



Manshead Upper School

Issue 12 Spring Half Term 1



Email: office@mansheadschoo.co.uk
Website: www.mansheadschoo.co.uk



Happy New Year to one and all! As we look ahead to 2011, we can assure you a very lively and busy schedule for all students who wish to participate within the Arts subjects. We also recognise the recent achievement of our school, as published on the BBC website, detailing that we are the highest achieving upper school in Dunstable. We hope to build on this success and offer more opportunities over the come year.

Manshead were awarded Artsmark status by the Arts Council of England towards the end of 2009, therefore we are always looking to improve the standards within our successful departments. For more information about the award please logon to:

www.artscouncil.org.uk/artsmark

Mr T Hooper
Acting Learning Manager for Music and Dance

The 'Graded Music Exam Challenge'

If you're interested in learning a new instrument then wait no longer! The **Music dept at Manshead will pay the fee** on your **grade one exam** on an instrument of your choice*. We would expect that as we are doing this for you, then **you would turn up once a week** to an ensemble and join in the fun!

For more details or to ask for us to pay for your exam entry speak to Mr Hooper-offer for this academic year only!

* Instruments included in the offer are:

Cello, Double Bass, Viola, Bassoon, Oboe, Piccolo, Tenor Saxophone, Trombone, Tuba, Eb Horn, French Horn, Baritone Horn

Keyboard for Sale

A full-sized keyboard is being sold in very good condition. This belongs to Mrs Wilson who is selling it as it is no longer used. The keyboard comes with a keyboard stand, fully boxed along with some music books. Total price is just £70.

For more information please contact the music department or Mrs Wilson in the front office.

Art A LEVEL

6th form mocks are scheduled to be on 9th or 11th February- please ensure you have all your preparation completed. A visit to Oxford is going to be organised for your actual exam preparation, date to be confirmed Feb./March
Mrs Williams and Art Team

A Level Dance Workshop- Richard Alston Dance Company

On Tuesday 23rd November 2010, all AS and A2 Level Dance students (plus some Gifted and Talented GCSE students) are participating in a workshop delivered by the biggest contemporary dance company in the country- Richard Alston Dance Company. All payments to be handed in by Friday 19th November 2010.

Thanks, Mr Hooper and Miss O'Hara

Music Exam Successes

Gemma Johnson- Grade 6 Voice
Anna Lawrence- Grade 8 Voice
Jamie Chapman- Grade 5 Theory of Music
Amy Webb- Grade 5 Theory of Music
Olivia Copeland- Grade 5 Theory of Music
Courtney Spoerer- Grade 7 Flute
Sarah Fisher- Grade 4 Drums
Conah Snuggs- Grade 3 Piano
Amy Bianchi Grade 5 Voice

A very big well done to all students here! Music exams are often hard to fit in around all the other school work and these grades take a great deal of commitment and hard work to pass! Many students gained Merits and Distinctions! Well done and keep up the good work!

Mr Hooper

DSO

The DSO (Dunstable 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! We have currently played some excellent pieces, ranging from 'Spiderman' to 'Hungarian Dances' by Brahms. As we develop in numbers more we will be able to perform at bigger events, so please encourage as many students as possible to join this flourishing music ensemble.

Thanks. Mr Hooper

Winter Concert

The poor weather before we broke up for the Christmas holidays meant that the Christmas Concert had to be postponed. I am pleased to say that the Winter Concert, Thursday 13th January, was a big success and all students performed brilliantly!

Thanks to Amy Bianchi, Mrs Yates and Mark Lawrence (Parent Governor) for reading during the concert.

Special thanks to Anna Lawrence for organising the biblical readings and the CU for their vocal piece that was included in the programme.

Fame: The Musical!

Rehearsals for this year's production are now well and truly underway. For weekly rehearsal schedules please check the Arts page on the portal.

Tickets will go on sale the week after half term (sold by Mrs Foster and Mrs Smith from Humanities)- the dates of the performances are:

Thursday 10th, Friday 11th and Saturday 12th March, 7:30pm.

The show will offer many hit numbers that you will be familiar with including the title hit: There She Goes/Fame!

Monday lunchtime	Show Choir	MI
Tuesday after school	DSO	Hall
	(4.10-5pm)	
Wednesday lunchtime	String Group	MI
Wednesday after school	Chamber Choir	MI
Thursday before school	GCSE Music	MI
Thursday after school	Band	Hall

Lunchtime rehearsals are 1.40-2.05pm.
We look forward to seeing you there!

A Level Art/Photography Students- Paris Visit

PLEASE decide to come to Paris if you are taking “A” level art or photography, a few places left. Email or come to see Mrs. Williams in T7. This is an excellent opportunity to visit a wide range of interesting places. The drawings and photographs produced whilst there will be used as the start for A/S coursework.

New Member of Staff

This term we welcome Miss P. Molloy to the dance department. Miss Molloy will be teaching a variety of year groups and will be with us until July. We hope she enjoys her time at Manshead School.

Manshead Concert Band

A big thank you to all members of the concert band for their commitments to performances over the Christmas Season. We had two very successful performances within the local community again this year- London Luton Airport and Dunstable Shopping Centre. Many members of the public commented on the high standards displayed and it was a pleasure to spend time with those students involved.

Many thanks, as ever, to you all!

Mr Hooper

BYDC EXTRA

Bedfordshire Youth Dance Company has just launched its sister company BYDC EXTRA. The original company has been in existence for many years and they rehearse in the North of Bedfordshire- making it very difficult for students in Manshead and other local schools to participate. BYDC EXTRA is run by choreographer Laura Gibson and rehearse every week at Manshead in the Dance Studio (Friday 3:45-5:15pm). Students gain a place in the company after a successful audition. I am pleased to say that many Manshead students from years 9-13 were successful along with students from Harlington Upper and Luton Sixth Form. Congratulations to those students involved! Further auditions will be held later on in the year.



CALLING ALL YEAR 9 STUDENTS

For the first time ever, all year 9 students at Manshead are going to work towards gaining a recognized award in the arts by the end of their year 9 Expressive Arts course. Students have been studying Expressive Arts on a rotation between 3 subjects up to this point, including: Dance, Drama and Music. After February half term students will be beginning work on learning new skills, creating a presentation about someone they find inspirational within the arts and then leading other students through learning new skills. The award is focused on the arts but has many transferable skills that can be applied to other subjects. A letter will be sent home about the award within the next few weeks- more information will be contained in this letter.

We look forward to you gaining your Bronze Arts Awards.

Thanks,

Mr Hooper, Mr Burt and Miss O'Hara

Teachers of Expressive Arts

University/College/Conservatoire

Good luck to all year 13 applying to further and higher education art/dance/drama/music related courses. Let us know how you get on at your interviews/auditions.

The Arts Staff

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

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

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

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

Teachers of Dance: Miss D. O'Hara and Miss Molloy

Teacher of Drama: Mrs S. Fitzsimmons

Teacher of Music/ Music Technology: Mr R. Gurney

Teachers of Expressive Arts: Mr K. Burt, Mr T. Hooper & Miss D. O'Hara