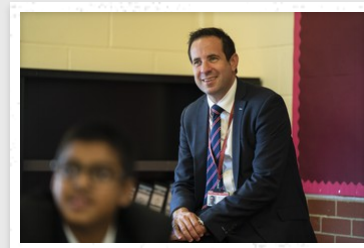


Headteacher's Newsletter

APRIL 2019

WELCOME BACK

I'd like to welcome you back to the Summer Term and I hope that you all had a wonderful Easter break. This is an exceptionally important Term for all of our students with end of year exams and a range of activities taking place, but particularly for our Year 13 and Year 11 students who will be starting their formal examinations within a matter of weeks. I am sure that they have been working hard under your watchful eye during Easter and are as prepared as possible for the upcoming exams. It is important that the students take time to relax as well as revise, there is much in the news about students mental well being and stress levels when exam season approaches. Knowing some of our students however, they must ensure the balance is right between working hard and resting.



My introduction is going to be slightly longer today as I wanted to touch on the incidents that occurred a few weeks before the end of Term when the police arrived in force at the school gates. There have, as you know, been a number of extremely serious incidents in the surrounding area over the last few months relating to knife crime and there is a clear and present danger facing our young people in the community at the moment. We will do all we can to educate and support our students to help them to know how to stay safe. Over the course of this term we will, in association with other schools in the area, be holding an anti-knife week which aims to raise the issues associated with carrying knives as well as carrying out things like bag searches to help the students feel they are safe; these will continue randomly from then on. I want parents to know however that this is a preventative measure and not as a result of this being particularly an issue in our school. We are trying to be proactive as a result of recent incidents in the community.

With regards to the incident at our school, because of the heightened concerns of the police at that time, they acted swiftly and in force when they were contacted by us regarding other students coming to our gates. Nothing was found on those students or anywhere in the area

during searches and I am pleased to say that the action by the police and the two schools involved have led to no further issues of this nature. I would like to thank all the parents that contacted me to thank our staff for their willingness to put themselves in harms way for your children, your messages really did mean a lot to the staff.

I have spoken this week to the students in assembly about respect, specifically related to respecting the staff at school. In my letter before Easter I explained that there is a teacher crises in England and it is getting harder every year to recruit and retain high quality teachers; indeed 40-50% of teachers leave within their first 5 years nationally, and the Government only recruited 47% of their target for teacher training last year. I do all I can to recruit and retain great staff, but the thing that makes the most difference is the students and the respect they show my staff as well as the effort they put into their learning. I'd appreciate you discussing this with your children; their behaviour really will have a direct impact on the teachers they have and in turn their future.

As I said above this is a really important Term for many of our students. In my assemblies this week I have shown the following picture which I think is really important to remember. It's not too late if they haven't yet started to revise, whatever work they put in now will pay dividends when their exams start in earnest.

YOU CAN'T GO BACK AND CHANGE THE
BEGINNING, BUT YOU CAN START WHERE YOU
ARE AND CHANGE THE ENDING.

- C.S. LEWIS



A FEW SHORT NOTICES

I have been asked by one of our parents to highlight to any of you that pick your children up from school the impact keeping your engines running has on children who suffer from asthma, not to mention the environment. Could you please turn your engines off if you are waiting near the school.

While discussing parking, I get weekly complaints from the local community regarding this matter. Please be considerate when you are parking, please do not park or collect child in Chigwell Nursery, and refrain from parking over Cedar Park drive as residents cannot get access to their houses. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Finally, a purse was found in the hall at the end of the evening on the last night of the Dance Show but nobody has come forward to claim it. If you believe it to be yours please contact

EMAILS

I wanted to thank parents for their support following my message about emails. Just to remind you, I have asked that parents do not contact staff directly between the hours of 7pm and 7am during the week, and not at all at weekends or during the school holidays. I have asked staff not to check their emails and therefore you will not receive a response. If you do wish to email the school outside of working hours please send the message to admin@westhatch.essex.sch.uk and it will be sent to the relevant person. The expectation is that we will respond to emails within 48 hours, please bear this in mind.

SWIMMING DISTRICT CHAMPIONS

West Hatch took three teams to Davenant last Term to compete in the annual District Swimming Gala, also competing were Roding Valley and Ongar. There were a number of West Hatch wins, with the new Year 7 cohort racking up numerous points with their many victories.

Overall West Hatch and Davenant finished with the same points, sharing the District Championship title.

Mrs Reid (Head of PE) says: 'this is completely down to the hard work, not just of the pupils, but to Mr D'Silva who has given up lots of early mornings to help all the swimmers.'



MORE SPORTING SUCCESS

Our PE staff give so much of their time to support the students outside of working hours and I know it means a great deal to them when all that hard work pays off. I want to offer a huge congratulations to all of our students who have participated in any sporting activity this year, but particularly for the following teams who like our swimmers were crowned District Champions for West Essex and Harlow this year. Each team played against St Marks in Harlow in their finals:

Yr.7 Boys Football were 2:0 down but came back to win 3:2

Yr.7 Girls Netball, won 36-16.

U16 Girls Netball won 17-13.



YEAR 7 BOYS



YEAR 7 GIRLS



U16 GIRLS



West Hatch were successful on many levels in Football this year and three of the five Year groups representing the school made it through to this months finals. The Year 10s won their final game very convincingly , beating Ongar Academy 0-12 to top their five team group stage with a total points tally of 13 points.. The Year 9s narrowly defeated Debden High School 1-2 to go through unbeaten with 13 points after and the Year 7's as noted above won their group and ultimately the final against St Marks.

YEAR 8 ROMEO AND JULIET TRIP

In March our English Department organised a trip to Shakespeare's Globe Theatre. It was a real success and the pupils' behaviour was outstanding, even when they disembarked from the

coach, the majority thanked the driver and teachers. We also had a number of comments made by the public regarding our students, for example:

Upon our exit two stewards from the theatre commented on how well-behaved our pupils were throughout the performance and upon entrance and exit (this was separately to two different teachers). In addition to this, as we followed the wave of other schools to the pick-up point, teachers from other schools began comparing our pupils' behaviour to their own, one teacher even assuming we were a private school.

Well done to the students who attended and thank you to the staff for all their hard work.

YEAR 7 SHAKESPEARE PROJECT

Year 7 English students in Mrs Sharma's class were set an independent project to complete a series of activities that would engage the students in a range of tasks on the theme of Shakespeare. Students were awarded credits and could be as creative as possible.

Mrs Sharma was impressed with the breadth and depth of the projects produced; students worked on this over a four week period and she was delighted with the effort and how enthusiastic many of them were. Students with the most credits were awarded prizes. The winners were Macy Mensah and Alfie Reid and the runners up were Pavan Bhudja and Nowfa Mohamed. Special recognition goes to Anaya Aujila, Grace Albone , Elyas Bel Hadj Salah, Shaheim Rasheed and Scarlett Rood Morris.



MACEY MENSAH



ALFIE REID



**SCARLETT ROOD
MORRIS AND HER GLOBE
THEATRE CAKE**

WORLD BOOK DAY

While talking about our wonderful English Department I wanted to thank them for all of their work and effort for World Book Day this year. They really did go the extra mile as can be seen below.



JACK PETCHY REGIONAL FINALIST

Congratulations to Dylan Panesar (Yr.10) who delivered an amazing speech at the Regional Finals of the Jack Petchey Awards on the education system. He was absolutely superb. He unfortunately didn't win but showered himself in glory. Thank you as well to Mr Towsey (pictured) and Mrs Jeppesen for the time they gave to support Dylan.

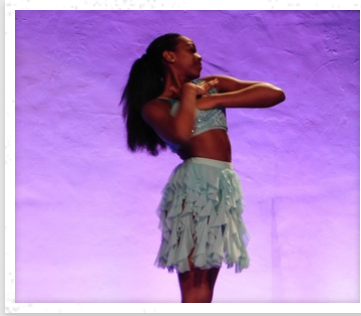
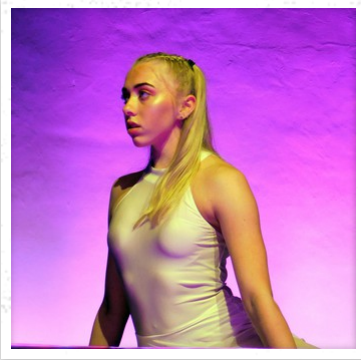


'HATCH EXTRA' ENRICHMENT FIRST AID WORKSHOP

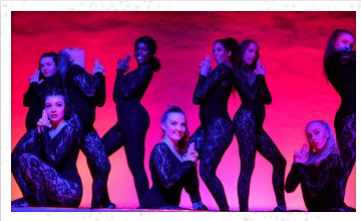
This half term our Year 12 students have undergone a First Aid Workshop as part of their extensive 'Hatch Extra' enrichment programme. Each Form received training in four specific areas of first aid to include choking, fainting, the recovery position and CPR. Using valuable St John's ambulance teaching material, students learnt how to recognise signs and symptoms present and how to treat the casualty in these four main areas. Workshop practitioner, Mr D'Silva stated, "To learn first aid from an early age is vital and the idea of the workshop was to teach new skills to students who will now become more confident if a situation would ever arise". Following on from the workshop, successful students received a St Johns' certificate for their work.



SCHOOL DANCE SHOW



Once again our Dance Team put on an amazing show just before the Easter break. The dedication shown by the students and staff to create such a professional show is outstanding and I want to personally thank everyone involved for all of their hard work. I'm already looking forward to next years show.



NETBALL TRIP

On Saturday 23rd March seventeen West Hatch girls went to watch a Super League game at Hertfordshire Sports Village. This saw 2nd place Saracens Mavericks take on Surrey Storm. The girls (all KS3) really enjoyed the game, and this trip came just before Year 8 and 9 were about to go on a Netball tour to Holland in the Easter holidays.

Mrs Reid (Head of PE) said " it was a brilliant game to watch and has really motivated the girls, whether that be to play school netball, club netball, or to attend the Holland tour which we are all really looking forward to, even in the breaks the girls were purchasing netballs and playing small sided games outside, showing their real passion for the sport."



SCHOOL SPORTS TOUR EASTER 2019



During the Easter holidays West Hatch Rugby and Netball Squads travelled to Valkenburg, Holland for a sports tour. The students took part in vigorous training sessions with professional coaches and competed against local clubs and other English touring schools. In addition to this the students had the opportunity to take part in many excursions such as, sampling the local cuisine when visiting a Dutch pancake house and seeing the sights of Valkenburg whilst tobogganing.

The Rugby squads had a good level of competition, winning two games against a solid Dutch side De Bokkerjiders. Then narrowly losing against a strong Belgium side, RC Luik. The Netball squads competed against other English schools in a tournament on the final day of the tour and the competition was tough. Impressively the U15's were tournament champions, with the U14's finishing 4th and U13's finishing 3rd.

All students were a credit to both themselves and West Hatch High School whilst displaying the true spirit of sport. Thank you again to Mr Calver, Mr Coffey, Mrs Reid and Mrs Jenkins who spent their holidays on tour with the students.



IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

May

Thursday 2nd May - Yr.12 Parents Evening

Monday 27th May-31st May - May Half Term

June

Monday 3rd June-Friday 21st June - End of Year Tests for Yr.7-10

Wednesday 26th June - Early finish for students at 1.25pm for Staff training

Thursday 27th June - Yr.10 Mock Interview Day

Friday 28th June - Summer Solstice Concert (timings to be confirmed)

Date in June to be confirmed - Yr.11 and Yr.13 Awards Evening

July

Monday 1st July - Yr.12 Futures Day

Wednesday 3rd July - Yr.11 Prom at the Prince Regent

Monday 8th July-Friday 19th July - Yr.10 Work Experience

Wednesday 10th July - Sports Awards Evening (timings to be confirmed)

Friday 12th July - Early finish for students at 1.25pm to allow for preparation for the Yr.7 Graduation
Saturday 13th July - Yr.7 Graduation at 12pm
Monday 15th July-Friday 19th July - Yr.12 Work Shadowing
Tuesday 16th July - Yr.9 Awards Evening (timings to be confirmed)
Thursday 18th July - Sports Day
Friday 19th July - Last day of term - early finish for students at 1.25pm

August

Thursday 15th August - A Level Results Day
Thursday 22nd August - GCSE Results Day

A VERY SPECIAL STAFF ACHIEVEMENT



MRS L BARKER, SCHOOL BUSINESS MANAGER

I would like to take a moment to share with you a fantastic achievement by one of our staff. Many of you know Mrs Barker through dealings with the Finance Team and I am delighted to announce that she has been shortlisted by the Times Educational Supplement for the School Business Manager of the Year Award. This is a national award and she is shortlisted amongst Business Managers from schools across the country. We will not find out whether she has won the award until the ceremony in June, but being shortlisted is in itself an amazing achievement and we are very proud and fortunate to have her as a member of staff at this school.

STUDENTS' OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS



BRANDON BRYAN-WAUGH (YEAR 9)

Following the Easter break, Brandon Bryan-Waugh will compete for England U15s in the Delle Nazioni Italian Football tournament. Brandon will travel to Italy with the squad and compete against Italy, Qatar and Czech Republic before a potential semi-final and final if successful. The week long tournament will see some of the most talented youth footballers in the world showcase their talents and there is no doubt Brandon has this ability. Furthermore, Brandon is only one of two players picked in the squad who will be a year younger than most, being an U14 player. If selected for all games Brandon will have more than 5 international caps for his country having played against Greece and Turkey previously. We all wish him every success for his performances and hope football will be coming home (at U15 level anyway).

TAYO HARRY (YEAR 12)

Tayo Harry is a competitive athlete (sprinter) and runs for one of the Essex Athletics Club.

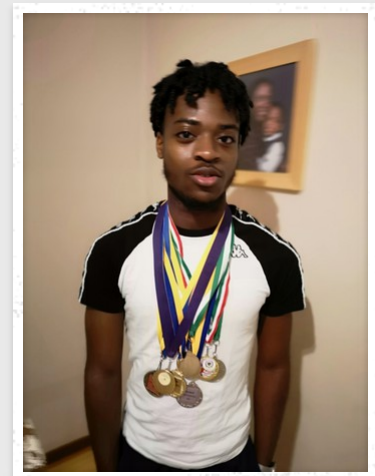
He competes in the 100m, 200m and 4x100 relay and has won a few medals in his time.

Tayo enjoys running the 100m especially and trains two to three times a week, sometimes less depending on how much school work he has to do. He has been running for some time and has made it to the National Championships in the past where he won a Gold medal in Cardiff.

Tayo attended a 'Rising Stars' Nike running camp in America last summer on invitation, where he had a fantastic experience. He is currently being scouted by some College (University) coaches in the USA but he wants to keep his options open with regards to where he attends university next year.

He is looking forward to the start of the season this weekend with the Spring Open on Sunday and Essex Championships next month. The summer holidays are usually very busy with lots of competitions for the different leagues and this involves travelling all over the country.

Tayo will have to juggle his competition season with summer schools and taking a break too. Clearly Tayo puts a great deal of work into his athletics and it's paying off, we look forward to seeing how he progresses over the next few years.



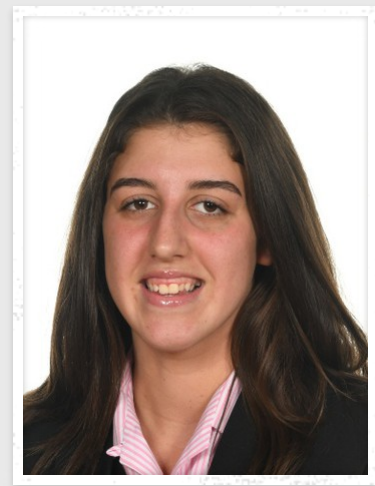
JODIE VERGHESE (YEAR 11)

Jodie has been selected in the U19s to represent the Borough of Redbridge Netball Team at the London Youth Games 2019.

The Games involve all 33 London Boroughs, 27 National Governing Bodies (NGB), with 85 competitions across 30 different sports. The competition is open to all 7 to 18-year-olds for

Europe's largest annual youth sports event. Mrs Reid Head of PE commented 'that having played in these games myself when at school I know what a fantastic event it is.'

Well done Jodie a great achievement and good luck.



CHARLEY SANDS (YEAR 8)

I had the pleasure of reading an article written by Charley in the Essex Jewish News. This is Charley's first published article and I know that she is an aspiring journalist so this is a fabulous start to her career. It was a very well written piece and I couldn't be prouder to read what she had to say about her time at the school and the maturity with which she wrote. Well done Charley, I'm sure you have a fantastic career in the news ahead of you. I have attached below the piece should you wish to read it.



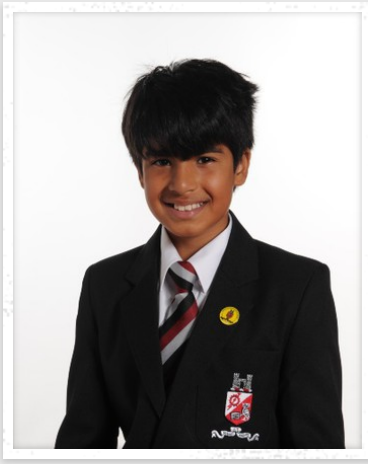
Charley Sands Article.pdf

[Download](#)
322.6 KB

CLAUDIA SNELL (YEAR 12)

Well done to Claudia who is currently studying a Business course at West Hatch and recently received an excellent progress report . Claudia has also studied and passed her driving theory test and was recently awarded employee of the month at the Nuffield Health Club where she works part time, weekends and school holidays. I know her family are very proud of her achievements.





RAHUL KHAN (YEAR 8)

Rahul played for Romford Borough in the Chelmsford Youth Football League U13 Trophy Final and they won on penalties after a gruelling match ending 3-3. Rahul helped the team win on penalties by scoring a superb penalty and playing forward striker for the team. His father is one of the coaches for the team and they have worked very hard to make it this far since he started playing for them in 2012. Well done Rahul.

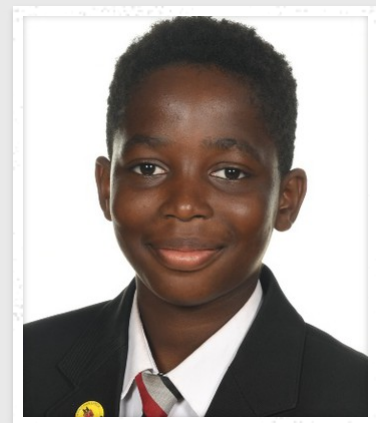
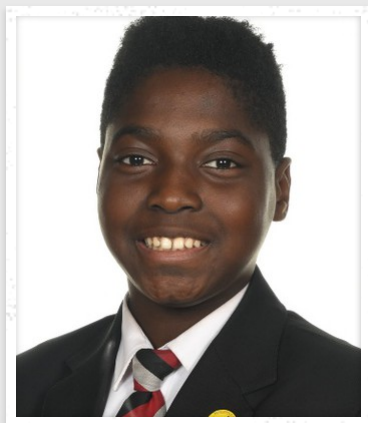
IMOGEN STEPHENS (YEAR 11)

Imogen has just passed her Grade 7 Musical Theatre exam with a Merit, achieving 82%. She also achieved a Merit in her Grade Six exam. She is now practising and singing towards her Grade 8. It really is a huge achievement for any young person. Keep up the hard work Imogen.



KEITH AND KRIS GRIFFITHS (YEAR 7)

Congratulations to Keith and Kris Griffiths who play football for Baleonians and have managed to win their league this season



ALEXANDRIA CROWHURST (YEAR 13)

I'm delighted to be able to let you know that Alexandria Crowhurst has been awarded the "Outstanding Potential Award" at Queen Mary University in London. This means she has also received an unconditional offer to the university. The school and her family are extremely proud of her hard work and dedication which has obviously paid off.

She has now accepted her placement at Queen Mary and will be studying Geography. Perhaps we might convince Alexandria to come to West Hatch in the future and engage the next generation of Geographers?



AND FINALLY

Thank you once again for sending me through the notices regarding your children's achievements. When I met with a parent recently they noted that seeing these achievements makes them feel part of the community which I'm delighted about.

I'd also like to thank parents for their continued support for the school. I always say the stronger the partnership between school and home, the more successful and happy our students will be. This is going to be a tough term for many of our students but I'm very much looking forward to celebrating their achievements with them in the summer at results day and the rest of our students at awards evenings, rewards trips and Graduation day for Year 7.

