

The response to our new approach to the newsletter was very favourable so we propose to continue. Our regular weekly (or perhaps sometimes fortnightly) newsletter will be distributed as a simple, easy & quick to read list of what we need most urgently to bring to the attention of parents.

Jim Parker

Headteacher

Ofsted

By now you should have received your copy of the Ofsted report in the post. If you have not then please contact the school and we will make sure you receive one.

Year 11 Parent Consultation Evening - Weds Nov 9th

Wednesday coming (Nov 9th) 4.30pm-7.30pm. Students should have made appointments for parents with teachers and with their Learning Guide. This is a really important event in a very important year for the students. Please do come along as parent and student together to make sure that the messages are shared effectively.

Domestic violence and teenage relationships

As part of the whole school Personal Development Education programme we have invited **Luton Women's Aid** to come in and deliver a one off session to year 11 regarding domestic violence and teenage relationships. The exact date will vary for different classes but the session will be held between now and Jan 11th. We wanted to ensure all parents were aware of this as it may provoke discussion within your families and households in the future - it also allows you as parents and guardians the chance to opt out if this is your wish.

If you have any concerns regarding this session or indeed Personal Development Education please contact myself or Mrs Bell (Learning Manager for PDE) bellm@mansheadschoo.co.uk

Thank You for your co-operation

Mrs Kerry Cordt (Learning Manager for Extended Curriculum)
cordtk@mansheadschoo.co.uk.

Curtis Hughes

You may remember that Curtis was competing in the European Kick Boxing Championships held in Italy over half term. I am delighted to report that he won a silver medal! Well done to Curtis – more about this will be published in the new termly glossy newsletter later this term.

Challenge Week

Manshead will be holding a 'Challenge Week' during the 7th-11th November 2011. The aims of this week are to encourage students to respond to challenge and to provide opportunities to stretch and extend their experiences and learning. Various activities will be taking place, from Oxbridge workshops to Y10/Y11 students visiting Sixth Form lessons, to the introduction of Sixth Form mentors to support selected Y11 students to achieve their A/A* grades at GCSE.

To celebrate the first Challenge week, we will be holding a school-wide competition that all year groups can get involved in. Each department has created a 'Challenge Question' which students are invited to respond to. Students can choose any way of responding - article,

essay, website, drawing, composition - anything! The idea is that students respond to the question with their very best independent work by the first week in December. This will be judged by each department and final winners selected by Mr Parker and his team in the New Year. Prizes will be awarded! Keep your eyes on the portal and posters around school for more details.

We urge as many students to enter as possible; after all, as Sean Connery observes, 'There is nothing like a challenge to bring out the best in man'.

Miss C Brooks

Dance! at Manshead

There is an opportunity for all dancers and those interested in going to see the 'Nutcracker' by Matthew Bourne at the Sadler's Wells Theatre, London on the 8th of December. It is a newly adapted Ballet with a twist of Contemporary Dance and Performance Theatre. If you are interested please speak to Miss O'Hara.

Opportunities to dance inside school:

- Wednesday lunchtime- Street Dance (open to ages and abilities! 1.40 in the studio)
- Wednesday after school for all GCSE and A Level dancers (3.30-4.30 in the studio)

Please feel free to come and watch first time and see if it is your thing... it is great fun!!

Miss O'Hara (Learning Manager of Dance)