ❖ Thursday 23 January | Non Uniform Day/Year 11 Parents' Evening |

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.

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 you 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

Year 10 GCSE Photography students involved in Visual Literacy project



Our Year 10 Photography students have been part of a pilot project on Visual Literacy run by the John Lyons Charity and the Photographers' Gallery. They have attended workshops at Tate Britain, The



Photographers' Gallery and the National Portrait Gallery. We have been impressed with our students' engagement and commitment when they were asked to explore their own views on cross-curricular subject matter. They have been amazing in analysing contemporary photographic images. We thank them for being such fantastic ambassadors for this prestigious project! We look forward

to an exhibition showcasing their own photographic work in the school library in February 2014. For more information, please have a look at the following website <http://seeingmorethings.wordpress.com/category/hendon-school/>

Ms Schmid and Mr Keller



HARP ran a cake sale on Thursday 21 November and raised over £150 for the Philippines Relief Fund. We hope to make this donation up to £200 with donations from HARP staff and students. We want to thank Anna Bhayat who organises cake sales on a regular basis for HARP, helped by other Learning Support assistants and, of course, all of the students and staff who buy and eat our cakes!

Ms Downs

Land's End to John O' Groats 2013

It was during July 2013 that six members of Hendon staff set off from Land's End to John O' Groats with the hope of covering the total of 960 miles between those two distant points. The daily required distance to be covered was approximately 140 miles and that would mean cycling for 8 to 9 hours every day for seven days. This would be no mean feat and to get to the level of fitness required would mean consistently training for nine months, including following strict diets to help maximise the potential to complete the long daily distances.

The team included five riders and they were Mr Hobbs, Mr Nagle, Mr Welch, Mr Winiacki and Mr Hall, the team also was lucky to have the support driver and sixth member of the team, Mr Dickie, without whom the ride could not have gone ahead.

After the long drive to Land's End, we set off on Sunday 30th July and straight into depths of the challenge, plenty of big hills and lots of rain! Little did we know this rain was to follow us the length and breadth of the country and would test the endurance and morale fibre of every rider every mile of the way.



As anyone who has done a big challenge like this will know, there are many obstacles to overcome and each rider had to deal with these every day. Some of these were the pouring rain where everyone faced the same challenge and the individual inner challenge that came when energy levels were low and fear of losing the group kept riders having to dig deeper to keep up. We also had external challenges beyond our control and on one particular day Mr Hobbs got lost, climbed another huge hill (not on the route) and in the pouring rain his tyre punctured three times. One of the punctures was only a mile before the hotel towards the end of the day. Mr Dickie offered to drive him in the school mini bus the last mile to the warmth of the hotel, but in the true spirit of the challenge, Mr Hobbs refused, repaired the puncture with cold hands and completed that vital last final mile! Bravo!

When we set off from Land's End, everyone was uncertain whether this challenge could be met, but as the ride wore on and our bodies

were getting drained of energy every day the fact that we were covering over 130 miles every day, regardless of the terrain and weather, each of the riders confidence was building.

Our highest daily mileage recorded was 156 miles, quite a feat considering the other days were all over 130 miles. Throughout the ride we all had our own mini focal points, for the group it was the agreed coffee stops which were so needed and then the individual focal points. Mr Nagle for example broke his ride down into ten mile sections, and when these were mentally done he would move onto the next section and by doing this every day he managed to achieve his daily goals.

There are many great memories and each rider has their own particular special memories but one special memory is the route itself. The scenery was spectacular and it was fantastic to see the terrain change on a daily basis. The hilly terrain in Devon when riding through a barren and bleak Dartmoor will never be forgotten, as will riding up the infamous 'Shap' mountain and



riding the length of 'Loch Ness' were truly outstanding moments. As was riding through the Glencoe pass where you can see world-class scenery that should be seen in all its glory at least once in a lifetime.

We finally arrived at John O' Groats and you can imagine the elation when everyone finally arrived there after seven long days spent on a narrow saddle and what seemed like a never ending rotation of the pedals. After the elation settled and the enormity of the task set in, there was strangely and quickly a sense of anti-climax setting in. I think this was to do with the fact that such a task is all-consuming and it takes over your life whilst in progress and when it is gone there is a sense of loss. But we do have the memories, we do have the challenge completed, and we do have the bond for life that comes from a group of people who all pulled together to get to finish. But all is not lost, as it has only inspired us to now look for what to do next, and the next event is being talked about as I write.



Mr G Hall