

Newsletter

Useful information for students, parents and the community

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

WEEK A

MON 26TH OCT HALF TERM
MON 3RD NOV SCHOOL RETURNS

Thu 6th Nov **Governors Meeting**
Student Welfare & Discipline 4.00pm
College Cabaret - 7.15pm

Fri 7th Nov **College Cabaret - 7.15pm**

WEEK B

Mon 10th Nov **Geography Field Trip with**
- 12th Nov **Queensbury students to Swanage**

Fri 14th Nov **Children In Need – Pudsey Bear**

I am pleased to be able to issue students and parents with a copy of the report from the recent Ofsted inspection. As a school we are proud that the inspectors recognised the really good work we do in promoting the welfare and personal development of the students. We are pleased that they agreed with us that behaviour is good and that students are cared for and supported well in a happy and calm school. The school performance, in terms of examination results is on an upward trend and the inspection team believe we are doing the right things to improve this further. We are already working on improving the key issues that Ofsted raised and will be publishing the action plan before the end of the year.

One of those issues is communication with parents. As we were sending the Ofsted report home by post we have taken the opportunity to send the Newsletter home with it. The Newsletter is published every two weeks and contains important school information, including forthcoming events.

The Newsletter is sent home via students but we suspect that many Newsletters are festering in the bottom of school bags. We also publish the Newsletter (and other useful information) on the school website www.mansheadschoo.co.uk. Unfortunately we are unable to send the Newsletter by post each fortnight as the cost would be prohibitive, although we are investigating email solutions to this problem. We would be very pleased to have any feedback about the Newsletter - including if you have problems receiving it. I should also remind you that local community events that have wide appeal can be advertised in the Newsletter.

We will be consulting more widely about communication later in the year.

I hope you all enjoy half term and that students come back for the second half of the Autumn term refreshed and ready for the challenges ahead.

Jim Parker
Headteacher

COLLEGE CABARET

Thursday 6th and Friday 7th November 2008
7.15pm start

In July 2008 House Entertainment was re-launched under the new title of College Cabaret. The name was chosen to represent the vibrant, exciting and diverse nature of the House Entertainment competition of great music, fabulous dancing and exciting performances all created by the students themselves.

Changes needed to be made; colleges now work in pairs to create the piece and Year 13 are now the writers and organisers. Apart from that, the magic and excitement of House Entertainment remains the same.

Over the last six weeks, students from McCartney & Gray-Thompson, Picasso & Dylan and King & Campbell have been working together to create three distinct, different and original performances all based on fairy tales.

The pieces are beginning to come together and each person involved is busy at every spare lunchtime, break time, afterschool and even the odd Sunday, rehearsing and preparing for the big competition on Thursday 6th and Friday 7th November, when the three pairs of colleges will battle it out to see who is the most talented actor, the most skilled dancer or musician and ultimately who has created the best college cabaret performance of 2008!



Tickets cost £3.50 for all ages and is great fun for all the family, so come on down to Manshead School on Thursday 6th and Friday 7th November for a fun packed and exciting evening of music, dance and theatre! Show starts at 7.15pm. Tickets will be on sale at lunchtime in the School Reception area and will also be available to buy on the door on both evenings.

Mr K Bumstead
Teacher of Drama

ROADWORKS ON A5

We have been informed that changes may be made to the crossing arrangements on the A5 near the junction with Southwood Road, probably during half-term. The details of the changes have not been confirmed yet, but any new/temporary safe crossing arrangements will be clearly marked. Please do make sure that you continue to use the safe crossing points, even if these might mean a slightly longer walk. It is just too dangerous to do anything else.

Mr T Darby
Director of Student Welfare

CAREERS DAY

There is a possibility of arranging a visit to a **Careers Day for Years 9 to 11 at Whipsnade Zoo on Tuesday 11 November**. We would have a maximum of **12 places** for us to go by minibus and would give priority to students who have expressed a keen interest in zoo work.

Remember there are other roles which do not involve working with animals at all. The cost to interested students would be £2 per head and you would need a packed lunch. We would probably leave after lesson 1 and return to school after lunch. If you are

interested, please email me or come to my office at the back of D-block, near the main Library entrance.

Mrs J Stubbs
Work Related Learning Co-ordinator
stubbsj@mansheadschool.co.uk

YEAR 10 ATTENDANCE

On 3rd Nov between 8:45am and 1pm there will be an attendance sweep carried out by the school in conjunction with the Educational Welfare Service. This sweep will involve the school and the EWS speaking to Year 10 students regarding their attendance to school and any attendance issues. If you have questions about this please do not hesitate to contact Julie Cooper Attendance Officer .

Mr T Darby
Director of Student Welfare

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

There will be after school and lunch clubs running for Graphics, Textiles, Product Design and Food Technology, from now until March. This is a good opportunity for all GCSE students to catch up with coursework or develop their making skills.

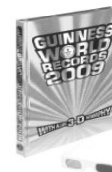
See your individual teachers for further information. We look forward to seeing you there.

A reminder to all Technology students who sat the GCSE last year, your coursework is now ready to collect from the department. See Mr Pickering or Mrs Gourlay for help with this.

Mrs T Malster
Learning Manager for Technology

NEW BOOKS AVAILABLE IN OUR SCHOOL LIBRARY

Guinness World Records 2009 complete with 3-D photography (and glasses!) This can be looked at in the library and is proving very popular at lunchtimes and after school.



Cookie by Jacqueline Wilson



The new book for teenagers by one of England's best known children's authors. – it is the story of a girl named Beauty who gets bullied at school and has to deal with domestic violence at home.

This book can be borrowed from our school library.

Mrs Yates
Librarian

ART

Years 10/12/13 Tate Britain visit on December 1st or 3rd, don't forget to bring your money in to C Block between 1.30 – 2.00pm.

Year 11 reminder - please bring in the slip to say you are interested in coming on the Paris Art visit in July, £80.00 deposit by the end of November please. Anyone considering 'A' level art can go. The next Saturday morning session is on **November 22nd 9.30am – 1.00pm**. Please try and be here to help you prepare for the mock exam.

The last one was very well attended and students caught up with their coursework.

A mural at Downside Lower School was produced by



three Year 12 students over the summer holiday, much appreciated by their staff and students. Well done to Sarah Norman, Laurence Palfrey and Daniel Bianchi!

Mrs William
Learning Manager Art

SWIMMING

Congratulations to Aaron Lee in Year 9 who has been selected to represent the Division Ten Team that will compete in the ESSA National Championships in Enfield at the end of October. Well done and good luck Aaron!

Mrs H Sides
Learning Manager PE

CADDINGTON GOLF CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS

Thanks to all who assisted in the running of our Championships recently; we were really lucky with the weather in the end and managed to get all the players completing their round in good light.

Under 16s:		
Champion:	Sam Towler	Bedford Modern
Second:	Luke Kenny	Manshead
Third:	Jack Turner	Manshead

Mr K Gordon
School Sports Co-ordinator

LUTON CHORAL SOCIETY

Do you enjoy singing? Why not come and join us? We meet on Tuesday evenings at St. Paul's Church, New Town Street, Luton at 7.30pm. We are currently rehearsing Bruckner's E Minor Mass for a concert on 29th November.

For more information contact Rosemary Cavanagh on 01582 579748 or visit our website: www.lutonchoralsociety.org.uk.

Mrs L Bennett
Senior Admin Officer