



Manshead Upper School

Issue 7 Spring Half Term 2



Email: office@mansheadschoo.co.uk

Website: www.mansheadschoo.co.uk



Welcome to another issue of our Arts Newsletter. All four subject areas are working very hard at present to ensure coursework and deadlines are met in the lead up to the exam season. Along with that you will see that we have a half term full of activities for you to get involved with or come and watch.

Manshead were awarded Artsmark status by the Arts Council of England towards the end of the last academic year, therefore we are always looking to improve the standards within our successful departments. For more information about the award please log on to: www.artscouncil.org.uk/artsmark

Mr T Hooper

Learning Manager for Dance

Sixth form visit to Cambridge

On 23rd February the sixth form Art students visited Cambridge as part of their exam preparation. This went very well- a busy day with three venues visited; more details in the next newsletter.

Beauty and the Beast

This year's school production is the Disney production of 'Beauty and the Beast'. The students have been working really hard, including rehearsing every Sunday for a month in the lead up to the opening night- next Thursday! The show will run for 3 evenings, Thursday 11th-Saturday 13th March and each performance will begin at 7.30pm. Tickets are sold at the Box Office every lunch break- Adults £6, Concessions £4 and a family ticket is £18. It is guaranteed to be an event not to be missed!

Drama Students of the Half-Term (January & February)

Congratulations to Year 11 Students Lizzie Isaacs, Dean Blunt and Joe Hawkins who made considerable improvement this term towards their GCSE Target Grades.

Congratulations to Year 11 Students Nadine Turk, Danielle Fitzgerald, Lewis Hassell, Katie Roberts, Rebecca Brett and Lizzie Isaacs who all achieved an A/A* for their Paper 1 Unit 2 Practical Coursework on Woman in Black.

Congratulations to the following students on their music exam success:

Abigail Banton	grade 5 flute
Esme Griffiths	grade 5 saxophone
Oliver Nash	grade 6 rock guitar

'Chitty, Chitty, Bang, Bang!'- MK Theatre- 25th Feb 2010

A group of year 9 Expressive Arts students travelled to MK Theatre last week to watch the above performance. Although the show had to be stopped due to technical difficulties (Chitty wouldn't fly!)- the performance was first class! The students who attended were all well behaved- for some of the students it was their first time in a theatre and it was a pleasure to be part of their experience.

Well done to one and all- looking forward to next year's already! ☺

ART

Recently twelve sixth form students were involved with Freeform working on designs for the entrance to the underground car park for the new flats near Manshead; Daniel Bianchi, Sarah, Norman, Eleanor Ripper, Shaun Jenkins, Joe Burchell, Steph Pettingel, Ellis Rayner, Hamish Dinsdale, Abby Middleton, Lucy Featherstone, Mel Milton and Becky Mulcahy

ANDREW DWYER Senior Project Manager Free Form Arts Trust organised the day with the client on the London Road development. The participating pupils went on a site visit to the development and they were provided with safety hardhat for the site visit. The art workshop day included an introduction to the project, visual research, mood boards, initial sketch ideas and developing a final design. These will be presented to the client by some of the students, they will select the design they feel will work best. This will then be produced and put onto the building by June/ July 2010. It was a very successful day with some strong designs produced. Good luck in the selection process.

Frantic Assembly Workshop

I am pleased to announce that a professional theatre company, Frantic Assembly, will be coming into Manshead School on Thursday 25th March to work students from Manshead School. The workshop is primarily for Year 12 As Level students who study Frantic Assembly as part of their Unit 1 practical and written coursework, but students in Year 13 and gifted and talented students from Key Stage 4 will be given the opportunity to participate on a first-come-first-serve basis

It is absolutely magnificent to have the chance to work with someone from Frantic Assembly. It will be an amazing opportunity to meet someone from the company, see how they work and learn from them. It will be of extreme benefit to student's current studies and the preparation for their practical exams in May.

Mr K. Burt

Up and coming theatre trips

There is a theatre trip for Year 12 students to see My Zinc Bed at the Royal and Derngate Theatre in Northampton and a trip for Year 13 students to see Romeo and Juliet by the Royal Shakespeare Company in Stratford. We are always looking to take students to see challenging and exciting theatre in the region and in London, but we are also aware of the cost of such trips to parents and carers. There are always several options available to parents/carers about how they pay for the trips and if you are concerned about the cost of any trip, please contact me on kburt@mansheadschoo.co.uk

Young Musician of the Year Concert

Robert Foster, a gifted year 11 student, won the Toddington Young Musician of the Year Award 2010. In celebration of winning this award, Rob was asked to organise a concert. This took place on Saturday 6th February and the programme included performances by Rob and other Manshead students. It was a great success and the Music department would like to say congratulations to Robert on winning this award.

Year 9 Drama Days!

All year 9 students will be participating in a Shakespeare drama workshop allowing them to explore a set text through a series of practical tasks. The students will be working with different members of staff from Drama and English. These workshops have been a huge success in recent years and we are looking forward to the workshop later in March again this year!

Mrs L. Peacock

Art & Design- Year 9

Year nine students' designs for Artsmark are being completed and the best will be published in the next newsletter. We will upload a colour copy to the school's website.

Good Luck to the Music Students

Exam season is fast approaching and the Music department would like to wish year 11, 12 and 13 Music students all the best of luck for your practical performances. We are looking forward to hearing the plethora of extraordinary talent that our students have!

Dance Show 2010

On Tuesday 30th March there will be a performance that showcases all the A level and GCSE exam choreographies. This is open to parents and friends and will be displayed in the Hall. Tickets will be on sale on the evening, £2 Adults, £1 for Concessions. This event will be a fantastic opportunity to see some of the very creative and original dance works created by our students before they are presented to the AQA moderator in April .
Thanks for your support in advance.

Mr T. Hooper

Road Safety DVD Filming Underway!

Over half-term several students and I have been working hard filming the Road Safety film called 'If Only...' written by students here at Manshead School as part of a competition run by Luton Borough Council Road Safety Unit. The filming has been a great success so far and we are set to create a really excellent resource for schools across the country to use in educating young people about the dangers of road safety, and in particular, seat belt safety.

GROVE DANCE 2010

Manshead School Students will be performing yet again in the annual 'Grove Dance' show. We performed last year and have been invited back. This year we will be performing a selection of GCSE performance pieces and also showcasing some original work by the A level dance students. Miss O'Hara will also be working with the Year 10 class to perform a work based on the modern choreographer Anne

Amended Coursework Deadlines for Year 11 Drama GCSE

A restructure of the deadlines for Paper 1 Unit 1 and Paper 1 Unit 2 Coursework are as follows;

- Paper 1 Unit 1 FINAL DEADLINE - Monday 1st March
- Theatre Review of Blood Brothers / Woman in Black FINAL DEADLINE - Monday 8th March
- Paper 1 Unit 2 (Woman in Black Response & Development Phase) 1ST DRAFT - Monday 15th March

This is to reflect some of the difficulties and challenges some people have had in completing the coursework. A reminder to all students that there are help sessions held in the library every Thursday lunchtime for students who want help with their written coursework.

Drama & Dance Studio availability for open rehearsals

	Lunchtime	Afterschool
Monday	Open Rehearsal Space for Exams	Year 13 Lessons
Tuesday	Open Rehearsal Space for Exams	Year 10 Diploma Group
Wednesday	Christian Union	Open Rehearsal Space for Exams
Thursday	Self Defence classes (Drama Studio) Target Drama Help Sessions (Library)	Year 12 Lessons
Friday	Open Rehearsal Space for Exams	

We are coming into the time of year when students are preparing for performance exams and so the Studio will be available for Open Rehearsals at lunchtimes and after school (see table). At the moment, anyone can come in and rehearse in the Studio but after Easter students will need to book the space for rehearsals.

Circadia Dance Company

Circadia is a dance group that will be running every Tuesday after school from Tuesday 16th March 2010. We will be rehearsing in the Hall and working towards displaying the final piece in a competition at the University of Bedfordshire during June.

For more details please speak to Miss D. O'Hara

DSO

The DSO (Dunstables Schools' Orchestra) rehearses at Manshead Upper School on a weekly basis during term time. The ensemble meet at 4.10-5pm and any student from any school is welcome. The ensemble, unlike most other things in life, is completely free-of-charge!

Thanks, Mr Hooper

YEAR 11 MUSIC BLOG

'In the present day young people believe that popular music such as hip-hop, club and R 'n' B is the only style of music available for their age group. However, music such as fusions is stereotypically unknown in this generation-good examples are African-Rock Fusion and Highlife. The works combine African and English lyrics, synth driven sounds and have an up-beat tempo. Why no try listening to 'Homeless' by Paul Simon?'

Nadine Turk & Rebecca Brett

The Arts Staff

Learning Manager for Art: Mrs C. Williams- williamsc@mansheadschoo.co.uk

Learning Manager for Dance: Mr T. Hooper- hoopert@mansheadschoo.co.uk

Learning Manager for Drama: Mr K. Burt- bumsteadk@mansheadschoo.co.uk

Learning Manager for Music: Mrs D. Owen- owend@mansheadschoo.co.uk

Teachers of Art: Mrs N. Cawte, Mrs N. Moody, Mr C. Travell & Mr N. Willis

Teacher of Dance: Mrs D. Owen, Miss D. O'Hara

Teacher of Drama: Mrs S. Fitzsimmons

Teachers of Music/ Music Technology: Mr R. Gurney & Mr T. Hooper