

Manshead School

Newsletter

Useful information for students, parents and the community

Manshead School

Tel: 01582 679400

Fax: 01582 679411

Email: office@mansheadschoo.co.uk

Website: www.mansheadschoo.co.uk

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Welcome to our second Newsletter of the term. I hope that by now we have sorted out some of the problems we have had in emailing the newsletter to parents and that you are now in the habit of looking out for it in your inbox.

We have had two well attended Parents information evenings for parents of Year 9 and Year 10 students and next week will be the turn of Year 11 parents to find out more about what the year holds for them. We hope that these events have been useful – if there are any further queries do not hesitate to contact the school. It is useful to remind all parents that the Learning Guide is the first contact with school and if you have concerns don't delay in getting in contact with them.

It was wonderful to see so many parents at the achievement evening. on Thursday last week, celebrating the success of the students. It was also great to hear from James Patterson-Waterston, a former student of school, about his life since he left school. It was inspirational to hear about the opportunities he has had since leaving the sixth form. The music was as always excellent so thanks to all those involved in performing during the evening.

As we are now in the third week of term all students have had enough time to familiarise themselves with their timetables and the school day. We will be picking up those students who are late for lessons from next week so please help us to enforce this by reminding your son or daughter about the importance of punctuality. On another matter I am really pleased with the attendance rates this term so far - thank you for your support in helping us to achieve good attendance.

Jim Parker
Headteacher

USE OF MOBILE TELEPHONES DURING LESSONS

I would like to remind you that the use of mobile telephones is not allowed during lesson time. Please could parents not phone or text the students during lesson times as students are requesting to leave lessons to take calls or to reply to text messages. If you need to contact your child during the school day for emergency purposes then please contact the school office and they will pass on the message.

If students are found to be using their mobile telephone during lessons they may have it confiscated.

All mobile phones should be turned off during lesson time.

T. Darby
Director of Student Welfare

FIRST AID DEPARTMENT

Students should not ask permission to go to the First Aid department for headaches and other minor complaints – they will be sent back to lesson as we are not allowed to keep any medication (tablets). The first aid department is specifically for accidents and emergencies only. Students may carry a one day supply of pain relieving tablets on them and may also carry a bottle of their own drinking water which can be refilled at push taps around the school premises.

Students should not contact their parents by mobile phone if they feel unwell. If a teacher feels it absolutely necessary they will give the student a permission slip to go to first aid and if they have a

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temperature or are extremely unwell, the school will make any phone calls necessary.

If at any time, your child's medical needs change, can you please advise the school as a matter of urgency, in writing, to enable us to keep the records up to date.

ACHIEVEMENT EVENING 2011

Last summer, 9 of our students entered the Cambridge Chemistry Challenge; a competition which is aimed at the brightest Year 12 chemistry students in the country, and which is meant to be a rehearsal for next year's Chemistry Olympiad. (The Olympiad is a Year 13 competition which selects a team to represent England in an annual international Chemistry tournament). 2800 student entries were received by the organisers, and certificates were awarded to the best-scoring candidates. In a moment of Chemical whimsy, the organisers named the awards after a group of elements in one vertical column of the periodic table.

The following students gained these special awards :

Copper Award - Courtney Spoerer

Silver Award - Josh Hamblin / Nathan Killen

Gold Award - Rob Hornby

...unlike the real Olympics, Gold was not the pinnacle of achievement This student can't have an actual medal, because this metal is lethally radioactive! but, winning the

Roentgenium Award, and finishing in the **top 30 candidates in the whole country - Matt Johnson**

Other award winners were :

Band Player of the Year - **Corey Snuggs**

The Musician of the Year - **Joshua Puddefoot**

Dunstable Arts Council Award - **Amy Bianchi**

Ian Greenley Cup - For the most outstanding contribution to the life of the school in Years 12 & 13 - **Taila Hewitt & Davie Parker**

Graham Kellett Prize - For the most outstanding sporting performance - **Jack Turner**

Ted Anketell-Jones Award - For the most outstanding contribution to the spiritual life of the school - **Abbie Banton**

The Duncan Tweed Prize - For outstanding contribution in Science - **Aimee Pearson**

Also, this year, one of our students won the prestigious **Williams Award** for the most outstanding A level results in the area. Edwina Grant, Director of Children's Services, attended to present **Rebecca Bianchi** with her engraved paperweight, cheque and certificate.

Well Done everyone!

Sue Wilson

PA to Headteacher

DofE GOLD GROUP

Our Manshead-Queensbury Gold group went to Snowdonia for their Assessed Expedition in early September. They were greeted by the hurricanes that had tracked across the Atlantic over the previous week and experienced the most extraordinary weather conditions on top of the challenges of having to live entirely out of their rucksacks for four days and nights. They had to re-plan their routes frequently when the rains washed footpaths clean away, and on their last night the winds reached 95mph and threatened to rip their tents to shreds. Notwithstanding, they kept bouncing back cheerfully in the face of whatever the hurricanes threw at them. At the end of the four days the two Assessors rated them as the best team that they had ever seen, and the group of six all reflected that although the conditions were not what they would have chosen their sense of pride in what they had achieved was immense. Next stop Buckingham Palace to be presented with their Award Certificates by Prince Edward

Our photo shows the group coming in to Pen-y-Pass (where Mallory lived and trained before Everest) at the end of their final day. The students are **Chantelle Howell, Laura Donoghue, Chris Rhodes, Myah Guild, Hannah Winton & Tom Firth.**



Ian Stowe
DofE Centre Leader

SPANISH EXCHANGE

The Modern Foreign Languages Department is delighted to be able to offer the opportunity for Year 10-13 Spanish students to take part in an exchange with our partner school in La Garriga, just outside Barcelona.

The trip will be a week in Spain where Manshead students will study at SEK Catalunya with their Spanish partners and be involved in trips to historical sites, such as the Sagrada Familia church and other trips including for example: a theme park, Camp Nou football stadium, local shops etc. This is a great opportunity for students to put all their language skills to the test as well as build life long friendships.

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Students from SEK Catalunya will then come to stay with their partners here at Manshead and will attend school as well as having activities organised for them.

If you are interested, please ask your Spanish teacher for a letter with further details.

Mrs M. Bell (bellm@mansheadschoo.co.uk)
Teacher of Spanish

MAJOR ARTISTS TO APPEAR AT ROCK CHORUS AT CHARITY GIG TO RAISE THOUSANDS OF £'S FOR LOCAL CANCER CARE

The three counties very own community choir "Rock Chorus" have attracted some major international names to appear with them at what looks set to be the biggest music entertainment extravaganza the area has seen for many years. Planning is well underway for the gig to be held at the **Dunstable Conference Centre on Saturday 15th October 2011** with some great names already set to appear alongside **Rock Chorus** including: **Mungo Jerry, Alvin Stardust, Osibisa, Voices with Soul, Tight Fit, Lauren Field and Dylanesque. TV's Nick Knowles and Nicky Campbell, Graham Gouldman of 10CC, Ruby Turner and Bachman and Turner** are filming especially for the event.

Organizing the event with Rock Chorus is the veteran record producer Charles Foscett who previously has worked with names such as Paul McCartney, Ringo Starr, Cliff Richard and Elvis Costello. Charles is no stranger to bringing together artists for a cause. He was responsible for putting together The Anti Heroin Project, a Band Aid for the anti drug campaign (EMI) which attracted international attention and featured major names from around the world.

Charles, himself a cancer survivor said
"The reason we are all coming together to show our support and make this event happen in Dunstable, is to raise much needed funds through the "Singit Back" project www.singitback.net - to continue the fantastic improvements in cancer diagnosis and treatments that have taken place at the Macmillan Cancer Support Unit at the Luton and Dunstable Hospital - without which I would not be here today to instigate and pull together this project"

The whole programme is being filmed for documentary and DVD – featuring even more interviews and performances from a whole host of international artists and celebrities both from the UK and abroad – a true one-off entertainment special!! This show will be a 'Sell Out' so to book your tickets now by calling The Luton and Dunstable Hospital booking line on 01582 718043 - **Tickets are priced at just £12.**

Get this date into your diaries now – don't miss out on

a very unique one-off concert!

If you love singing and are interested in joining Rock Chorus – Have the most fun you will ever have standing up guaranteed! - No audition! - No prior experience required! Everyone is Welcome!

Come along for a "Free Taster Session" – New term starts week commencing 12th September, 2011

Call or email us now for details of your nearest rehearsal venue,
Times and dates - 01582 668211 – info@rock-chorus.com www.rock-chorus.com
www.facebook.com/rockchorus

For further editorial information from:

Charles Foscett
P.O. Box 4232 Dunstable
Bedfordshire LU5 4XR
01582 609720

INSPIRATION FOR THE NEXT GENERATION OF D&T UNDERGRADUATES!

Last week, the Technology department hosted seven ex-Manshead students, currently studying Design & Technology related subjects at University. The purpose of the visit was to inspire current GCSE and A Level students of Graphics, Textiles and Product Design and to provide practical advice about the pathways to relevant courses after A Levels.

Some feedback from students that attended;

'I found it really helpful to speak to someone that is studying the course I want to do at university. I felt that talking to him and looking through his work helped me in wanting to pursue architecture even more and gave me an idea of what to expect from the course and also University life'. **Adam Hussain Year 13.**

'The session was a great idea, as it gives you an idea what people have achieved through the study of product design and graphics and also you learn what they study at university and the fields you can go through these two subjects. I really enjoyed the session because of these things, as it makes you aware of what you can do with these qualifications'. **Amar Gohil Year 10.**

Huge thanks to the visiting students (listed below) - their achievements are truly inspirational to students and teachers alike. Also grateful thanks to teachers for allowing Year 10-13 students to attend the drop-in session.

Catherine Pratt (Technical Textiles)
Shaun Jenkins (Architecture)
Sarah Norman (Graphics)
Hannah Chivers (Fashion)
Yvette Gilmartin (Fashion)
Emily Aherne (Theatre Design)
Elliot Evans (Product Design)

C Brooks
Manshead Technology Department

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SPORT AT MANSHEAD

Year 10 Hockey

Manshead v Cedars

Won 5 - 0

A great start to the season. We absolutely dominated Cedars who didn't get close to scoring

Miss N Cross

KS4 Coordinator

LUNCH TIME ACTIVITY

Are you bored at lunch time?

Why not come to the library and look through the latest Guinness



World Records?

You could join one of our book groups – we meet one lunch time every half term.

Just pop in and put your name down. All year groups welcome.

Mrs Yates

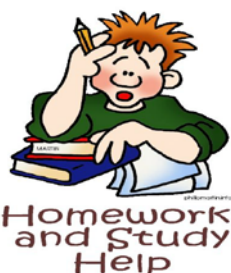
Librarian

STUDY CLUB

Having trouble with coursework, homework, revision?

Or just need a little help in a certain subject:

anything from writing a PEEL paragraph to algebra!



Study Club runs **everyThursday**

from **3:15pm to 4:30pm** in the **Library**.

Everyone and all abilities welcome

Ms Andrew and Mrs. Thomas, with a growing selection of 6th Formers (from every subject area!) are on hand to help.

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