



Manshead School Arts Newsletter

Autumn Term 2011 Issue 15

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Cabarets, Curtain Raisers and Cheerios

by Mr Burt

Merry Christmas and welcome to the new look Arts Newsletter for the Autumn Term. Since the end of the 2009/2010 academic year there have been a few changes, a few new developments and some fantastic success to celebrate. It has been a very busy term for all the Arts Departments at Manshead and that's not just with Ofsted coming!

Successful performances

2009/2010 was a strong year for exam results for Arts based subjects at Key Stage 4. The first year of BTEC Drama saw a 100% pass rate and both GCSE and BTEC Art saw a pass rate of over 90%. We want to congratulate everyone who took an Arts subject and Key Stage 4 and 5, and wish them well with whatever comes next for them. This term also saw two big performances, College Cabaret and Blue Remembered Hills. College Cabaret is an inter-college competition where the colleges compete to create the best all-singing, all-dancing and all-acting performance. BTEC Drama students also had the opportunity to perform in their production of Blue Remembered Hills.

Our House

I am also pleased to announce that there will be a school production this academic year – whilst the old team of Mrs Owen and Mr Hooper may have left – there is a new show-team of Mr Burt and Miss O'Hara and we are very excited about it. After plenty of deliberation about what show to do, we hope to do Out House, a musical based on the music of Madness. Auditions are in January and we're very excited.

All Change Please!

There have been some changes taking place in the Music / Dance / Drama departments this term. Over the summer the Drama Studio was given a facelift a new paint job and some new lights put up, both of which have made the space a much more pleasant space to learn in, given students access to more facilities for performance and made the space more useable by both Dance and Drama students. There have also been some big changes in the Music Department and at the end of this term we say a sad farewell to Mrs Owen, who has taught music here at Manshead School for 11 years. We also say good luck to Mrs Cawte, who is leaving us in January for maternity leave.

Goodbye Mrs Owen!

Manshead Upper School says a sad farewell to Mrs Owen, who has been teaching Music at Manshead for 11 years.

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College Cabaret

by Mr Burt

College Cabaret was another great success with two fun packed evenings of all dancing, all singing and all acting fun. This year's performances were based on the theme of Pirates. Whilst it is a huge amount of fun, it is also a competition and this year the competition between the three college pairings was fierce and there was little between them. All three performances were extraordinary and some of the best College Cabaret performances we've seen to date. However, there had to be a winner and here is an outline of who won what:

- Dylan and Campbell won overall
- Picasso and Grey-Thompson won Best Music
- McCartney and King won Best Use of Chorus
- Luke Pearce and Peter Lawrence won Best Male Actor Awards
Ami Bianchi, Sophie Kesterton and Gemma Johnson won Best Female Actor Awards
- Connor Blennerhassett won Best Newcomer Award
- Miss Rudling and Mrs Goulding won Best Performance from a Teacher.

Well done to everyone who took part and I'm already looking forward to next year!

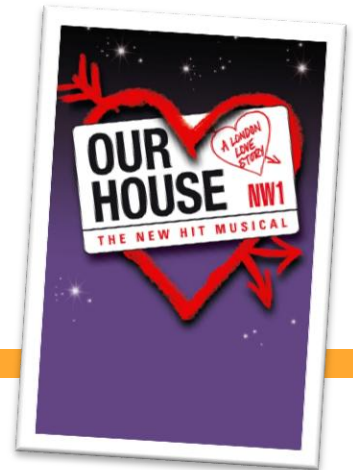


Our House!

by Mr Burt and Miss O'Hara

Miss O'Hara and Mr Burt are pleased to announce details of this year's musical. The musical is Our House, a London Love Story that uses music of Madness. Our House is brilliantly boisterous and everything you'd expect from a musical based on Madness music. It is a fast paced, action packed, hilarious musical that will have the audience dancing in the aisles.

Auditions will be early in January 2012, so watch out for news on the School Portal and through your Learning Guide. If you can't wait that long, have a look at this: <http://www.ourhousethemusical.co.uk/>



Up Coming Dates

25th January 2011

Sixth Form Arts Trip to Cambridge

26th January 2011

Year 11 Drama Performance

1st February 2011

Key Stage 4 Options Evening

21st - 24th March 2011

Our House School Production

29th March 2011

Dance Showcase

Goodbye to Mrs Owen

by Mrs Owen

I will be leaving Manshead at the end of this term and wanted to take this opportunity to say thank you. I can honestly say that I have loved working at Manshead and I realise that I am a lucky person that can say that they actually enjoyed their job! In the 11 years I have been here I have worked with wonderful, dedicated members of staff and would particularly like to thank those with whom I have worked closely in the Performing Arts and also those who have willingly given up their time to play with and support the school ensembles.

Most of all I would like to say a huge thank you to the people I spend most of my time with, the students. Whether it be in the classroom or in extra-curricular activities, it has been a real privilege and they have made my time at the school so enjoyable. Outstanding talent in the Arts is in abundance at Manshead and I hope that that will always be recognised and celebrated.

I have many treasured memories to take with me as I embark on a different journey and I would like to wish students and staff all the very best for the future. So long, farewell, au revoir, goodbye.

GREAT YEAR OF SUCCESS FOR THE ARTS

GCSE / BTEC Results 2011

2010-2011 saw a good set of results for all our Year 11 students who took Arts based subjects at Key Stage 4. Well done to all our students. Here's how the results looked:

ART GCSE

91% Passed Art GCSE

ART BTEC

90% Passed Art BTEC

DANCE GCSE

84% Passed Dance GCSE

DRAMA BTEC

100% Passed Drama BTEC

MUSIC GCSE

69% Passed Music GCSE

OPTION EVENING FOR 2012-2014

Key Stage 4 Options Evening is coming up soon and it is vital to keep your options open when choosing what subjects to study. Obviously, there is strong emphasis at the moment on the English Baccalaureate, and that is important when considering what happens in your future, but don't forget that the English Baccalaureate won't take up all your option blocks. Having an creative, arts based subject as one of your Key Stage 4 options is often seen by employers as a good choice. Come and see one of us at the Key Stage 4 Options Evening.

Paris 2011

"The trip to Paris was great; we were a street away from Mika playing a concert. Although the trip took quite a while we managed to stay awake to listen to his music! Although we were there to view art work and do our own we also got to see the fireworks from our room on Bastille Day. The Pompidou Centre was one of my favourite places to view the art

. It was modern and bold and encouraged me to try three dimensional work more. L'Orangie had more of an authentic look; It had huge canvases and big sculptures, but the people we spoke to there were friendly and most could speak English, and if all else failed most of us had a bag of sweets and drinks in our room! The art trip was most definitely worth going on as you get to make new friends with the other school and I finally went to the top of the Eiffel Tower."

-Imogen Snee

"I enjoyed the food, and I really liked studying the buildings and their structure, the architecture at Saint Chappelle particularly." -Daniel Kearney

"I found a lot of things to photograph at Monet's garden, and the j'eu de pomme, and I found using soft focus really effective. The trip made us all closer as a group." - Faith James

"The Masonry at Pierrefonds was incredible – sketching there has really helped me with my shading." -Teri Lau

The Eridge trust supported this trip and we would like to thank them for this financial help, which enabled our students to visit a variety of art related areas in France.

It has been an excellent experience and all benefitted, being able to take photographs and fill a sketchbook to prepare them for their "A" level coursework.



Pictures from Top: Sketching in Pierrefonds, Monet's Garden, The Pompidou Centre and Left: Dinner out in Paris.



WANT TO GO TO PARIS IN 2012?

There are still places left for this coming summer, but numbers must be finalised as soon as possible. Please see Mrs. Williams in T7 if you have not paid a deposit yet.

MRS WILLIAMS
williamsc@mansheadschoo.co.uk

WEEKLY MUSIC TIMETABLE

Mondays

- Choir at Lunchtime
- Wind Band Afterschool

Tuesdays

- Orchestra at Lunchtime

Wednesdays

- String Group at Lunchtime

Thursdays

- Theory Club before school

For more information contact
Mrs Owen
owend@mansheadschoo.co.uk

WEEKLY DANCE TIMETABLE

Wednesdays

- Street Dance (Open to All Year groups) at Lunchtime
- Circadia Dance Club (for Gifted and Talented Dance Students) Afterschool

For more information contact
Miss O'Hara
oharad@mansheadschoo.co.uk

WEEKLY DRAMA TIMETABLE

Mondays

- A Level Unit 2 Retake classes (Afterschool)

Tuesdays

- Drama Club (Open to All Year groups) at Lunchtime

Wednesdays

- Support for Written work.

For more information contact
Mr Burt
burtk@mansheadschoo.co.uk

Nutcracker Trip

by Miss O'Hara

30 dance students and quite a few lucky members of staff are off to see the festive '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. It will be a great experience for the GCSE and A Level dancers to watch and absorb the entertaining and professional company Adventures in Motion Pictures.



Christmas Music

by Mrs Owen

You are very welcome to join us for our annual Carol Concert on Tuesday 13th December at 7.30pm. The evening will include performances from Band, Orchestra, Choir, Chamber Choir, String Group and the Christian Union. There will also be readings and traditional carols for you to join in with. Refreshments, including mince pies will be available during the interval.

It's that time of year when Manshead Band is out spreading festive cheer in the local area. They will be playing at the Quadrant shopping centre, Dunstable on Wednesday 7th December and then at London Luton Airport on Monday 12th December.



Blue Remembered Hills

by Mr Burt

On Thursday 17th November Year 11 Drama BTEC students performed their versions of Blue Remembered Hills. The performances make up part of their BTEC course, which they have nearly finished. The performances were fantastic and not only the best they have done before, but some of the best performances seen by BTEC students here at Manshead School. Well done to everyone who performed.

