

Harrow Way Newsletter

Community School

www.harrowway.hants.sch.uk



Spring 2011

As I write my twentieth edition of Head's Corner on a sunny spring day, it is good to acknowledge the fact that the worst of the long winter months is finally behind us. The Easter break will soon be here and many people will also be looking forward to an additional day's holiday as the nation celebrates the Royal Wedding. For our Year 11 students, however, the forthcoming holiday period is a time for preparation and revision as they get ready for their GCSE and other KS4 examinations. On behalf of the staff and governors I would like to wish our Year 11 students all the very best for their forthcoming examinations. GCSE and other results will be published to students on Thursday 25th August 2011. Please see the back page of this newsletter for further details. At this point I would like to remind parents of the availability of "SAM Learning", an interactive learning tool, accessible to all students and which is designed ultimately to enhance their performance in examinations.

School Population

I was very pleased to learn recently that we will be welcoming another full year group in our Year 7 intake for September 2011. In fact, we are now oversubscribed in this year group and this means that next year our school will be virtually full - the first time that this has happened for very many years – with almost 900 students. I am delighted that Harrow Way is increasingly the first choice for families in our area. We are fully committed to a cycle of continuous improvement in order to make the Harrow Way School Community increasingly effective and efficient and we are looking forward to working closely with our new students and families from next September. Having a roll of 900 students is very good for our school community – it means that the school is large enough for us to benefit from the economies of scale that this number of students provides, and yet small enough for us to avoid the pitfalls of becoming impersonal, which can sometimes happen in larger schools. Very many people, including members of our current student body, comment favourable on our warm and welcoming atmosphere. This is a very important characteristic of the unique ethos at Harrow Way, and we are very proud to be members of such an inclusive institution.

Curriculum

This has, as usual, been an extremely busy term as we continue to focus relentlessly on the quality of teaching and learning as well as push to make

progress in all areas of the work of the school. We have been particularly busy in recent months preparing for the introduction of our new three-year Key Stage 4 curriculum from next September. Traditionally in schools, Key Stage 3 covers Years 7, 8 and 9, with KS4 covering Years 10 and 11. However, Harrow Way students currently in Year 8 will be entering KS4 as they move into Year 9 in five months time. This means that they will be able to access a wider range of courses than would otherwise be available, and we expect to be able to raise standards still further as a result of our new curriculum. Even though in our Ofsted inspection our curriculum was judged to be outstanding, we firmly believe that you do not have to be ill to get better! Our re-designed KS4 curriculum marks another positive step in the development of our school community and I expect our students to have a great experience as a result.

Staff

This term we have said goodbye to five colleagues, Bruce McKenzie, Teacher of Maths, Hazel Barnfather, Teacher of Drama, Emily Blackburn, Cover Supervisor, Roger Bromley, Caretaker and Julia Tidmarsh, Primary Curriculum Teacher. We have welcomed Carol Ford, Cover Supervisor and Chris Ely and Donna Renton, Cleaning Staff. We look forward to welcoming Claire Dudman, Teacher of Maths and Rhonda Sturges, Primary Curriculum Teacher after Easter.

Premises

During the second half of this term we have had new windows fitted in the Flexible Learning Centre and English block. As anyone who has had windows fitted at home knows, this process can be messy and noisy, but as the work progresses we are already appreciating the benefits of this refurbishment. Not only does it make these areas look much better, it also means that the classrooms affected can be warmer in winter and cooler in summer. Once the work is completed we will be treating the main block in school to an external wash, so by the time everything is finished the school will look very smart indeed!

Community

We fully embrace the notion of "the outward looking school" and are always looking for ways in which we can work closely with and in support of our local community. I am particularly proud of the many partnerships we enjoy with other organisations and also of course of the superb work of Andover Adult

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and Family Learning, a hugely important group that is a significant part of our school and makes a great contribution to our families in Andover. Another group that makes a very important contribution to the Harrow Way community is The Harrow Way Pre-School, which serves those with very young children in our area. The pre-school is also important to us because it underlines the school's commitment to lifelong learning. For information about fees, enrolments or any matter relating to the Harrow Way Pre-School, please contact Mrs Carol Ashurst on 01264 364900.

One of the many ways in which Harrow Way extends its reach into the community is through our work in the Expressive and Performing Arts (hence our Artsmark Gold Award) and we have been busily preparing for the forthcoming school production of 'The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe', which will be taking place during the last week of the term.

Another key part of the community work of the school is the contribution made by the Harrow Way Community School Association (HWCSA). HWCSA organises and runs many events on behalf of the school in order to raise money and to support the school community.

School Uniform

As I often mention in these Heads Corner newsletters, we are very proud of our school uniform and continue to receive many favourable comments about the smart appearance of our students. In order to match the reasonable requirements of the school with the stringent demands placed upon all of us in these difficult economic times, we are seeking to find suppliers of uniform and other school related clothing at as high a quality and as affordable as possible. We

are looking now at our sports and outdoor clothing options and during the summer term will be consulting with students and parents on a number of options in time for next winter.

Mobile telephones

The subject of student use of mobile phones is never very far from our day-to-day management issues. Everyone is clear about the fact that students are not allowed to use mobile phones at any time during the school day. Could I please ask parents and carers to support the school, and students, by not contacting students, or accepting contact from students, during the school day. In the case of students needing to be contacted in an emergency please contact the school directly and a message can be passed on as appropriate. In the event that a student's mobile phone is confiscated by staff, it should be collected only by a parent or nominated adult. Thank you.

And finally...

Please note that the date of our next Parents Consultation Day has been changed and will now take place on **Tuesday 28th June**.

I would like to wish all readers a happy and peaceful Easter break. School begins again at 8.45 am on Tuesday 26th April 2011. School will be closed for one day on Friday 29th April (Royal Wedding).



Headteacher - April 2011



Dr Jane Goodall is a world famous scientist and the world's leading expert on chimpanzees and their behaviour.

As a young woman with a love of animals, she went to Africa to work in 1960. Her observations changed the way we understand chimpanzees, people and the relationship between the two.

Through her work, Dr Goodall came to understand the importance of caring for animals, for the environment and for people.

She now devotes her time to working with young people through her *roOts & shOots* organisation, to encourage them to make positive, practical changes for people, animals & the environment.

Portway Junior School is a *roOts & shOots* school. Their 'Mission Update' which covers work from 2005-2010 can be read on the *roOts & shOots* website:

<http://www.rootsnshoots.org.uk/blog/2010/11/12/portway-junior-school-5-years-on-mission-update>

Last year Portway was awarded a *gold medal*, Dr Jane Goodall's highest award, for the work they have done. *Only 10 schools a year* in the UK are awarded this and Portway was one of them.

Portway have been invited to meet Dr Goodall at a special event in Bournemouth on Sunday 22nd May. Ex-Portway pupils have also been invited. **If you and your family would like to come to Bournemouth to meet Dr Jane Goodall and tell her about the work at Portway, please let Mrs Davis at Portway Junior School know.**

CALENDAR DATES

APRIL to SEPTEMBER '11

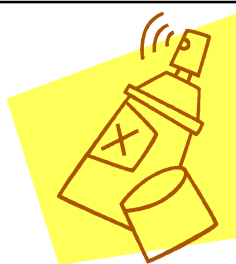
Fri 8 April	Top Link 2 (Year 9)
Fri 8 April	Yr 8 Reports home including Pathways Booklet
Easter Holiday Mon 11 April - Monday 25 April inc.	
Mon 25 April	Easter Monday Bank Holiday
Tues 26 April	Year 10 Exams begin - see back page for timetable
Thurs 28 April	Progress Reviews home - Yrs 7,10,11
Fri 29 April	Royal Wedding Bank Holiday
Mon 2 May	May Day Bank Holiday
Tues 3 May	Year 8 Curriculum Evening - 6.30pm Auditorium
6, 9, 10 May	The Lights, Forest Forge Yr 10 BTEC Drama Group
Sat 7 May	D&T visit to Thorpe Park
Wed 11 May	ADSSA Athletics - Yrs9/10/11
Wed 11 May	Primary Dance Festival
Thurs 12 May	Yr 5 Tri Golf Festival
Mon 16 May	GCSEs begin
Thu 19 May	KS3 Superstars all day
Sat 21 May	Workshop at Av College - Art department for Yr 9/10
Mon 23 May	Yrs 7,8,9 tests until 10th June
Tues 24 May	Yr 5 Gifted & Talented afternoon (PE)
Wed 25 May	Yr9 New Forest trip
Thurs 26 May	Dance Conference and Showcase (evening)
Fri 27 May	Yr 7 Reports home
Half term - Monday 30 May - Friday 3 June 2011 inc.	
Tues 7 June	Aegon Tennis
w/c 13 June	Calshot residential trip (Year 8)
Wed 15 June	Yrs 7/8 ADSSA Athletics

Fri 24 June	Year 10 reports home
w/c 27 June	National School Sports Week
Tues 28 June	INDUCTION DAY and 2nd PARENT CONSULTATION DAY
Tues 28 June	Year 5 Performing Arts Day
Tues 28 June	GCSEs end
29 June - 1 July	Aim Higher Year 10 Residentials
Fri 1 July	Superstars final
Fri 1 July	Leavers' Dinner/Dance
Mon 4 July	Yr 7 Charlton Lakes this week
Tues 5 July	Yrs 2/3 Skills4Life Festival
Wed 6 July	Yr 2 Tri Golf Festival
7/8 July	Yr 10 BTEC Residential Drama trip to Wales
Mon 11 July	Aim Higher Year 7 Taster Day
Tues 12 July	Swanage and Lulworth trip Yr 10
12/13 July	Year 5 Activity Days
13/15 July	Year 10 Enterprise Days
Thurs 14 July	Town Schools Rounders at Harrow Way
Fri 15 July	Yr 1 Skills4Life Festival
19/20 July	Yr10 BTEC Drama/Music/Dance showcase
20/22 July	Year 9 Enterprise Days
Thu 21 July	Stars in your Eyes
Sat 23 July	Dark Side of the Moon show
Mon 25 July	Sports Day - Key Stage 3 Presentation Eve
Tues 26 July	Sports Day (Reserve day)
Wed 27 July	Last day of term
SUMMER HOLIDAY Thursday 28 July - Friday 02 September inclusive <small>(As published on HCC website April 2011)</small>	

Important Information for Parents

Please could you make sure that your child does not bring any aerosols into school. It is against school policy, as it can cause major problems for those of our students who are asthmatic. Would you ensure that if your child needs to bring deodorant into school it is of the roll-on kind.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.



PLANNED ABSENCE - HOLIDAY FORMS

If you are aware that your child will be absent from school e.g. a holiday or operation, we will need to be notified of this.

Holiday forms can be obtained from Student Reception.

Parents are not entitled to take their children away on holiday during term time. If a child is away for holiday reasons in term time, up to 10 days in an academic year may be authorised at the discretion of the school providing suitable reasons are given and a 'Permission for Holiday' form is completed before the absence period. With students of compulsory school age all applications will be carefully considered on their merits given the importance of continuity of learning.

CHANGE OF DATE FOR THE 2nd Parent Consultation Day and Induction Day

You are reminded that on Tuesday 28th June the school will be holding Induction Day for our new students starting in September, and Parent Consultations for Years 7, 8, 9 & 10.

ALL PARENTS

If you go on holiday during term time and leave your children with a responsible adult, please notify the school of dates when you are away and also the name and telephone number of the contact. In the event of illness or injury, the school will need to contact a local person.

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Year 10 Mock Examination Timetable - Monday 25th April until Friday 6th May 2011

Date	Period 1 9.05 - 9.55	Period 2 9.55 - 10.45		Period 3 11.05 - 11.55	Period 4 11.55 - 12.45		Period 5 13.30 - 14.20	Period 6 14.20 - 15.10
Mon 25 April	BANK HOLIDAY	BANK HOLIDAY	B	BANK HOLIDAY	BANK HOLIDAY	L	BANK HOLIDAY	BANK HOLIDAY
Tues 26 April	Maths 1 RB, SF, KK, KP, DT (174) Sports Hall	Maths 1 CMD, PC, JRM, EJS, PB 1 hr 45 mins (174) Sports Hall	R	Art students only to JG SRH, CC in Art rooms Non-Art History students (10C) > CL/CA in normal rooms 1hr (39)	Art students only to JG SRH, CC in Art rooms Non-Art History students > (10C) CL/CA in normal rooms 1hr (39)	U		
Weds 27 April			E	Media & Film 1 hr 30 mins (100) GF, JRM Auditorium	Media & Film 1 hr 30 mins (100) GF Auditorium	N	PE (10A & 10D) 1 hr 15 mins (51) RH, EE, KLV Auditorium (yr 11 will be on English revision)	PE (10A & 10D) 1 hr 15 mins (51) RH, EE, KLV Auditorium (yr 11 will be on English revision)
Thurs 28 April (Yr 10 College Day)	Geog (LC) 1 hour (21) Auditorium	Geog (LC) 1 hour (21) Auditorium	A		French 1 (EC) 30 mins (6) M5	C	History GCW 1 hour (26) 1.30 - 2.30 Auditorium	French 2 (EC) 30 mins (6) 2.35 - 3.10 M5
Fri 29 April	BANK HOLIDAY	BANK HOLIDAY	K	BANK HOLIDAY	BANK HOLIDAY	H	BANK HOLIDAY	BANK HOLIDAY
Mon 2 May	BANK HOLIDAY	BANK HOLIDAY		BANK HOLIDAY	BANK HOLIDAY		BANK HOLIDAY	BANK HOLIDAY
Tues 3 May	Art E6, E2, E3 SRH, JG, CC	Art E6, E2, E3 SRH, JG, CC	B	Art E6, E2, E3 SRH, JG, CC	Art E6, E2, E3 SRH, JG, CC	L	Art E6, E2, E3 SRH, JG, CC	Art E6, E2, E3 SRH, JG, CC
Wed 4 May			R	Science 40 mins TP, CAL, RA, ML (151) Sports Hall	App Sci + Triple + Add Sci 1 40/45 mins (111) TP, CAL, RA, ML (TS paper 2 to be taken in lesson P5 Mon 9 th May) Sports Hall	U	Maths 2 RB, IC, KK, SF (174) Sports Hall	Maths 2 VH, DT, ADH, ML (174) Sports Hall
Thurs 5 May (Yr 10 College Day)	D & T R.Mat + Graphics 1 hr 15 mins (40) PR (+LSA) Auditorium	D & T R.Mat + Graphics 1 hr 15 mins (40) PR (+LSA) Auditorium	E			N		
Fri 6 May	English Lit 9.05 - 11.05 KP, DT, JRM, GF (150) Sports Hall 23 Drama students to do Eng Lit exam 19/4/11 in Drama time	English Lit VH, MV, ST, RA, GF (to coordinate staff breaks) 23 Drama students to do Eng Lit exam 19/4/11 in Drama time	A	11.20 start Geog (GM) 1 hour (13) In H1 French 1 (APM) 30 mins (14) APM in M3	Geog (GM) 1 hour (13) In French 2 (APM) 30 mins (14) APM in M3	C	UK Maths Challenge RB, SF, EC (APM to take any residue from 8x/Fr1) 1 hour involving 8x1, 8x2, 8y1, 8y2 Sports Hall	
			K			H		

All exams will take place in the Auditorium unless otherwise stated.
End times must be strictly adhered to, to avoid disruption to the following exam and to the teaching timetable.

YEARS 10 & 11 GCSE

TIMETABLES

All Year 10 & 11 students have received a final personalised copy of their GCSE timetable.

If you require any further information about your forthcoming GCSE exam dates, please see Mr Parsons or Mrs Cook.

A copy of the main timetable can be viewed on the school's website (Examinations) and the VLE.

Course Categories/Examinations/
Examination Timetables/GCSE
Timetable - Summer 2011.

STUDENT APPOINTMENTS DURING SCHOOL HOURS

If a student has an appointment during school hours, he/she must have a note in the student diary or an appointment card.

Parents - Please ensure that an entry is made on the appropriate date, giving the time and reason for appointment and a parent/carer's signature.

Thank you.

www.harrowway.hants.sch.uk
Don't forget to visit the website for all the performing arts news, sports and trip reports, recent events, letters home, exam information and much more.

If you can't find what you're looking for, please do not hesitate to contact the school, who will put you in touch with someone who can help provide the relevant information.

GCSE RESULTS

GCSE results will be available from the school on

Thursday 25 August 2011 between 10am and 12 midday

If you do not intend to come to school that day to pick up your result slips, a stamped, addressed (A5) envelope should be left with Mrs Cook in the uniform office. All remaining result slips will be held at the school for collection at the beginning of the September term.

These result slips are often requested by admissions officers for Further Education courses.