



Issue 63 W/E 11th December 2009

WEEK A

Mon 14th Christmas Carol Concert 7.00pm

Wed 16th Year 9 Reports sent

Fri 18th Sixth Form Reports sent
Whole School Assembly
End of Term Concert and
Extended lunch
LAST DAY OF TERM

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

*Mon 21st December – Mon 4th January 2010
inclusive*

WEEK B

Mon 4th Jan INSED day (Staff only)

Tue 5th **SCHOOL RESUMES**
Years 12/13 Consultation

Thu 7th Year 11 Mock Results given out

Fri 8th Year 11 Reports sent out
Enrichment forms deadline

Last week Ofsted inspectors visited the school to check on the progress we have made since the last full Ofsted inspection that took place in October 2008. Two inspectors spent the whole day with us looking at what improvements we have made and considering what is our capacity to make further improvement. The inspectors have described our progress as satisfactory and they believe we have satisfactory capacity to improve further. In addition to the two main judgements, the inspectors were pleased with many things they saw in school and they believe we are accurate in our own self evaluation. The inspectors produced a letter that outlines the outcomes of the visit and this will be

published on the Ofsted Website very soon. I have attached a copy of the letter with this Newsletter.

This will be the last Newsletter of the term before we break for Christmas. I hope that everyone has a good break and we wish you a very Happy Christmas from everyone here at Manshead. **Term starts for students on Tuesday 5th January at 8.45am.**

Jim Parker
Headteacher

ACTIVITY TRIPS 2010 - PAYMENT DATES

Just to remind parents about the payment dates for the two activity trips running in 2010.

Year 9 - Island Challenge - June 2010.

Three instalments of £50 will be due by:-

- 1) Friday 29th January 2010
- 2) Friday 26th March 2010
- 3) Friday 28th May 2010

Year 10 PGL – July 2010

Two Instalments of £50 will be due by:-

- 1) Friday 29th January 2010
- 2) Friday 26th March 2010

Unfortunately once monies have been paid, no refund will be offered. **All monies need to be paid in at Student Services located in C Block at lunchtime (1.25-2.00pm) in a sealed and labelled envelope stating child's name and trip.**

Can we take this opportunity to remind students that if he/she loses trustee status they will be withdrawn from the above trips.

Mrs Hopkin & Mr Young
Trip Leaders

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COLLEGE CABARET 2009

The build up to the College Cabaret was intense this year – students were rehearsing every lunchtime, after school and even the odd Sunday in preparation from the performances on Thursday 27th and Friday 28th November. As the first performance drew nearer and it was time for the competition to begin for the second year, tension and nerves were high.

Grey-Thompson and Dylan performed first with their piece, *It's your luck day*, in which Thriller and his gang of evil Zombies battled it out to gain control of the world. Picasso and Campbell performed next with *Horror at Hotel Hovel*, a reality TV show with a twist! McCartney and King completed the trio of performances with *It's a monster mix-up*, when during a seemingly innocent Halloween party held by the local evil genius goes horribly wrong and everyone gets turned into Monsters.

The competition between the three college pairings was tight and the judges took a long time to deliberate whilst the Year 13 directors performed a magnificent dance to Michael Jackson's Thriller.

All the students performed magnificently on both nights but at the end of it all, College Cabaret is a competition and there had to be a winner. The judges all agreed that Grey-Thompson and Dylan had produced the strongest performance and receive first place (150 points each) with Picasso and Campbell coming second (100 points each) and King and McCartney third (50 points each).

1st PLACE: GREY-THOMPSON AND DYLAN
(150 points)

2ND PLACE: CAMPBELL AND PICASSO
(100 points)

3RD PLACE: KING AND McCARTNEY
(50 points)

BEST MALE: LUKE BANTAN
(*Dylan and Grey-Thompson*)

BEST FEMALE: DANIELLE DEVINE
(*Picasso and Campbell*)

Well done to everyone who took part and I am already looking forward to next year's performances.

Mr Burt
Learning Manager for Drama

TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT MP3/IPODS AND MOBILE PHONE POLICY - UP DATE

Due to the Health and Safety guidelines within Technology Department we are requesting that students should not bring iPods and Mp3 players/and headphones into their lessons, equally they should not be using mobile phones or have them out on the desk.

We hope you as parents will support us in this action, as teachers we try to provide a safe and secure environment for all of our students to work and achieve in.

If students fail to adhere to this their phones etc will be confiscated and parents will have to collect them from the school office at the end of the week.

Any questions please email me -
malstert@mansheadschoo.co.uk

Mrs T Malster
Learning Manager for Technology

UNAUTHORISED LATENESS

As you are aware, morning registration at Manshead School closes at 9.05am. Any student who arrives after this time without an authorised reason receives an unauthorised late mark. Even though the student is present in school this mark actually leads to an unauthorised absence. Therefore this will lead to a poor attendance level if this happens on a regular basis. If a student receives 10 unauthorised absences in a 12 week period you will receive a Fixed Penalty Notice to ensure that attendance to school does improve.

Mr T Darby
Director of Student Welfare

YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE UPDATE

All students should have made their choices on the Veryan website (www.blebp.co.uk) and brought a letter home detailing dates of Work Experience. For your information the dates are:

K Band: 7th - 11th June 2010
L Band: 14th - 18th June 2010

The choices students have made are either - Their **own placement** which they have found for themselves in a place they would like to work **OR** they should have made **6-10 choices** from job descriptions on the website - the Education Business Partnership and the work related learning team will then place the student in one of their choices.

Once students have submitted onto the website they should have brought a form home for parents to sign and in the case of own placement the employer to fill out and sign. This form is what confirms the placement so it is very important it comes back to school quickly.

We have just a few students still to make choices or find placements and the deadline for submissions has passed - all paperwork needs to be in as soon as possible - please check with your child they have done all that needs to be done. I would like to take the opportunity to thank parents for their patience and co-operation in this first year of Work Experience for the whole year group - it has been

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a learning curve for all involved but without your help we could not have got as far as we have.

If there are any issues please email Mrs Breese - breesek@mansheadschoo.co.uk WRL Admin who will pass any queries to me.

Mrs K Cordt
Learning Manager Extended Curriculum

YEAR 9 ENRICHMENT GROUP

On Wednesday 25th November 14 Yr 9 students from the Gardening Enrichment group went for an exhilarating walk on the Ashridge Estate up to the Ivinghoe Beacon. The walk was quite tough due to strong winds but some students still managed to run up to the beacon! It was a clear sunny day and we enjoyed views of Dunstable and surrounds.

Well done to **Katie Dollimore** who spotted a bird of prey. All students should be congratulated for their good behaviour. Thanks to **Sarah Godfrey** (Yr 12) and Mr. Lodder for their support.

Mrs M Bell, (Gardening Project)
Teacher Modern Foreign Languages

ASHRIDGE VISIT

Today a group of us went on an adventure to Ashridge, for our gardening enrichment. We all had a great time whilst walking around and we saw all the beautiful views and nature from the top of the hills.

When we got to the top we were all nearly blown off by the strong wind. Afterwards we went to the monument; we also went to Ashridge Nature Shop which allowed us to buy refreshments and look around the shop.

Overall I thought it was a good day.

Ben Fowler 9 CaST

FOOD TECHNOLOGY MISSING EQUIPMENT

Please can you check at home for any equipment which may have been borrowed from school to bring food products home from Food Technology lessons.

Please can you return these to school ASAP. (Baking tins, Glass dishes etc)

Also if you have any empty Chocolate tins after Christmas please can you send these into school for the attention of Food Technology (T13). Full ones are welcome too. Thank you.

Mr Young
Food Tech Teacher

RECOMMENDED READING:

Maximum Ride is a young adult science fiction/fantasy series written by the award-winning American author James Patterson.

The series follows six human/avian fugitives. Bred in a science lab called "The School", the Flock endured scientific experiments that rendered them 98% human and 2% avian.

In reading order the titles published so far are:

- *The Angel Experiment*
- *School's Out Forever*
- *Saving the World and Other Extreme Sports*
- *The Final Warning*
- *Max*

All are in stock and available to borrow from our school library.



Mrs Yates
Librarian

TEACHING AND LEARNING – PORTAL SITES FOR YEAR 10/11.

PE

Year 10 and 11 PE students please look at the PE section on the portal under GCSE. There is relevant information and power-points on each theory topic and a coursework section for Year 11, which includes interview sheets. Topics in Year 10 include joints, bones, muscles, circulatory system and the respiratory system. Topics in Year 11 include diet and drugs. For Year 11 there are definition worksheets, tests and a revision checklist. Revision/coursework club runs every Monday lunchtime in D1.

History:

Revision club is every Tuesday A7 after school. On the portal there are revision guides on Germany, Crime and Medicine which students can access.

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There are also spider diagrams as revision aids on Germany which can be printed off and filled in, using the School History website if students need to. There are summary diagrams on Crime which may be useful to provide an overview. For Germany & Crime there is a booklet which lists all the past exam questions that have ever been asked. Obviously Medicine students can use the Germany questions but the Medicine questions will be up soon.

Dance

Links to the set works via YouTube and information/help towards writing their 'Expanded Programme Note' for their choreographies. Students should also have a look at the newly uploaded 'Past Papers' to know what to expect from the written exam.

Maths

Brand new revision materials for GCSE Maths, broken down into 5 Folders:

- Number
- Algebra
- Shape, Space and Measure
- Handling Data
- Trigonometry.

These materials are short and concise with loads of illustrations, which are meant solely to refresh the memory.

Health and Social Care

Revision materials and past papers are on the portal to use to prepare for the January Exam.

Religious Education Short Course

On the RE site of the portal there are a number of past papers which give examples of questions you may be asked in the final examination. There are also links to web sites which can help with revision such as BBC Bitesize. The following list are the topics covered and this should help guide you to the appropriate pages of any web site or past paper you choose to look at -

- The Nature of God
- Religion and Science
- Death and the Afterlife
- Good and Evil
- Religion and Human Relationships
- Religion and Medical Ethics
- Religion and Equality
- Religion, Poverty and Wealth
- Religion, Peace and Justice

German

For year 11 students:

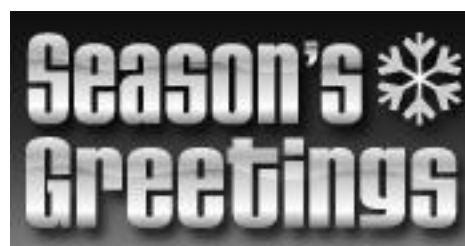
- Where students had gaps for Role Play items (speaking exams) please refer to the core vocabulary list from year 9. Tenses were a difficulty in the speaking exam. To revise, focus on the "perfect tense worksheets" and the "Copy of Core phrases in different tenses" which can both be found in the KS4 area.
- If students follow the link to the "Old Language Site", they will find links to a variety of revision websites, which will cover all areas of exam revision.
- Difficulties in certain topic areas: Depending on how hard students find the topic areas, they can complete the worksheets from the Year 9 and/or KS4 site. Topic areas are clearly labelled. Please hand in completed worksheets to Mrs. Guest for marking and feedback.

Geography

Yr 11 Geographers need to use the student area of the portal and go to HUMANITIES/NEW GEOGRAPHY/YR11/ REVISION. Here most of the revision material is available. Websites like: BBC BITESIZE, JUICYGEOGRAPHY, S_COOL, GEORESOURCES, are also helpful for basic revision. Also students should be completing their coursework if they have not done so already and the resources linked for that can be found on the student area of the portal under: HUMANITIES/ NEW GEOGRAPHY/ YR11/ COURSEWORK/ HELPSHEETS.

SWINE FLU VACCINATION OF CHILDREN IN HIGH RISK GROUPS

Please see the letter from Bedfordshire Primary Care Trust that is attached to this newsletter.



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