

Newsletter

Useful information for students, parents and the community

Manshead School
Tel: 01582 608641
Fax: 01582 679411

Email: office@mansheadschoo.co.uk

Website: www.mansheadschoo.co.uk

Issue 52 W/C 18th May 2009

WEEK B

Mon 18th 7.00pm Full Governors Meeting

Thu 21st GCSE Art Exhibition Open in
Drama Studio 6.30 – 8.30pm

Mon 25 – 29th HALF TERM

WEEK A

Thu 4th June 4.00pm Governors'
Meeting - Pay & Personnel

UNIFORM UPDATE

Students have completed their vote about the uniform issues that I outlined in the Newsletter issued before Easter. The vote showed overwhelming support for making the blazer a non-compulsory item of uniform. From September students will still have the option of wearing their blazer if they wish. Please note that if students choose not to wear the Blazer they should wear the Manshead School jumper instead.

The vote on the College tie was less convincing and we have decided that we will introduce the college tie to the new students starting in September coming in to year 9. Best look will continue to have a small stock of the current tie if parents of current students need to purchase a replacement.

The exam season is now upon us and students in Y11,12 and 13 are all involved in exams now and after half term. We know how hard students have worked over their time in the school and we wish them all the best for their exams.

Jim Parker
Headteacher

AWARDS FOR PHYSICS STUDENTS

Two year 12 Physics students have successfully taken part in a national competition aimed at high achievers. **David Griffiths** and **Philip Porter** sat the AS level Physics Olympiad paper in March. Philip was awarded with a Bronze Certificate, and David Silver. The standard required to reach these levels is very high, and is only achieved by the top few percent of Physics students in the country.

David was very close to going on to the national final. Next year both students intend to enter for the A level version of the competition, this can lead to a trip abroad to take part at an international level.



BLUE PERIS

Blue Peris was really good and is well worth the money. You get to do so many activities with your friends and you laugh all week. One of the biggest experiences was climbing a mountain, because it's not every day you climb 2000 feet up in the air. Every day is very tiring and you can get very wet but it is well worth it. You make lots of new friends too.

Hannah Parker

Blue Peris was amazing! The week went really fast. We did Sea Kayaking, Raft building; Gorge walking, Mining and lots of other activities.

Thank you to the school staff who arranged this trip.

DIRECT DIAL TEL NO. FOR REPORTING SICKNESS ABSENCE: 679410

Please call in before 9.00am every day of absence

YEAR 10 ROUNDERS

-v- Harlington. Manshead won 13-9 and a half.

An excellent start to the season. Please keep coming to training on a Monday after school.

Player of the match **Natasha Murray**

Ms C D'Emanuele
PE Co-ordinator

YEAR 9 ROUNDERS

Captain: Chloe Vint

First match of the season for the year 9 Rounders team against Queensbury. We were losing in the first innings 6 1/2 to 4 but we won in the second innings 9 rounders to 3 1/2. Final score: Manshead 13, Queensbury 10

Player of the match Lauren Duffy

Well done girls

Ms N Cross
Teacher of PE

GCSE ART EXHIBITION

A reminder to all Art Students to set up their work on Monday 18th May in the Drama Studio for the Moderator and for exhibition on Thursday 21st at 6.30 – 7.30pm. Work must be collected from A block before May 20th (it will be disposed of after this date). The technicians will be available before 12.30 daily.

Mrs C Williams
Learning Manager for Art

SITE INVESTMENT PLAN 2009 / 10

We expect that students & parents will be interested in our site investment plans for 2009/10. School finances across the country are coming under considerable pressure now as the impact of the recession feeds through to school funding, but we have a history of managing our site and our finances well at Manshead and a part of our funding is always ring-fenced for infrastructure improvements:

- **Science Block:** In line with our status as a Specialist Science & Maths College we will begin a programme of refurbishment of the whole Science Block this year, although the cost of fitting out laboratories is so high that we will only be able to complete the whole project over 2 or 3 years. The scheme for the Science Block will be to fit out 5 specialist science labs, with the rest of the rooms being flexible general teaching

- **Design & Technology:** Some of our workshop machinery is quite old, which is not unusual since these sorts of pieces of equipment are often built to last a very long time. Health & Safety standards have moved on, however, so we have decommissioned some machines that we will need to replace.
- **IT Networks:** We aim to get 4 years out of classroom IT equipment (recognising that not only does the equipment have to survive the classroom environment but that demands on processing power continue to increase). With 600 machines in school that means needing to set aside the funds to replace 125 each year just to stand still.
- **Classroom Refurbishment:** We have finished A Block and D Block earlier this year and we will be moving on to start B & C Blocks simultaneously over the summer. This is tempting stuff to stop when finances come under pressure, but the quality of our environment is one of the things that makes Manshead stand out. The quality of our teaching space is a key strategic priority for us.
- **Downside Path:** We have set aside our share of the funds to replace all the lighting on the path with new, taller lamp standards. There now seems to be the possibility that the Council may pay for it so we are not quite sure where we are with this project just at the moment; but we hope to avoid another winter of darkness on Downside Path.

Ian Stowe
Business Manager

DIRECT DIAL TEL NO. FOR REPORTING SICKNESS ABSENCE: 679410
Please call in before 9.00am every day of absence