

# Headteacher's Newsletter

June 2019

I hope you all had a lovely bank holiday weekend and half term break. I'm sure those of you with children in Year 11 and Year 13 are particularly feeling the strain at the moment with the exam season in full swing, but I hope those students took some time to relax as well as spending time revising and preparing for their examinations.



This will be my final newsletter of the year and I want to thank you all for your support over the last two academic years since I took over as Headteacher. I hope those parents reading this newsletter remain happy with their decision to send their children to the school and confident in the direction the school is taking.

We continue to grow and in September we will have another cohort of 249 Year 7 students starting with us. We have once again had around 700 applications for the 249 places, and this shows the positive reputation the school has fostered in the area; this reputation is built upon the wonderful students that we already have at West Hatch.

There are as always a few reminders that I wanted to raise within my newsletter which follow this introduction, and I hope that you find the rest of this newsletter interesting, it's far more positive than the three reminders I have outlined below.

I hope that you all have a wonderful final term and summer holiday once we break up. Please note the school term dates for next year below. Once again the very best of luck to students in Year 11 and 13, and I look forward to seeing you to celebrate in the summer.

Yours sincerely,

Daniel Leonard  
Headteacher

## Nails And Lashes

There are still some students who are spending money at the weekends or during holidays on getting false nails and eyelashes. Students are not permitted to wear nail varnish, false nails or eyelashes and will not be permitted to attend lessons until they have them removed at their own expense. Please do

not allow your children to spend money on false nails or eyelashes or to paint their nails as this rule is very clear and it causes conflict between the student and the school. There is no grey area and I would appreciate your support in this matter.

## **Littering Outside Of School**

I recently received a letter from the Environmental Agency from Epping Forest following a complaint about littering from our students on Chigwell Road and the High Road. The letter states they will fine individuals £75 on the spot if they receive evidence of them dropping litter. Please discuss this with your children.

## **Shoes**

Please remember that students must be wearing school shoes unless they have medical evidence of an injury. We have spare school shoes available if students wear trainers to school and even if a parent writes a note, without medical evidence the student will be expected to wear our shoes. I understand that the closer the summer comes the more reticent parents are to buy new shoes but students are required to wear proper shoes to school right up until we break for the summer. Any student refusing to put the schools' shoes on will be isolated until they do so.

## **Pupils Behaviour To Each Other Outside Of School**

I'm becoming increasingly concerned with the number of incidents we are having to deal with between students which are occurring outside of school, in the evenings, at weekends or even during school holidays. Many of these occur via social media and the school are being expected to pick up the pieces even though the issues happen well beyond the school gates. Many schools have started to draw a line and say they will not take responsibility for these types of incidents unless they cause an issue in school time.

My view is that the school should support parents in dealing with these issues, however we are spending an inordinate amount of time investigating incidents beyond our control and I may have to act differently in the future. Please do your best to monitor and moderate your child's behaviour on social media, it seems young people become very different people behind a phone and say things they would never say to someones face. Remember the legal age for Instagram, Snap Chat and many other social media apps is 13. I would appreciate you discussing this matter with your children.

## **Leavers Events**



The school sent our Year 13 and 11 students on their way in traditional fashion before half term with our annual leavers events. A fun day was had by all and the students from both Year groups were an absolute credit to the school and their parents. Two emotional days saying goodbye, giving out awards and remembering their time at school, I hope the students leave with fond memories of the day and their time at West Hatch. The students were given a special send off with Year 7 and 8 students lining the paths to cheer the Year 13's off and the staff doing the same for the Year 11's. We wish them all the very best of luck for the future whatever path they choose to follow and hope to see the majority of our Year 11's back next year for the next stage of their educational journey. I would once again like to wish all the students the best of luck for their exams and look forward to celebrating with them in the summer.



## Thank A Teacher

Last year, at the request of our Parents Voice we added a link to our website to thank a teacher. This comes directly to me and I pass the message on to the member of staff. I can't tell you how much staff appreciate these messages and I know many of you will want to thank members of staff for the work

they have done, particularly with the Year 13 and 11's leading up to exams. If you would like to send a message please click on the link below.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/KCGZ2RF>

## Easy Fund Raising

One of our Parents Voice members has mentioned an Easy Fund Raising site and app which allows people to raise money for the school merely by buying items via the website. We also have another site called The Giving Machine where the same principles apply. Using these sites does not increase the price of the item to you, but if you are planning to buy any items from places such as Amazon, John Lewis, Ebay, Argos, Waitrose or Booking.com; purchasing the item via these websites means the school gets money back. Please consider this next time you buy anything online, the links are below;

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/westhatchhighschool/>

<https://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk/causes/west-hatch-high-school/>

## The New School Day On A Monday

Just a reminder that from September our school day will be changing on a Monday, which will result in school finishing at 3:20pm on this day. Tuesday to Friday will remain the same with school finishing at 3:10pm. This is to support the school in meeting the Government's requirements for PSHE.



## Chigwell May Fayre

A number of our students supported the Chigwell May Fayre on Chigwell Green again this year, which was organised by Loughton, Buckhurst Hill and Chigwell Rotary Club.

The choir performed several songs before some of the students gave solo performances. Joshua Lord (Yr.9) performed a 25-minute set, Elena Doychinova (Yr.9) and Eva-Marie Kennedy (Yr.9) sang three duets and performed piano / vocal pieces, Skye Morley (Yr.8) sang a solo, while Kathryn Gibson (Yr.7) and Arianna Agre (Yr.7) performed a dance duet.

Charlotte Kent (Yr.10) performed a piano piece and accompanied violinist Rahayma Imran (Yr.10), and Natalie Richards (Yr.8) staged two solo dance pieces.

I wanted to thank the students and staff for attending this wonderful event on a Sunday, they really were a credit to the school and their parents.

## **School Sporting Successes**

Well done to all the students who have represented the school this year. Please see below details of our teams successes this year. I would like to personally thank all of the staff who give up so much time to train and take the students to fixtures.

### Football

Year 7 and 10 Boys District Champions  
Year 10 Quarter Finalists of the Essex Cup  
Year 10/11 Girls District Runners Up and Waltham Forest Champions  
Year 7/8 Girls District Runners Up

### Netball

Year 7 and U16 West Essex and Harlow Champions (undefeated all year)  
Year 7 Essex Cup Quarter Finalists  
U16 Girls Winners of the Holland Tournament  
Year 9 Girls District Runners Up

### Rugby

Year 7 District Champions  
Year 10 District Champions  
Year 8 District Champions

### Basketball

Year 7 District Champions  
U16 District Runners Up

### Swimming

Year 7-11 Boys and Girls District Champions

### Indoor Athletics

District Runners Up

### Athletics

Year 7-11 Girls and Boys District Champions

**Our Sports Leaders Do The School Proud**

Our PE Department recently took a number of Year 9 students to Clore Tikva Primary School to support their sponsored mini Heptathlon and I was delighted to receive two wonderful emails from the school saying what a credit our students were to West Hatch and indeed their parents. One of the emails stated:

'The behaviour of your Year 9 students was absolutely impeccable. Teachers commented on how polite and encouraging they were to everyone they came into contact with. They were excellent role models to all of our pupils and I, myself, saw how kind and patient they were with upset and less able children. This was really lovely to witness. I even heard staff say they would now not hesitate to send their own children to West Hatch based on the behaviour of the Sports Leaders as it goes to show what kind of a school you must be.'

I want to thank the students, for their efforts on the day and for the way in which they conducted themselves.

## Amazing Sporting Achievements

We are very proud to have a large number of students who are exceptionally successful in sport, music, drama, dance and many other activities outside of school. This year we have two England International Sportsmen who have yet again been successful while representing their country.



### Max Lewis (Year 9)

Max Lewis recently flew to Finland to play ice hockey for the under 14's England boys team and I'm delighted to report that they won the Turku tournament and brought back a gold medal and cup for England. Max competed against teams from Finland, Russia and Switzerland.

Max is clearly exceptionally talented but also has a great attitude to school, he has a fantastic future ahead of him.





## **Brandon Bryan-Waugh (Year 9)**

In the last newsletter, we reported the incredible achievements of Brandon Bryan-Waugh who had been selected to represent the England u15 football team in the Delle Nazioni International Tournament in Italy. The Tottenham Hotspur FC youth player, recently returned to school following his exploits with a truly unforgettable experience. Brandon was rewarded for his hard work and talent during the pre-tournament training camp in Colchester with five successive full debuts versus Italy, Qatar, Czech Republic, USA and Turkey.

Not only did Brandon play in every game throughout the four day tournament but he even managed to score his first international goal vs Qatar in a 6-0 victory. Speaking to the PE Department following his return, Brandon stated, "Playing and scoring for England was a dream come true and to travel away with the squad was really enjoyable. The tournament was challenging but I am learning all the time and the experience has given me an even greater motivation to improve as a player".



## Our Student Council



I would like to introduce our current Senior Student Council Members who will be helping us lead the school over the next year, with the help of the other student council members which comprise over 100 students across all Year groups.

If your child is interested in joining the Student Council then recruiting will begin again in September.

## **Term Dates For Next Year**

**Autumn Term** Tuesday 3rd September 2019-Thursday 19th December 2019

Tuesday 3rd September 2019 - Inset Day

Wednesday 4th September 2019 - Inset Day

Thursday 5th September 2019 - Year 7 only

Friday 6th September 2019 - Whole School

*Half term 28th October to 1st November 2019*

**Spring Term** Monday 6th January 2020 – Friday 3rd April 2020

*Half term 17th February to 21st February 2020*

**Summer Term** Monday 20th April 2020 – Friday 17th July 2020

*Half term 25th May to 29th May 2020 and 4th May Bank holiday*

## **Our Students' Achievements**

### **Theo Kennedy (Year 12)**



I recently had the pleasure of meeting with Theo to discuss the amazing things he has been doing outside of school. Theo, who has been with us since Year 7, has been selected by Levy Roots for mentoring, and has since become a young ambassador for Levy's company, aimed at supporting young people in London to provide them with opportunities. He has also, with the support of Levy, created an online service which aims to help young people access work experience, work placements and advice on career paths. Theo told me he wants to give something back to the community and help others gain experiences outside of school. A really wonderful cause Theo and we are very proud to see the young man you have become.

### **Keira Garvey (Year 8)**

Well done to Keira who following in the footsteps of our Sixth Form students, has had her hair cut for charity. A wonderful thing to do and a fantastic achievement raising £1,000 for the Little Princess Trust.



## Jacques Van Praagh (Year 11)

Jacques has achieved a Distinction in his RAD Advanced Ballet Exam. He is also appearing with the London Children's ballet in July at the Peacock Theatre in the show Ballet Shoes. 700 children auditioned for 60 parts and Jacques was awarded a part as one of the main characters. All done whilst preparing for his GCSE examinations, well done Jacques.

## Cup Success

Well done to Year 7 teammates at Colebrook Royals FC, Reuben Comerford, Bleu Jacks and Joshua Griesel who recently won the Essex County Football Cup! 120 teams entered the competition and Colebrook were victorious, an excellent achievement boys, well done.



**Reuben  
Comerford**



**Bleu Jacks**



**Joshua Griesel**

## Leanne Ramm (Year 9)

Leanne has also become a Cup winner recently. Leanne is a goalkeeper with Pro Direct Academy and has previously trained with Arsenal and West Ham. This is her first season with Pro Direct and they not only won their Cup final but also came second in the league, they have only lost one game all year! Well done Leanne.



## **Eliana Roberts (Year 8)**

Eliana ran 5k with some of Colebrook Royals football team to raise money and awareness for CRY - Cardiac Risk in the Young, in memory of Isabella Tudisca. Her team raised over £1,000. A great achievement for a very worthy cause.

Please see the information below as to the free screening day at her club, which is in Chigwell. They will be giving free heart tests for anyone aged 14-35.



# Free heart test

Every week in the UK at least 12 apparently **fit and healthy young people** die of undiagnosed heart conditions

For anyone aged 14-35

**Saturday 29th & Sunday 30th June 2019**

**Location:**

**Colebrook Royals Football Club  
The Pavilion  
Grange Farm Lane  
Chigwell  
Essex IG7 6DP**

To book visit [www.testmyheart.org.uk](http://www.testmyheart.org.uk)

Click on **Private Screenings** and select

Enter password: **#forissy**

Please contact Della at [forissyscreening@gmail.com](mailto:forissyscreening@gmail.com) if you have any queries

This is a Private Screening session



Funds raised in memory of **Isabelle Tudisca**



Offering **help and support** affected families

[@CRY\\_UK](https://twitter.com/CRY_UK)  
[CardiacRiskintheYoung](https://www.facebook.com/CardiacRiskintheYoung)  
[www.c-ry.org.uk](http://www.c-ry.org.uk)



## Ethan Grant (Year 9)

Congratulations to Ethan who was selected to be a mascot at the first ever match at the new Tottenham Hotspur Stadium. Not a great time to celebrate this after last weekends football result, but a great experience for Ethan nonetheless.

## Joana Aukstoulyte (Year 12 )

Well done to Joana who has been developing her leadership skills and shown dedication in a range of activities over a number of years. Joana has now become a young Scout Leader, having been with the 1st Alderborough Hatch Scout group since she was 10 years old. She is very highly respected by her troupe and all the Leaders.

Joana was also asked to carry on working at the Frenford Jack Carter Centre following her work experience and has also now become a life guard at the Mayfield Leisure Centre. I know her parents are very proud of her achievements.



## Jack Petchey Winners



### **Aliza Zarras (Year 8)**

Aliza recently won the Jack Petchey Award for Outstanding Achiever from her Guides Unit 2nd Buckhurst Hill. She has been invited on the 13th June to receive a medal. She was voted by all her fellow guide members to achieve this award. She is very hard working and takes great pride in everything she does and achieves.



### **Brandon Smith (Year 11)**

Brandon won a Jack Petchey Award from his Rugby Club for his contribution to rugby with both his Club and coaching with Mr Calver at West Hatch. Brandon has been playing at Wanstead Rugby Club since he was 5 years old and since then has continued with his team winning many Cups, Leagues and has also completed three seasons at Essex/Saracens.



### **Thomas Chittock (Year 7)**

Thomas was recently awarded the Jack Petchey Award by his swimming club Gators for Outstanding Achiever. He received the award for his continued commitment and hard work in the swimming squad and his achievement in reaching the Essex County Championships Finals this year.

## **And finally**

As I said earlier this is my final Newsletter of the year so a final thank you to all of you for your continued support. I hope you have enjoyed reading my newsletters and finding out about the

amazing achievements of our students both inside and outside of school; thank you to all of those parents who have sent in information over the course of the year for my newsletter.

